

**On the edges:  
Autodidacts, forgotten thinkers, silenced women  
in twentieth-century South Africa**

**CENTRE FOR AFRICAN STUDIES GALLERY  
Harry Oppenheimer Institute Building  
UCT Upper Campus**

**23-24 April 2019**

**Day one**

08:00 Registration, welcome tea & coffee

**08:45 Introductory remarks Lungisile Ntsebeza**

**09:00 Keynote address**

- **Nomathamsanqa Tisani**, ‘Collapsing Edges and Centre: Birthing amaziko of tertiary education in our time’

Chair: **Lungisile Ntsebeza**

**10:00** Coffee break

**10:30 Panel 1: Finding a voice**

- **Thozama April**, ‘Rethinking Public Intellectuals: Charlotte Maxeke and the Black Atlantic’
- **Corinne Sandwith**, “‘Lady Porcupine’ as Marginal Intellectual’
- **Precious Sharon Sinovuyo Bikitsha**, ‘The Poet who rouses the Court and Censures the King’
- **Peter Kallaway**, ‘The Modernization of Tradition: Samuel Krune Mqhayi, Xhosa patriot, poet and historian, and the education of the Xhosa circa 1900 to 1945’

Chair: **Jade Gibson**

*12:30 Lunch*

**13:30 Panel 2: Voices and spaces**

- **Crain Soudien**, “‘With Them and of Them, Teaching and Leading Our People’”: The hidden history of the New Era Fellowship’

- **Shahid Vawda**, ‘Edging out of the Shadows: Halima Gool and writing under a pseudonym’
- **Yunus Omar**, ‘Never a “yes-man”’: Alie Fataar, teacher resistance, and connecting South Africa’s classrooms to global revolutionary goals’
- **Christi van der Westhuizen**, ‘The awkward Afrikaner: Dr Petronella “Nell” van Heerden, nationalist, feminist, socialist, anti-fascist, lesbian’

Chair: **Allan Zinn**

15:30 Tea break

### **16:00 Panel 3: Rethinking resistance**

- **Lungisile Ntsebeza**, ‘Archie Mafeje: The impact of his politics on his scholarship’
- **Allison Drew**, ‘Gendering the history of South Africa’s socialist movement at the transition to armed struggle: Women’s experiences in the National Liberation Front’
- **David Johnson**, ‘Pan-Africanism or Communism? Mangaliso Robert Sobukwe, Jacob D. Nyaose, and political differences within the Pan Africanist Congress in the 1960s’

Chair: **Andrew Nash**

**17:30 Aperitif**

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### **Day two**

08:15 Good morning tea & coffee

### **08:45 Panel 4: Censorship and decolonization**

- **Kamohelo Mabogwane**, ‘Between Two Books, *Between Two Worlds*: Politics and Power in the Publishing of Miriam Tlali’s First Novel – a case study of the Censorship Project’s legacy in South Africa’
- **Bongani Ndhlovu**, ‘Silences, Tactical Documenting and Frustrations in a Liberation Struggle Voice: David Cecil Oxford Matiwane and “A Treatise of Black Victimisation”’
- **Kongo Minga Mbweck**, ‘A Critique of Social Science: Empiricism and racism as catalyst for knowledge production of the Colonial discourses in Africa/South Africa’

Chair: **Nkululeko Mabandla**

10:15 Tea/coffee break

**10:45 Panel 5: Experience and resistance**

- **George Hull**, ‘N. Chabani Manganyi on consciousness as a basis for resistance’
- **Raymond van Diemel**, “‘No short cut to Liberation”’: The life and times of Otilie Abrahams, Namibian educationalist and activist’
- **Ntobeko Dlamini**, “‘Inkosazana yamaWisile”’: The untold story of the first black woman ordained in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, Reverend Nikiwe Mbilini’
- **Leo Podlashuc**, “‘Wisdom from the Shacks”’: Sis Pat Matolengwe, an organic intellectual from the university of poverty’

Chair: **Chris Saunders**

**12:45 Poetry reading – Simphiwe Msizi, ‘Is Biko dead ... really?’**

**13:15 Closing remarks Allison Drew**

*13:30 Lunch*

**14:30 Book Launches:**

- **June Bam, Lungisile Ntsebeza and Allan Zinn**, editors, *Whose History Counts: Decolonising African Pre-colonial History*.
- **Ruben Richards**, *Bastaards or Humans: The Unspoken Heritage of Coloured People*.

**16:00 Snacks & drinks**

