



21 - 22 September 2023

AFTERLIVES OF EMPIRE

PROGRAMME

Steering Committee: Riccardo Capoferro and Valerio Cordiner

Dipartimento di Studi Europei, Americani e Interculturali
Sapienza Università di Roma



afterlivesofempire.com

21 SEPTEMBER

10.00 Opening remarks (room 105) - **Camilla Miglio** (Head of SEAI, Sapienza) and **Riccardo Capoferro** (Sapienza)

10.15 - 11.15 - **Keynote lecture I (room 105)** - Chair: Riccardo Capoferro (Sapienza)
Corinne Fowler (University of Leicester), *Country Walks through Colonial Britain during the Culture War*

11.15 Coffee break

11.45 – 13.15 **Parallel sessions I**

Panel 1 (room 105) - Empire Lost, Empire Regained?

Chair: Andrea Peghinelli (Sapienza)

- **Caroline Gondaud** (MEAE), *L'Union européenne et les imaginaires impériaux*
- **Katharina Clausius** (Université de Montréal) & **Claudia Clausius** (King's University College/Western), *Imperial Music in the Republican Press: National(ist) Icons in Interwar Austria*
- **Valerio Cordiner** (Sapienza), *Vestiges de l'Empire. De la Françafrique à la Françamérique*

Panel 2 (room 107) - Visions of India

Chair: Asia Battiloro (Sapienza)

- **Arnab Das** (Indian Institute of Technology Madras), *Spectres of a Colonial Narco-State: 19th-Century Opium Trade and Its Postimperial Afterlives in Contemporary Indian Fiction*
- **Rocío G. Davis** (University of Navarra), *Romancing the Empire: M. M. Kaye's Memoir and Novels as Imperial Validation*
- **Christiane Schlote** (University of Basel), *Commemorating Care: Indian Ayahs and Emotional Imperialism*

Panel 3 (room 110) - Cultural Geographies

Chair: Paolo D'Indinosante (Sapienza)

- **Katherine Baxter** (Northumbria University), *Desertification*
- **Maria Fernández Díaz** (University of Oviedo), *Necropolitics and Colonial State Violence in Nadifa Mohamed's The Fortune Men (2021)*
- **Lamia Mecheri** (Université d'Annaba), *Avatar 2 : La Voie de l'eau de James Cameron, un film (néo) impérialiste ?*

13.15 Lunch (caffetteria, first floor)

14.45 – 16.45
Parallel sessions II

Panel 4 (room 105) - Fascism and Post-Fascism

Chair: Umberto Rossi (Independent Scholar)

- **Franco Baldasso** (Bard College, NY), *Postcards from the Empire: The Long Journey through Fascism*
- **Claudia Sbuttoni** (University of New Hampshire), *Postwar Italy's Refugee Re-Housing Projects: Urban Peripheries as Extension of Empire*
- **Kerry Gibbons** (University of Warwick), *Colonial Re-Imaginations: The Liberal Colony as a Narrative Setting in the Fascist-Era 'Romanzo Coloniale'*
- **Federico C. Simonelli** (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia), *The Bard of Submerged Imperialism: D'Annunzio and Nationalist Ideology in the Italian Imaginary after the Second World War*

Panel 5 (room 107) - Post-Imperial Portrayals in Cinema and Television

Chair: Luca Valleriani (Sapienza)

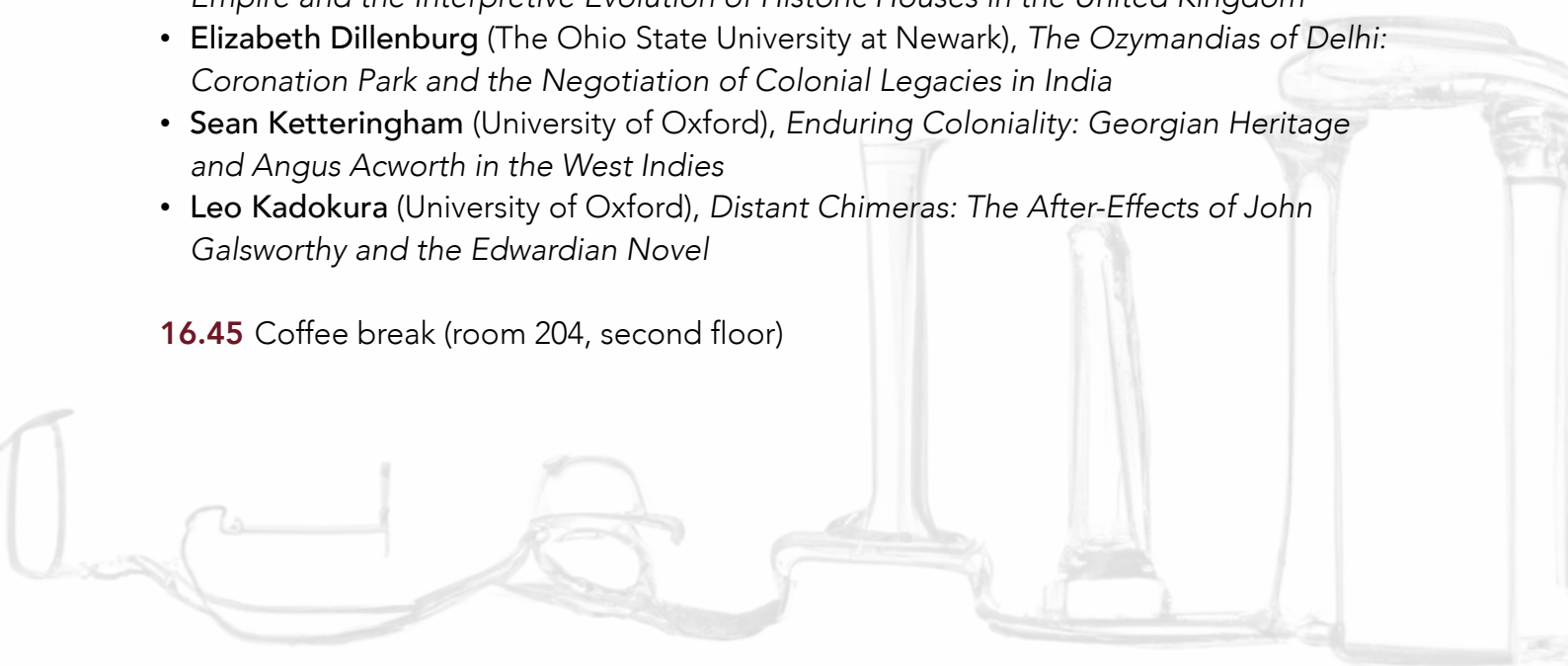
- **Teresa Sorolla & Víctor Mínguez** (Universitat Jaume I), *Afterlife of Queen Victoria in Cinema: Victoria & Abdul (Stephen Frears, 2017)*
- **Roxana Elena Doncu** (Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy), *Prince and Pauper: The British Monarchy, Their Imagined Transylvanian Roots and Imperial Nostalgia in Wild Carpathia*
- **Emiel Martens** (University of Amsterdam & Erasmus University Rotterdam), *Welcome to Paradise Island: The Interwoven History of Film, Tourism and Empire in Jamaica, 1891–1951*

Panel 6 (room 110) - Old and New Landscapes

Chair: Katherine Baxter (Northumbria University)

- **Mary Booth** (University of Liverpool), *Strategic Ambiguity: The Continued Influence of Empire and the Interpretive Evolution of Historic Houses in the United Kingdom*
- **Elizabeth Dillenburg** (The Ohio State University at Newark), *The Ozymandias of Delhi: Coronation Park and the Negotiation of Colonial Legacies in India*
- **Sean Ketteringham** (University of Oxford), *Enduring Coloniality: Georgian Heritage and Angus Acworth in the West Indies*
- **Leo Kadokura** (University of Oxford), *Distant Chimeras: The After-Effects of John Galsworthy and the Edwardian Novel*

16.45 Coffee break (room 204, second floor)



17.15 – 19.15
Parallel sessions III

Panel 7 (room 105) - Displaying Empire

Chair: Franco Baldasso (Bard College, NY)

- **Jeremy Walton** (University of Rijeka), *Between Inter-Imperial Violence and International Peace: A View from the Military Museums of Vienna and Istanbul*
- **Andrea Potts** (The University of Brighton), *The Afterlives of Imperialism: Public Engagement with Museum Exhibitions*
- **Briony Widdis & Emma Reisz** (Queen's University Belfast), *Collecting Ambiguity: Material Objects and the Afterlives of Empire in Northern Ireland*
- **Rebekah Hodgkinson** (University of Oxford), *Constructing the Past in the Present: The National Trust and British Colonialism*

Panel 8 (room 107) - Multimedial Empires

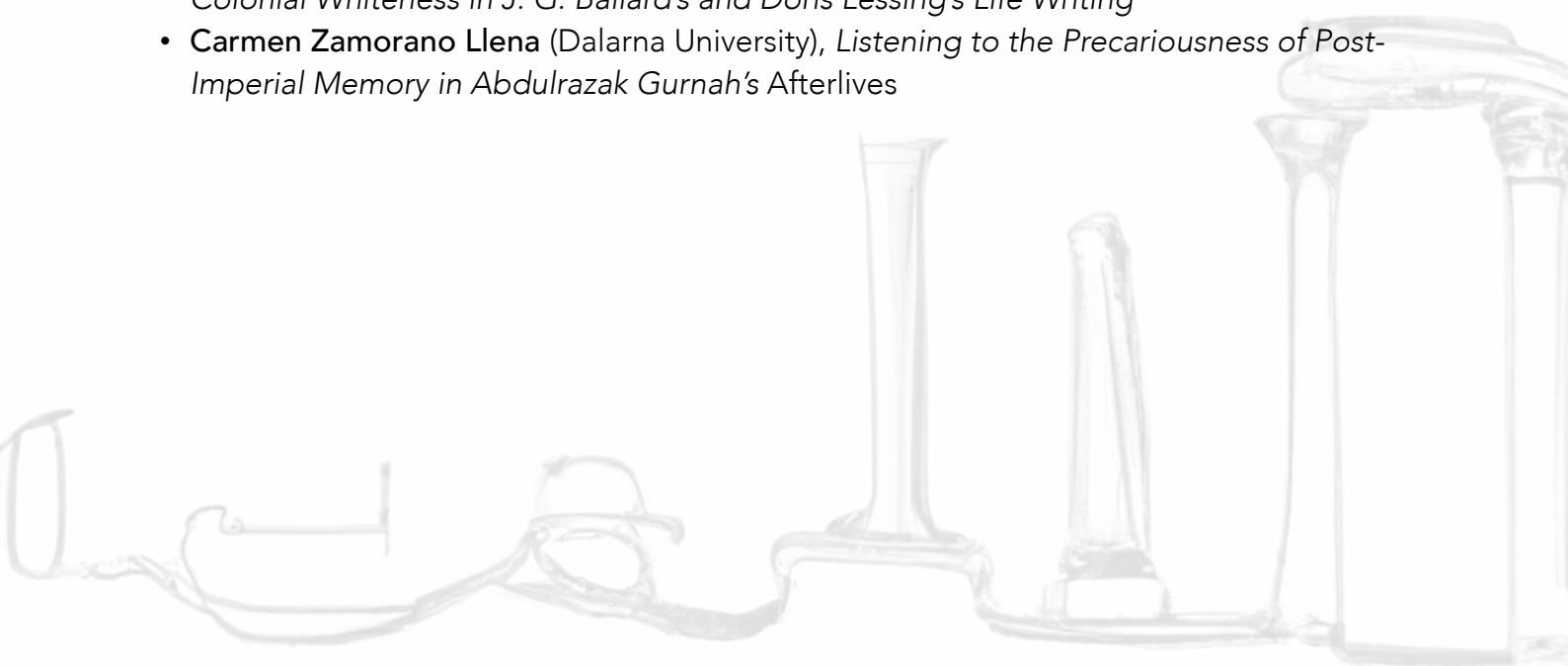
Chair: Tiziano De Marino (Sapienza)

- **Oded Feuerstein** (Tel Aviv University), *'I understand colonialism now and it terrifies me': Ludic Imperialism and Victoria 3*
- **Paolo D'Indinosante** (Sapienza), *The Afterlife of Colonial Fiction in The Secret Games Company's Kim*
- **Judith Neder** (Technische Universität Dresden), *Challenging Fundamentalism: Gene Luen Yang's Boxers and Saints*

Panel 9 (room 110) - Fiction and Colonial Memory

Chair: Federica Perazzini (Sapienza)

- **Nicoletta Brazzelli** (Università degli Studi di Milano), *The Poetics of Memory in Afterlives by Abdulrazak Gurnah*
- **Eri Kobayashi** (Seikei University), *Memories of Empire in Caryl Phillips's Novels*
- **Emma Parker** (University of Bristol), *The Baggage of Empire: Objects, Memory, and Colonial Whiteness in J. G. Ballard's and Doris Lessing's Life Writing*
- **Carmen Zamorano Llena** (Dalarna University), *Listening to the Precariousness of Post-Imperial Memory in Abdulrazak Gurnah's Afterlives*



22 SEPTEMBER

10.00 - 11.00 Keynote lecture II (room 105) - Chair: Irene Ranzato (Sapienza)
Pablo Mukherjee (University of Oxford), *Ghosts in the Machine: Famines and Afterlives of Empire*

11.00 Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00 Parallel sessions IV

Panel 10 (room 105) - Postcolonial Histories and Nation Building

Chair: Paolo D'Indinosante (Sapienza)

- **Ann-Sofie Nielsen Gremaud** (University of Iceland), *New Friendships and Old Ties: Post-Colonial Relations between Iceland and Greenland*
- **Skirmantė Biržietienė & Eglė Gabrėnaitė** (Vilnius University Kaunas Faculty), *The Concept of Empire in Contemporary Lithuanian Public Discourse: A Corpus-Based Research*
- **Karl Hele** (Mount Allison University), *Anishinaabeg Countering Settler Imperial-Colonial Narratives through Performance, c. 1900 to Present*

Panel 11 (room 107) - Gender, Memory, Empire

Chair: Caterina Romeo (Sapienza)

- **Noreen Kane** (University College Cork), *Intergenerational Memory in the Novels of Maaza Mengiste*
- **Nicole Fluhr** (Southern Connecticut State University), *Revision and/as Revolt: Tackling Empire's Literary Legacies in Marlon James' The Book of Night Women*
- **Giovanna Buonanno** (Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia), *Afterlives of Empire in Contemporary Black British Women's Plays: Janice Okoh's The Gift (2020)*

Panel 12 (room 110) - Post-Imperial Myths

Chair: Caroline Patey (Università degli Studi di Milano)

- **Eitan Bar-Yosef** (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev), *Balfour, Banksy, Brexit: The Balfour Declaration Centenary in Britain, November 2017*
- **Effie Yiannopoulou** (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), *Empire and World War Two in Olivia Manning's The Levant Trilogy*
- **Dominic Davies** (City, University of London), *Infrastructure after Empire: The Cultural Politics of 'Levelling Up'*

13.00 Lunch (caffetteria, first floor)

14.30 – 16.30
Parallel sessions V

Panel 13 (room 105) - Ireland, Scotland and the Imperial Enterprise

Chair: Federica Perazzini (Sapienza)

- **Elena Ogliari** (Università del Piemonte Orientale), *The Legacy of the Empire as a Pandora's Box in Today's Irish Society and Culture*
- **David Clark** (University of A Coruña), *'A failed Byron'? The Birth of the Spy Novel and the Relationship between Ireland and the British Empire*
- **Ingibjörg Ágústs dóttir** (University of Iceland), *Deadly Chauvinism and Damaging Imperial Legacies: Representations of the Arctic Venture in Scottish Literature*
- **Cristina Riaño Alonso** (Independent Scholar), *Agents of Empire: Narrating the Scottish Experience in Accra*

Panel 14 (room 107) - Construction and Deconstruction of Race

Chair: Irene Ranzato (Sapienza)

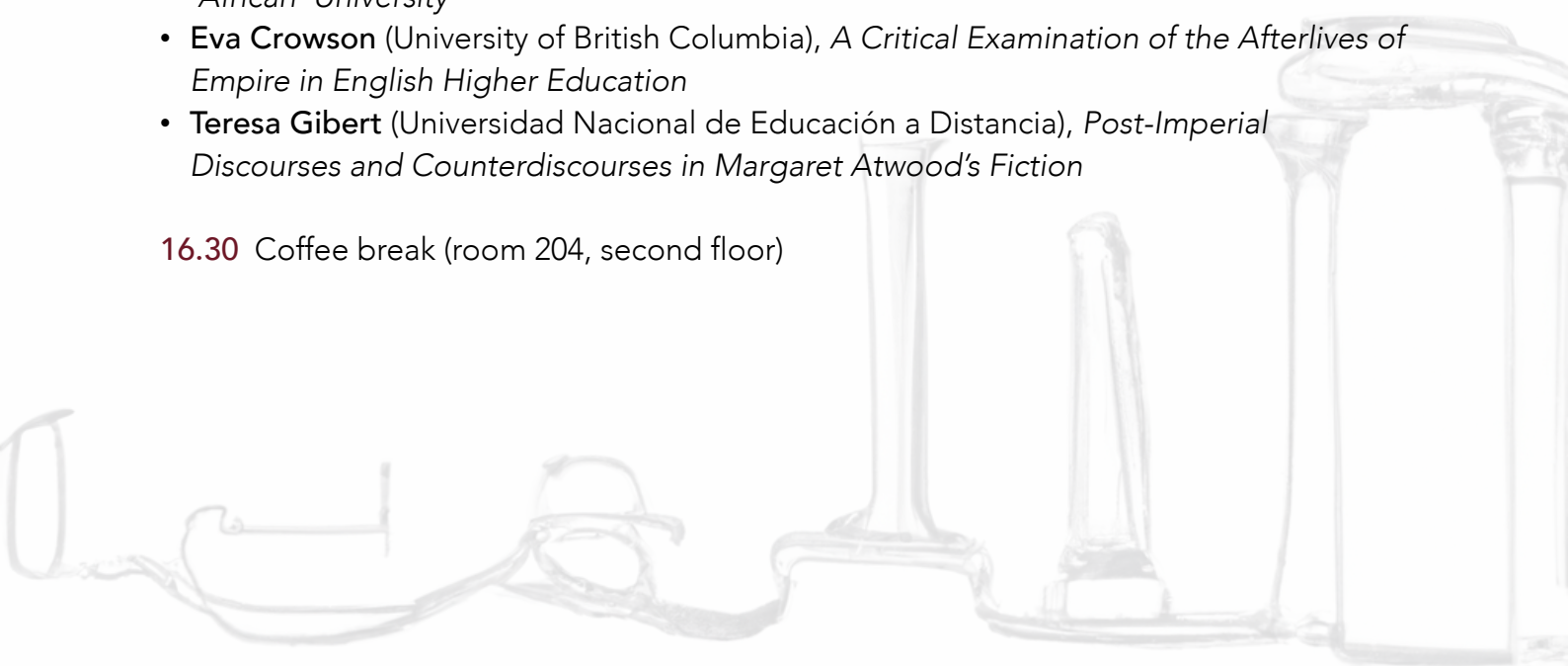
- **Brett M. Bebber** (Old Dominion University), *Assessing Empire and Its Legacy: Visions of Imperial History and Race Relations Work in Britain*
- **Benjamin Bland** (University of Reading), *The Afterlives of Imperial Musicology: 'Race' and Musical Criticism in Britain after Empire*
- **Ayşe Ece Cavcav** (Çankaya University), *'Whiteness that could no longer be seen': Mohsin Hamid's Deconstruction and Subversion of Race and Racist Discourses in The Last White Man*
- **Ashok Malhotra** (Queen's University Belfast), *Guy Wrench's The Wheel of Health (1938) and Its Influence on Organic and Lifestyle Movements*

Panel 15 (room 110) - Education after Empire

Chair: Riccardo Capoferro (Sapienza)

- **Aghogho Akpome** (University of Zululand), *Colonial Afterlives and Decolonisation in an 'African' University*
- **Eva Crowson** (University of British Columbia), *A Critical Examination of the Afterlives of Empire in English Higher Education*
- **Teresa Gibert** (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia), *Post-Imperial Discourses and Counterdiscourses in Margaret Atwood's Fiction*

16.30 Coffee break (room 204, second floor)



17.00 – 18.30
Parallel sessions VI

Panel 16 (room 105) - American Empires

Chair: Hal Coase (Sapienza)

- **Manuel López Forjas** (Sapienza), *In the Lion's Den: The Mexican Writer Andrés Iduarte and His Criticism of Imperial Hegemony of Spain and the USA*
- **Jessica Maucione** (Gonzaga University), *The Noncontiguous US Imperial Frontier and Trans-Indigenous Literary Sovereignty in Kiana Davenport's Shark Dialogues and Velma Wallis's Two Old Women*
- **Angela Mullis** (Rutgers University), *Decolonizing Histories in LeAnne Howe's Shell Shaker*

Panel 17 (room 107) - Germany and the Imperial Scene

Chair: Asia Battiloro (Sapienza)

- **Gabriele Guerra** (Sapienza), *From the German Century to the American Century: Post-Imperial and Post-Narrative Strategies in Christian Kracht's Imperium (2012)*
- **Dorothea Fischer-Hornung** (Heidelberg University), *August Engelhardt: 'Cocovores', the 'Vegetal Likeness of God' and 'Death by Coconut' in Imperial German New Guinea*
- **Umberto Rossi** (Independent Scholar), *The Preterite Empire: German Colonialism in Pynchon and Gurnah*

18.30 Final remarks (room 105) - **Franco Baldasso** (Bard College, NY), **Riccardo Capoferro** (Sapienza), **Valerio Cordiner** (Sapienza)

20.00 Conference dinner, La Taverna dei Quaranta - Via Claudia, 24, Rome.

