

Online Symposium

decolonize

Queer and anti-racist
Perspectives on Trauma
and Resilience

Healing



**WORKSHOP
descriptions**

12.10.2023

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**Manuscripts of foreign bodies:
navigating oppression and
reimagining embodiment**
(English)

Ahmad Baba

Regardless of their shapes, types, or abilities, everybody is, indeed, a body. However, not everyone truly inhabits their own body. The body is the source, the manifestor, and the battlefield that holds the healing we often seek externally. This workshop delves into the complex relationship between embodiment and the colonial structuring of marginalised bodies and their functions. It examines how foreignization has led racialized sexual and gender minorities to accept distorted reflections of their embodied selves. We will explore together the factors shaping our bodies, the influence of sociopolitical beliefs and norms, and ways to reimagine communal narratives through our bodies. We will look at how various forms of embodied oppression become internalised, reproduced, and narrated as complex stories within our identities.

**The Rainbow of desire as a bridge
between theatre and therapy.**
(English)

Uriara Maciel

The focus of my work is the method series "Theatre of the Oppressed". I live for theatre and fight every day to give a stage and voice to the unheard. I am a professional in the arts, and a human rights defender. As a Black woman from a country of the Global South, as well as from a non-privileged social environment, I experienced racism and colonialism myself. This was the impetus for my active work and activism. I started working with the approach of the "Theatre of the Oppressed" in 2000. Since then, I have done several workshops, multiplier workshops and plays with different groups of people, such as with the global network Ma(g)dalenas and as the leader of a group of Black women from Latin America in Berlin. "Rainbow of Desire" is a general title for the set of techniques developed to analyse the process of internalising and crystallising oppression. These theatre techniques study cases of internalised oppressors whose ideologies continued reverberating in the habits and everyday life truths of those who were hosting them inside.

**Tracing our body knowledge:
enabling transformation, beyond
colonial continuities**
(German)

BIPoC only!

Pasquale Rotter

The colonial traces in our thoughts, feelings and conduct are more profound than we can imagine. Until now we believed we could handle these interferences with our rationality. But in recent years more and more of us connect with pre-colonial modalities of memory, transformation and healing. These modalities centre the body and its capacity of making us feel, perceive and learn between the lines. In this workshop, we are going to turn towards particular physical anchor points, focus our attention on the language of the body and use it to connect to our body knowledge in a Safe(r) & Brave(r) Space.

Misconception Empowerment - therapy or self-empowerment?

(German)

Ali Naki Tutar

Empowerment work has become a necessity for marginalised groups and individuals. While the approaches to empowerment may be varied, the endeavours for self-empowerment, liberation, healing, connection and understanding etc. are the same. But empowerment spaces are used increasingly for therapeutic concerns and less for investigating interactions between individuals, identities and power structures. In this workshop, we will examine limits of empowerment work in counselling and in groups, so that we may develop a differentiated approach. This workshop is directed towards multipliers who work with victims of intersectional discrimination.

Impressions & pedagogical practice around “Cuerpo y Territorio” - theory and practice of the territory that inhabits us

(German)

Jessica Valdez & Melina Castillo

We would love to share some of our experiences and exercises from our series of educational events consisting of different voices and different perspectives on development aid policy topics, such as the current challenges around global climate justice and its effects on the Global South.

The workshop is based on the Cuerpo y Territorio approach, which examines the historical, biographical and political connections inherent to every human. This approach offers critical perspectives which help in understanding not only how systemic oppression manifests in our territories and our bodies, but also how resistance and transformative energy emanate from these same places. The workshop is based upon transformative pedagogics. It encourages mutual learning and exchange in groups and in practice.

Racism in queer spaces

(German)

Senami Zodehougan & Tuğba Tanyilmaz

In our workshop we want to discuss reproduction and actual racist behaviour in queer spaces. We want to acquire a mutual understanding of violence and take a closer look at privileges. Ultimately, we want to ask what happens if the interests and needs of people who have experienced racism are centred. This workshop is directed at *white* queer people who feel like engaging with their own positioning and who want to take a closer look at their respective contexts.

Healing from a Trans-Inter-Queer-BIPOC Perspective

(English)

Sharputa & Rafia / Casa Kuà

In this space we will share the understanding and practices of Healing from a Trans-Inter-Queer-BIPOC Perspective. What does healing mean to us? What are rituals and practices we use to find love and compassion for ourselves and within communities? How do we create spaces that offer a collective healing for marginalized communities? This workshop will also explore some spiritual perspectives and practices of the facilitators.

The symposium is organised by the Queer Refugees Resilience Project of RosaLinde Leipzig e.V.. The Queer Refugees Resilience Project is funded from October 2021 to June 2024 mainly by Aktion Mensch and Deutsche Stiftung UNO Flüchtlingshilfe.

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