

7th Annual Graduate Workshop of the Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies
in Cooperation with the Leibniz ScienceCampus 'Europe and America in the Modern World'

Memory Matters: Non-Human Agents in Memory Studies

Workshop programme

February 5, 2026

Room 319 (3rd floor)
Landshuter Str. 4, 93047 Regensburg

- 9-9:30 am **Arrival to the venue, registration, welcome**
- 9:30-11 am **Panel 1: Artistic Practices of Ecological Remembrance**
Thari Jungen (Linz) – *Wounded Landscapes, Wilderness Gardens: Plant Memory and the Commemoration of Displacement in Southeastern Poland*
Monika Gabriela Dorniak (Bremen, Gothenburg) – *Landscapes, Non-Human Agencies, and the Living Archives of Rural WWII Sites*
Carlos Reyes (London) – *Memories in Sea Salt and Coal: A Subversion of the Extractive Narrative*
Moderator: Elisa Mucciarelli (Regensburg)
- 11-11:20 am **Coffee break**
- 11:20-12:50 pm **Panel 2: Post-Soviet Environmental Memory Across Water, Earth, and Screen**
Anna Romandash (Lviv) – *Drowned but not Forgotten: Landscape Memory and the Afterlife of Bakota Region, Ukraine*
Tatiana Sitchinava (Tbilisi) – *The Unfinished Ground: Geological Strata as Vibrant Agents of Memory and Exclusion in Post-Soviet Georgia*
Salome Berdzenishvili (Amsterdam) – *Poor Images as Non-Human Agents in Post-Soviet Remembrance Practices*
Moderator: Teona Ivashchenko (Regensburg)
- 12:50-2:15 pm **On-site lunch**
- 2:15-3:45 pm **Keynote**
Simon Probst (Vechta) – *Coral Memories. How Reefs Shape Cultural Imaginaries of Time in North America and Europe*
Moderator: Anni-Lotta Hamer (Regensburg)
- 3:45-4 pm **Coffee break**

4-5:30 pm **Panel 3: Elemental Afterimages of Socialism in Comparative Literature**
Adriana Rodríguez-Alfonso (Tübingen) – *Archaeologies of Marble and Concrete: Soviet Materialisms in Mircea Cărtărescu's and Ezequiel Vieta's Narratives*
Julianna Błaszczyk (Leipzig) – *Trenches, Rivers, and Memory on the Feminist Stage*
Ritam Dutta (Kolkata) – *Hydroelectric Dams, Displacements, and the Memory of Water in Post-Socialist Literature*
Moderator: Anni-Lotta Hamer (Regensburg)

7 pm **Conference dinner (address tba)**

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9-10:15 am **Panel 4: Material Testimonies in Slavic-Jewish Literature**
Lucie Titscher (Leipzig) – *Ambivalent Ownership: Jewish Material Culture in Poland and the Czech Republic since 1945*
Elizaveta Domnikova (Regensburg) – *Bearing Witness in Cloth and Soil: Non-Human Testimonies in Eli Shekhtman's Rings on the Soul*
Moderator: Olga Trufanova (Regensburg)

10:15-10:30 am **Coffee break**

10:30-12 pm **Panel 5: Decoloniality and the Reconfiguration of Material Pasts**
Susanne Quitmann (Munich) – *Scientific Objects, Spiritual Agents. Trees and Historical Memory in the Early 20th-century American Southwest*
Alina Berg (Munich) – *Pounamu as Living Archive: Towards a Natural-Cultural Approach to Decolonial Museum Scholarship*
Aneta Strzemżalska (Warsaw) – *The Agency of Things in Armenia's Symbolic Transformation: Memory Geopolitics and Decolonialism*
Moderator: Tamar Qeburia (Regensburg)

12 pm **Closing remarks**

2-4 pm
Room 017
(ground floor) ***After the workshop***
Journalist talk with Anna Romandash
'Women of Ukraine: Reportages from the War and Beyond' (2023)
Book discussion and Q&A with workshop participant Anna Romandash, in cooperation with the Regensburg centre for Ukrainian studies *Denkraum Ukraine*. The talk is not part of the official workshop programme, but interested participants are welcome to attend!