

## EMBODIED DEPENDENCIES

CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 22–23, 2021  
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

hosts the Cluster of Excellence “Beyond Slavery and Freedom”, which aims to overcome the binary opposition of “slavery versus freedom”. We approach the phenomenon of slavery and other types of strong asymmetrical dependency from methodologically and theoretically distinct perspectives.

The conference “Embodied Dependencies” will approach the material evidence of asymmetrical dependencies by examining embodied dependencies in human societies from archaeological, art-historical and anthropological perspectives, exploring their historical breadth and variety. The conference will help to establish an inventory of material evidence for asymmetrical dependencies and its range of expression and information as an important tool to read and analyze such dependencies alongside the written word. Integrating the insights brought forth by the “material turn”, as well as recent debates on environmental history and biohistory, this conference also aims to qualify the modern/Western focus on written culture by adding a pre-colonial perspective. The conference will be organized along four thematic panels: Bodies, Representations, Resources, and Spaces.

University of Bonn  
Online via Zoom

## CONTACT

### Conference Organizers:

Nikolai Grube, BCDSS, University of Bonn

### Jan Hörber, Event Coordinator

[events@dependency.uni-bonn.de](mailto:events@dependency.uni-bonn.de)

+49 228 73 62945

Please **register** for the conference  
**by September 17, 2021** via [email](#).

We will send you a link so that you can join the Zoom conference. Please visit our [conference website](#) for more information.

**Bonn Center for Dependency and  
Slavery Studies (BCDSS)  
University of Bonn**

Niebuhrstraße 5  
D-53113 Bonn  
[dependency@uni-bonn.de](mailto:dependency@uni-bonn.de)  
[www.dependency.uni-bonn.de](http://www.dependency.uni-bonn.de)

Follow us on social media

 @DependencyBonn

 DependencyBonn

 [dependencybonn](#)



Picture credit: Jorge Pérez de Lara, Volker Lannert/University of Bonn

## Wednesday, September 22, 2021

9:30 – 10:00 AM (CEST) – Welcome

PANEL I: Bodies of Dependency  
Chairs: Sinah Kloß, Jahfar Shareef Pokkanali  
(both BCDSS, University of Bonn)

10:00 – 10:45 AM

Enslavement and 'The Fashion Intelligence':  
*Punch Magazine* and the Raced Body  
**Royce Mahawatte**  
(BCDSS Fellow/University of the Arts London, UK)

10:45 – 11:30 AM

"If you see a disheveled woman, you suspect she is  
the slave mistress": Bodily Adornment, Slavery and  
Christianity in Late Antiquity  
**Julia Hillner**  
(BCDSS Fellow/University of Sheffield, UK)

11:30 AM– 12:15 PM

TBA  
**Ciraj Rassool**  
(University of the Western Cape, South Africa)

12:15 – 1:30 PM – Lunch Break

1:30 – 2:15 PM

The "Hands of God" as Instruments of Death and  
Creation: Physicality, Embodiment, and Symbolism of  
sacrificial Knives in Mesoamerica  
**Vera Tiesler**  
(Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, Mexico)  
**Guilhem Olivier**  
(Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)

## Wednesday, September 22, 2021

PANEL II: Resources of Dependency  
Chairs: Bethany Walker, Paul Graf (both BCDSS,  
University of Bonn)

2:15 – 3:30 PM

Access to Resources in Dutch Caribbean Slavery:  
Perspectives from Archaeology and Oral History  
**Felicia Fricke**  
(University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

3:30 – 4:15 PM

Looking Good and Feeling Good: Fashioning Enslaved  
Bodies and the Materiality of Jamaican Lace-Bark,  
1700s to 1900  
**Steve Buckridge**  
(Grand Valley State University, USA)

4:15 – 5:00 PM – Wrap-Up Day One

## Thursday, September 23, 2021

PANEL III: Representations of Dependency  
Chairs: Julia Hegewald, Dita Auzina (both BCDSS,  
University of Bonn)

11:00 – 11:45 AM

Re-thinking the Representation and Construction of  
Trans-Atlantic Slavery in Glasgow through the  
Glassford Portrait & Glasgow Museums  
**Marenka Thompson-Odlum**  
(Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford, UK)

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM

Entangled Bodies:  
Caste, Representation, Dissonance  
**Saurabh Dube**  
(El Colegio de México, Mexico)

12:30 – 2:30 PM – Lunch Break

## Thursday, September 23, 2021

PANEL III continued: Representations of Dependency  
Chairs: Julia Hegewald, Dita Auzina (both BCDSS,  
University of Bonn)

2:30 – 3:15 PM

Not seeing like a State: Visualization of Human and  
other than Human Relations in ancient Ulua Traditions  
of pre-Hispanic Honduras  
**Rosemary Joyce**  
(University of California, Berkeley, USA)

PANEL IV: Spaces of Dependency  
Chairs: Christian Mader, Nikolai Grube (both BCDSS,  
University of Bonn)

3:30 – 4:15 PM

Slavery in Things: Beyond Shackles and Chains  
**Lydia Marshall**  
(DePauw University, USA)

4:15 – 5:00 PM

Spaces of Dependence at an ancient Fortress on the  
Nile  
**Laurel Bestock**  
(Brown University, USA)

5:00 – 5:45 PM

Plant and Human Bodies and their Dependencies: Rice  
Cultivation and Sovereignty in 19th Century Highland  
Madagascar  
**Zoë Crossland**  
(Columbia University, USA)

5:45 – 6:30 PM – Wrap-Up and Final Discussion