

Monday, 04.04.2022 16:15 - 18:00 CEST

Christine Walker, Yale-NUS College:

**Jamaica Ladies: Female Slaveholders and the Creation of Britain's Atlantic Empire**

**Abstract:**

In this talk, Christine Walker discusses her book, *Jamaica Ladies: Female Slaveholders and the Creation of Britain's Atlantic Empire*. *Jamaica Ladies* is the first systematic study of the free and freed women of European, Euro-African, and African descent who perpetuated chattel slavery and reaped its profits. Their actions helped transform Jamaica into the wealthiest slaveholding colony in the Anglo-Atlantic world. Starting in the 1670s, a surprisingly large and diverse group of women helped secure English control of Jamaica and, crucially, aided its developing and expanding slave labour regime by acquiring enslaved men, women, and children to protect their own tenuous claims to status and independence.

**Bio:**

Christine Walker is an Assistant Professor of history at Yale-NUS College. She specializes in the histories of colonialism, gender and slavery in the Atlantic World. Her book, *Jamaica Ladies: Female Slaveholders and the Creation of Britain's Atlantic Empire*, is the first comprehensive study of women enslavers in the early modern era.