

# TRANSFORMING SPIRIT BODIES: CHANGING MATERIALITIES AND EMBODIED DEPENDENCIES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 29 – 30, 2022

CO-FUNDED BY:

 Fritz Thyssen Stiftung  
für Wissenschaftsförderung

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

The interdisciplinary conference focuses on the bodies and embodiments of spirits, their (im-)materialities, and the bodily transformations, which they may be subject to in different socio-cultural contexts. Contributions analyze the embodied experiences of asymmetrical dependencies among humans and spirits and how the sensory experiences of interdependence are negotiated in their interactions. They examine and compare the particular (historical) moments and conditions under which these bodily transformations occur and how they can influence understandings of human–nonhuman interdependence.

Research Group “Marking Power: Embodied Dependencies, Haptic Regimes and Body Modification”

The research group focuses on the history of touch and different forms of body modification from a historical and anthropological perspective. It analyzes body marks and practices of marking that represent and have actively (re)created asymmetrical and embodied dependencies. It discusses (historical) practices of body modification as well as the bodies and material objects involved in these practices.

**University of Bonn**  
Bonner Universitätsforum  
Heussallee 18-24  
D-53113 Bonn

## CONTACT

### Conference Organizers

Sinah Kloß      BCDSS, University of Bonn  
Lena Muders      BCDSS, University of Bonn  
Taynā Tagliati      BCDSS, University of Bonn

### Jan Hörber, Event Coordinator

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Please **register** for the conference  
**by September 15, 2022** via [email](#).  
Please visit our [conference website](#) for more information.

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

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## Thursday, September 29, 2022

2:00 – 2:15 PM CEST

### Welcome & Opening Remarks

Stephan Conermann (BCDSS)  
Sinah Kloß, Lena Muders & Tainã Tagliati  
Research Group "Marking Power"  
(BCDSS)

2:15 – 3:45 PM

### Panel I: Religion & Healing

#### Chair: Sinah Kloß (BCDSS)

"Being Affected in Kali Worship, Guyana"

**Marcelo Moura Mello**  
(Federal University of Bahia, Brazil)

"The Role of Ikat Weaving for the Ritual Ceremonies in Eastern Indonesia"

**Julita Oesanty Oetojo**  
(University of Bonn, Germany)

"Healing Arts: Body Painting in Some Jê Groups"

**André Demarchi**  
(Federal University of Tocantins, Brazil)

3:45 – 4:15 PM – Coffee Break

4:15 – 5:45 PM

### Panel II: History & Memory

#### Chair: Lena Muders (BCDSS)

"'Losing one another is like the cutting of history, the shredding of encyclopaedias': Ancestors and Country in Contemporary Indigenous Australian Fiction"

**Tina Helbig**  
(University of Göttingen, Germany)

"Invisible Actors, Visible Memories: Stories and Expressions of Intergenerational Trauma in Contemporary Israel"

**Yael Ben Horin**  
(University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

## Thursday, September 29, 2022

### Panel II continued: History & Memory

#### Chair: Lena Muders (BCDSS)

"Between the Limits of Solidarity and the Coping of Suffering: The NN's Adoption in Colombia"

**Luis Bastidas Meneses**  
(University of Bayreuth, Germany)

7:00 PM Dinner (for Speakers and Organizers only)

## Friday, September 30, 2022

9:00 – 10:30 AM

### Keynote

"Kanamari Shamanism and Relations of Dependency across Generations"

**Luiz Costa**  
(Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

10:30 – 11:00 AM – Coffee Break

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

### Panel III: Ecology & Shared World

#### Chair: Tainã Tagliati (BCDSS)

"Animal Spirits, Spirit Animals, and the Shape of Unseen Minds in Suriname and Singapore"

**Stuart Earle Strange**  
(Yale-NUS College, Singapore)

"Shared Vulnerabilities: Avenging Spirits, Corporate Groups and Other Concepts (Saamaka, Suriname)"

**Rogério Brittes W. Pires**  
(Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil)

"Cuerpos y Ritualidades: Tratamientos Mortuorios Para Regenerar La Vida"

**Milton Eyzaguirre Morales**  
(Museo Nacional de Etnografía y Folklore, Bolivia)

## Friday, September 30, 2022

12:30 – 1:30 PM – Lunch Break

1:30 – 3:00 PM

### Panel IV: Production & Objects

#### Chair: Karoline Noack (BCDSS)

"The Transformation of Bodies in Ancient Amazonia"

**Cristiana Barreto**

(Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Belém, Brazil)

**Marcony Alves**

(Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography, University of São Paulo, Brazil)

"Bodies of Salvation: Embodied Powers among the Moqoit People of the Argentinean Chaco"

**Agustina Altman**

(ICA-Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina)

**Alejandro Martín López**

(CONICET; ICA-Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina)

"Scarification and Tooth Mutilations in the Second Slavery: Representations, Persecution Markers and Biometry"

**Michael Zeuske**

(BCDSS, University of Bonn, Germany)

3:00 – 4:00 PM

### Final Discussion

#### Chair: Christoph Antweiler (BCDSS)