



Confronting Atrocity Conference

Narrating Transitional Justice:

History, Memory, Poetics and Politics

McMaster University

Hamilton, ON, Canada

July 29 – 30, 2021



SSHRC  **CRSH**

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada



Organized by

the Confronting Atrocity Project
Centre for Human Rights and Restorative Justice (CHRRJ)
Centre for Community Engaged Narrative Arts
Centre for Peace Studies
McMaster University, Canada

Illinois State University, USA

Conference Organizing Committee:

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Keynote Speakers:

Juan Gabriel Vásquez

Dr. Zakes Mda





Confronting Atrocity Conference Program

Day One-July 29, 2021

Plenary

- 10:00 - 10:30 am Registration / Sign in and Welcome
- 10:30 - 10:45 am Opening Remarks and Updates by Dr. Bonny Ibhawoh
- 10:45 - 11:00 am Welcome Remarks by Dr. Pamela Swett, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities
- 11:00 - 12:00 am Keynote Address by Juan Gabriel Vásquez
“The Invention of Past Truths”
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- 12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch break
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PANELS

1:00 - 2:30 pm On Transitional History and Restorative Justice (Panel A)

Chair: Rhoda E. Howard-Hassmann

Bouwknegt, Thijs - On Transitional History

Federman, Sarah & Niezen, Ronald - Victims and Perpetrators in the Aftermath of Mass Atrocity

Romeri-Lewis, Natalie Wright - Academic and Policy Project Summary (Larger Project)

Howard-Hassmann, Rhoda E. - A Truth Commission on the Africa Slave Trade? Some Possible Problems



1:00 - 2:30 pm National Contexts I (Panel B)

Chair: Tonny Raymond Kirabira

Kiepe, Jasper A - Punishment Instead of Progress: The Psyche of Injustice as a Critique of Punitive Transitional Justice

Yilmaz, Melike & Momodu, Fatima - Restorative Justice in South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Weis, Valeria Vegh - Building a transitional narrative in Colombia

Topouzova, Lilia - Truth-Telling & Truth-Staging: Bulgaria's Special Inquiry Commission for the Investigation of Forced-Labor Camp Atrocities

Kirabira, Tonny Raymond - Cultural and Social representations in Transitional justice: The Case of Northern Uganda

1:00 - 2:30 pm Cultural Representations, Memory, and the Discourse of Transitional Justice (Panel C)

Chair: Martha Galvan Mandujano

Frouini, Ismail - Narrating Transitional (Un)Justice, Atrocity and Memory in Morocco

Harroff, Lindsay - Storytelling after the Public Hearings: Cultural Representations of South Africa Truth Reconciliation Commission

Jennifer Wallace - Translating truth commissions: An examination of how truth commission discourse presents itself in South Africa's private museum sector

Mandujano, Martha Galvan & DiGeorgio-Lutz, JoAnn – “Memory Words” and Museums: The Efficacy of Never Again in Guatemala



2:45 - 4:15 pm National Context II (Panel A)

Chair: Mariana Prandini Assis

Pavlakis, Christoforos - Creating Safety, Finding Voice and Remembering: Local NGOs Work Towards Dealing with Cambodia's Legacies Through Non-Judicial and Social Processes of Dialogue and Restoring Cultural Memory

Mustakim Ansary - Religious and Caste Based Persecutions in India: Study of Two Transitional Justice Commission Reports

Knowledge Mwonzora - The nexus between Transitional Justice and memory in Zimbabwe

Vargas, Laura & Assis, Mariana Prandini - Buen vivir in the aftermath of armed conflict: A critical examination of a community-level reconciliation experience in Colombia

2:45 - 4:15 pm Arts, Cinema and the Memorialization of Transitional History and Healing (Panel B)

Chair: Adeolu Oyekan

Adebayo, Sakiru - "The Only Truth I Know is What I Feel in my Body": Memory, Affect & the Cinematic Prism of Trauma in Zulu Love Letter

MacAulay, Alison - "Hollywood" as History, "Hollywood" as Healing: Transitions in Rwandan Filmmaking, 2004-2014

Ombati, Mokua - Visuals: The Symbolic Face of Collective Truth, Justice and Reconciliation in Kenya

Nicolás Cuéllar - "HISTORIAS EN KILÓMETROS Laboratory for Audiovisual Training and Content Generation with Social Impact"

Oyekan, Adeolu - Narrating the Genocide in Rwanda Years after: Art, Censorship and the Challenges of Sustainable Cohesion

4:30 – 5:00 pm: Networking Time





Day Two- July 30th, 2021

Plenary

- 9:15 - 9:45 am Sign in and Welcome
- 9:45 - 10:00 am Opening Remarks by Dr. Paul Ugor
- 10:00 - 11:00 am Keynote Address by Zakes Mda
“A Storage Place of Memory: Misremembered Narratives of
Reconciliation, Restoration and Betrayal”

PANELS

11:15 -12:45 am Fictions of Reconciliation (Panel A)

Chair: Jeannette Squires Okur

Cole, Soji - Nothing But the Truth: The TRC and the Trauma of Shattered Assumption

Osita, Nicholas O - Atrocity and Trauma of an African Tragedy and the Quest for Justice: Post Rwandan Genocide Francophone African Testimonios and the Gacaca Justice System

Okur, Jeannette Squires - Art and Justice in Bakhtiyar Ali’s Shari Mosiqare Spiyekan

11:15 - 12:45 am Gender, Youth, Popular Arts and Projects of Healing and Reconciliation (Panel B)

Chair: Ndiritu John Wahome

Salihu, Amina & Omotoso, Sharon Adetutu - Gender, Power and the Politics of Memory: Weaving ‘Just’ into Transitional Justice in Nigeria

Quiroga-Villamarín, Daniel R - “Coming along through the Radio”: The “Kidnapped Voices” and the Production of Political Memory in Colombia (1994-2018)



Olayoku, Philip Ademola - Representation of Women Through Class and Ethnicity / Race in the Testimonials of the Human Rights Violations Investigation Commission of Nigeria

Chacha, Babere Kerata & Wahome, Ndiritu John - Life After the Camps: Transitional Justice, Children and Youth Rehabilitation in Kenya

12:45 - 1:30 pm Lunch break

1:30 - 3:00 pm Narrativizing Historical Violence (Panel A)

Chair: Paul Ugor

Katila, Anna - Imagining and Narrating Transitional Justice: Representation of the aftermath of genocide in Rwanda in Raoul Peck's *Sometimes in April* (2005)

Michelberger, Pascal - After the Facts: The Ambitious Pursuit of Prosecutorial Truth-Seeking in Giulio Ricciarelli's *Labyrinth of Lies*

Moreno, Julián Numpaque - The disappeared: memory, narratives, and representation from Colombia

Ugor, Paul - Creative Imaginaries of Truth and Reconciliation: Nation and Narration in Antjie Krog's *Country of My Skull*

1:30 - 3:00 pm Bearing Witness in Transitional Justice Narratives (Panel B)

Chair: James Ile Onyebuchi

Onah, Chijioke Kizito - Framing Remembrance: Witnessing, Memory, and Narratives of Boko Haram Terrorism

Knaus, Juliann - The Strength of My Roots: The Political, Cultural, and Historical Significance of Hair in Indigenous Canadian Plays



Gustavo Rojas-Páez - Between accountability and oblivion: understanding state crime narratives in transitional Colombia

Onyebuchi, James Ile - Art, Peace Building and Development in Nigeria: Ethnic Identity Construction and Ethnic Conflict in Buchi Emecheta's Destination Biafra

1:30 -3:00 pm Trauma, Historical Narratives and Memory (Panel C)

Chair: Lindsay Scorgie

Graham, Shane - Stolen Memories: Trauma, Memory, and Forgetting in Mohale Mashigo's the Yearning and "The Parlemo"

Sandwell, Rachel - Intimate Truths, Political Truths: Telling stories about sexual violence in post-apartheid South African fiction

Habintwari, D'Artagnan & Scorgie, Lindsay - Genocide Denial and Transitional Justice: The Role of Memorials, Testimony, and Literature

3:15 - 4:45 pm Art and Truth in Colombian Armed Conflict (Colombia Panel)

Chair: Jorge Luis Fabra-Zamora

Alfredo Duplat-Ayala

Lina María Céspedes

Andrés Molina Ochoa

Ana Patricia Pabón Mantilla

Jenny Sánchez

4:50– 5:00 pm Closing Remarks

Dr. Bonny Ibhawoh and Dr. Melike Yilmaz