

# Program for Contemporary Anachronisms

a virtual graduate student conference presented by the School of Fine Art and Music at the University of Guelph

**with keynote speaker Dr. Eva Kernbauer**

hosted by MA candidates Anna McWebb and Dana Feldman

## Conference Schedule

### May 6th

10:30am: Introduction and Opening Remarks

11am: Rebecca Korn, MA Candidate - Carleton University

“The Lonka Project: Photography, Temporal Instability and Holocaust Memory”

11:30am: Kiana Darvish, MA Candidate - Carleton University

“Rustam, the Timeless Hero in the ‘Shahnameh’”

12pm - 1pm: Lunch Break

1pm: Jose Bawagan, MA Candidate - Queen’s University

“No Sun No Fun: How micha cárdenas Reminds Us to ‘Go Outside and Play’”

1:30pm: Sarah Oatley, MA - University of Guelph

“A-Categorical: Barbara Johnson’s Album and Anachronistic Material Culture”

2pm: Questions and Closing Remarks

### May 7th

10:30am: Morning Remarks

10:45am: Sasha Opeiko, PhD Candidate - Western University

“Melancholy as Affective Force and Maxim Donyuk’s Untitled Project from Chernobyl”

11:15am: Anna McWebb and Dana Feldman, MA Candidates - University of Guelph

“Art Historical Anachronisms in Contemporary Drag Culture”

11:45pm-12:00pm: Coffee Break

12:00pm: Eva Kernbauer, Keynote Speaker

1:00pm: Open Discussion and Zoom “Social”



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### **Rebecca Korn, “The Lonka Project: Photography, Temporal Instability and Holocaust Memory”**

Rebecca Korn is a graduate student in the Master of Art History program at Carleton University. Rebecca Korn’s presentation will evaluate how the digital manifestation of the 2019 photography project by Rina Castelnovo and Jim Hollander entitled The Lonka Project retains qualities that promote cognitive justice for Holocaust memory. Korn considers the anachronistic quality of the photographic medium with reference to Roland Barthes’s “Rhetoric of the Image” to illuminate the function of The Lonka Project as a transtemporal tool for Holocaust memory and education.

### **Kiana Darvish, “Rustam, the Timeless Hero in the ‘Shahnameh’”**

Kiana Darvish is a graduate student in the Master of Art History program at Carleton University. Kiana Darvish will consider the timeless definition of the hero and anti-hero through questioning how contemporary representations of the archetypal hero Rustam in the Persian epic “Shahnameh” (Book of Kings) changes according to temporal context. Darvish explores the ways in which the recontextualization of the tale of Rustam presents itself anachronistically in the form of miniature paintings and cartoons, with a specific focus on Iranian diasporic communities.

### **Jose Bawagan, “No Sun No Fun: How micha càrdenas Reminds Us to ‘Go Outside and Play’”**

Jose Bawagan is a graduate student in the department of Art History and Art Conservation at Queen’s University.

Jose Bawagan’s presentation will focus on micha càrdenas’s Augmented Reality (AR) application Sin Sol (2020) and its trans Latinx Artificial Intelligence narrator Aura to highlight a call to action against an environmentally and socially dystopian future. Bawagan pulls from Susan Friedman’s cyclical model of time in the theory of “Contemporary Revolutions” to demonstrate how Aura’s poems may anachronistically solicit change in the present.

### **Sarah Oatley, “A-categorical: Barbara Johnson’s Album and Anachronistic Material Culture”**

Sarah Oatley is a recent MA graduate from the department of Art History and Visual Culture at the University of Guelph.

Sarah Oatley’s presentation will explore what art historians can learn by observing objects of material culture anachronistically. Oatley’s focus is the 19th century Album compiled by Englishwoman Barbara Johnson over the course of 77 years. Barbara Johnson documented her fashion by employing scrapbook-like methods of pinning fabric swatches from dresses and pasting fashion plates to an Album, resulting in an object that rejects classification under established terms for mixed-media work.



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### **Sasha Opeiko, "Melancholy as Affective Force and Maxim Dondyuk's Untitled Project from Chernobyl"**

Sasha Opeiko is a PhD candidate in the Art and Visual Culture program at Western University. Sasha Opeiko will present Maxim Dondyuk's Untitled Project from Chernobyl (2016-), which consists of photographic documentation and other visual ephemera relating to Chernobyl's Exclusion Zone to propose melancholy as an affective force that persists in unwanted or forgotten materials. Opeiko's presentation will focus on Dondyuk's photographic reproductions of objects found submerged in the debris of abandoned homes, and will analyze these findings through an anachronistic lens to suggest that such a collection of objects is a result of encounters with folded temporal aggregates. Opeiko will tie this analysis to an evaluation of inertia as an active melancholic process to show how Dondyuk's reproduction of found objects as photographs produces an "energy-bearing" moment.

### **Anna McWebb and Dana Feldman, "Art Historical Anachronisms in Contemporary Drag Culture: The Timelessness of Parodying Gender"**

Anna McWebb and Dana Feldman are Master of Arts candidates in the Art History and Visual Culture Program at the University of Guelph.

In their presentation, Anna McWebb and Dana Feldman will explore the art historiography of drag culture by evaluating how the historical avant-garde has informed contemporary iterations of drag. They will question how the parody of gender in contemporary drag provides instances of trans-temporality given its roots in the art historical avant-garde, with reference to Marcel Duchamp's drag persona Rose Sélavy.

### **Dr. Eva Kernbauer, Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Kernbauer is a professor of art history at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna, Austria.

Dr. Kernbauer is also the author of publications such as "Anachronic concepts, art historical containers and historiographical practices in contemporary art" in the Journal of Art Historiography, as well as the upcoming monograph entitled Art, History, and Anachronic Interventions Since 1990 set to be published in the fall of 2021. Dr. Kernbauer's presentation will take place on the second day of the conference (Friday May 7th) and will be followed by opportunities for discussion.