



RePLITO

Quarterly Newsletter # 5, April 2023

Welcome to the fifth issue of our quarterly newsletter!

Our newsletter provides you with an overview of our latest research activities and publications.

By clicking on the hyperlinks, you can go directly to the articles and videos published in RePLITO's Digital Knowledge Archive. We create this dynamic open-access knowledge resource in close cooperation with our partner Off-University. It is a shared space in which we experiment with a variety of academic formats, such as multimedia conversations and collaborative publishing.

RePLITO's digital knowledge archive has three different sections:



Concepts and Repertoires

explores conceptualizations, definitions, interpretations and global repertoires of living together



Conversations

are dialogues about global repertoires of living together



Publications

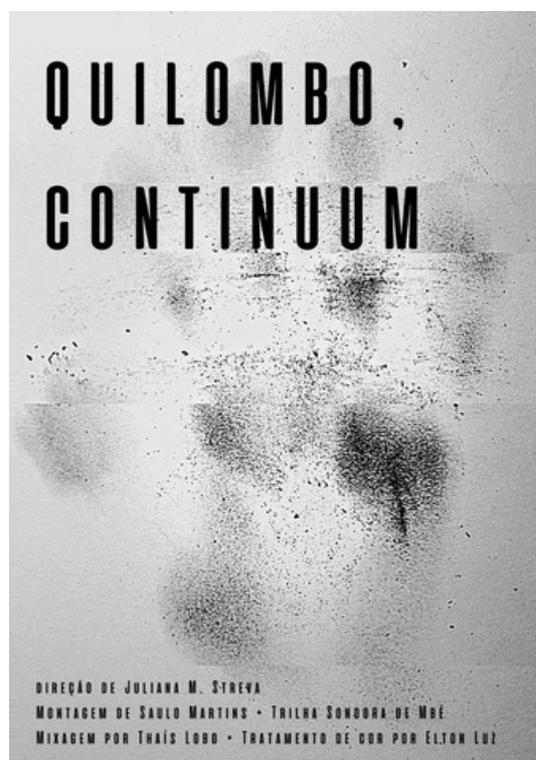
presents articles, reports, journals and books emerging from our research on global repertoires of living together

We hope you will enjoy reading & browsing through this issue.

Quilombo, Continuum (2023)

A film by Juliana M. Streva

The film "Quilombo, Continuum", directed by the postdoctoral fellow Juliana M. Streva, reverberates her ongoing research on quilombo repertoires of living together. By posing the question on "How to escape from a system in which there is no outside?", her investigation addresses the current crisis of democracy which is often manifested in terms of 'there is no alternative' (or TINA-principle). Streva's project moves towards learning with the historical and conceptual framework of quilombo, understood both as anticolonial memory and ongoing practices, to expand the political imagination for alternatives within and beyond the existing political institutions.



The experimental film interrupts and confronts the myths of social cohesion and racial democracy in Brazil. Playing with a spiral of visual archives, the film proposes an invitation to think nearby the practice and notion of quilombo while listening to the Black Radical Tradition presented by Beatriz Nascimento, Lélia Gonzalez and Abdias do Nascimento, as well as to contemporary activists, politicians and intellectuals, such as Erica Malunguinho, Debora Dias, Julio Cesar, Elaine Mineiro, Carolina Iara, Onir Araújo, Bianca Santana, Alex Barcellos. In doing so, the film confabulates with the multitude of voices, practices, and memories through which the quilombo is reactivated and reinvented today.

"Quilombo, Continuum" was screened at the 7th San Antonio Independent Film Festival (Ecuador) and selected to be part of the Muestra Itinerante de Cine Africano (Colombia). In March 2023, Juliana M. Streva was awarded the Social Impact Award and Best Director Award by the Tietê International Film Awards.

Legados do Quilombo Hoje / Legacies of the Quilombo Today

A roundtable conversation held in São Paulo (March 3, 2023)

The encounter aimed to bring together researchers who have been discussing the legacies of the quilombos in Brazil. "We will discuss the Afro-diasporic legacies of the quilombo which, in their continuous process of liberation, offer us historical, methodological, and conceptual frameworks," said Juliana Streva. This historical moment is marked by the forced migration and enslavement of men and women from the African continent to other regions of the world. The event's organizers argue that in order to understand the legacy of the quilombo, it is necessary to problematize and displace the Eurocentric and colonial system of power and its supposed monopoly of knowledge. The event was supported and funded by the RePLITO, co2libri and Mecila networks. It was organized by Iracema Dulley (ICI Berlin/co2libri) and Juliana Streva (RePLITO/FU Berlin).



03 DE MARÇO | 10H

Legados do Quilombo Hoje

Mariléa de Almeida (UnB)
Mário Medeiros (Unicamp/Mecila)
Thula Pires (PUC-Rio)

Moderação: **Iracema Dulley** (co2libri/ ICI Berlin)
e **Juliana Streva** (RePLITO/ FU Berlin)

Introdução: **Sérgio Costa** (FU Berlin/ Mecila)

Sala 8, Conjunto de Ciências Sociais e Filosofia (FFLCH)
Av. Prof. Luciano Gualberto, 315 | Cidade Universitária

Mecila:

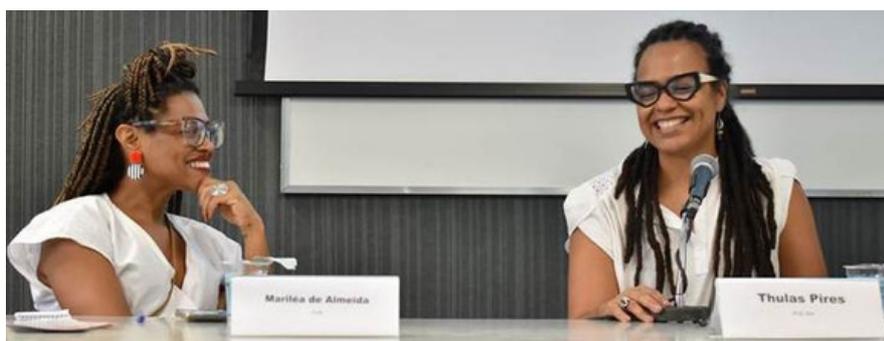


The participants of the roundtable were selected based on their academic contributions to the theoretical, historical and political framework of the quilombo:

Mariléa de Almeida is a professor in the History Department of the University of Brasilia, PhD in History from the State University of Campinas (Unicamp) and author of the book "Devir quilomba: antiracism, affection and politics in the practices of quilombola women", released in 2022 by Elefante.

Mário de Medeiros is a sociologist, writer, and professor at the Sociology Department of the State University of Campinas (Unicamp). He is the author of the book "The Discovery of the Unusual: black literature and marginal-peripheral literature in Brazil (1960-2000)," published by Aeroplano in 2013, winner of the Award for Young Social Scientists of Portuguese Language, from the Center for Social Studies of the University of Coimbra (CES) and finalist of the Jabuti Award in the Human Sciences category.

Thula Pires is a professor and doctor in Law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro. General Coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Center of Afrodescendant Memory (NIREMA). Associate of CRIOLA Organization, member of the General Assembly of Amnesty International in Brazil and of the Councils of the Institute Climate and Society (ICS) and the Center for Studies in Security and Citizenship (CESeC). Author of the book "Criminalization of racism: between politics of recognition and means of legitimizing social control over black people", published by Editora PUC-Rio in 2016.



Lecture by Lawrence Liang in the framework of the 3rd International Mother Language Day event at IAAW (Feb 21, 2023)

"Crouching Tigers and Invisible Dragons: Representation of Desi Chinese in Indian Popular Cinema"

Lawrence Liang, professor of law at Dr. Ambedkar University Delhi, is well known as an academic, public intellectual and activist who has worked on issues such as Intellectual Property, Law and Public Culture, Free Speech as well as Media and Technology. However, he has hardly spoken publicly about the Indian Chinese or Desi Chinese community, to which Liang himself belongs. The thematic focus of this year's Mother Language Day event on 'Transcultural Encounters with Chinese communities, languages and cultures in Asia and Africa' on February 21, 2023 offered him a framework to speak for the first time on the topic of representation of Desi Chinese in post-independent Indian cinema.

In his fascinating lecture, which was supplemented by very interesting film stills and clips, Liang first gave an overview of more than seven decades of post-Independence film history, which is predominantly characterized by an absence or highly stereotypical representations of Indian Chinese. Absence also in the sense that Indian Chinese characters were rarely played by members of this community. If the question of representation were to be limited solely to the portrayal of individual characters, Liang argues, then this story would quickly come to an end. Much more interesting for him, therefore, is the question what the films reveal about the coexistence and historical context in which they are set or which the film plot addresses.

"The most famous Indian Chinese in Indian cinema is ironically a half Burmese and half Anglo-Indian dancer who announced her name Chin Chin Chu in a song in the film "Howrah Bridge" (Samanta, 1958), ensuring that generations of Indian Chinese at some point of time would have the song sung to them by passerbys. And given how catchy the tune is, it was difficult not to sing along even if you often felt like screaming that my name is not Chin Chin Chu."



Feature films shot in the 1950s in particular, whose plots are set in earlier decades, convey much about a degree of mobility that viewers obviously took for granted as something which existed at the time between the port cities and adjacent regions of the Bay of Bengal, as well as a related form of cosmopolitanism in Indian cities, which was finally brought to an end by the establishment of nation-state borders after the end of the British Raj. As a film which, just a few years before the Sino-Indian Border War of 1962, shows a form of friendly bonding and solidarity beyond gender, caste, class, and ethnic boundaries in 1930s Bengal as a possibility, Mrinal Sen's film *Neel Akasher Neechey* (Under the Blue Sky, 1959) stands out. It is also remembered today as the first film in independent India to fall victim to censorship.

[Read the full article here](#)



Together with his sister Jennifer Liang, Vidura Jang Bahadur, Jenny Pinto and Koel Chatterjee, Lawrence Liang has created the remarkable online archive **Desi Chinese Project**, which is an important knowledge resource on the long history and present of Desi Chinese in India. As Lawrence Liang mentioned in the discussion after his insightful talk, he hopes that this archive can eventually be adopted and continued by the whole community.

Nadja-Christina Schneider

Workshop report

International Workshop

Global Networks, Local Pioneers **Gendered Perspectives on social activism, work and political engagement in and from South Asia**

New Delhi, India International Center, 23.-24. February 2023
Cooperation partners: RePLITO, DFG project "Hidden Histories", ICAS:MP New Delhi

Fritzi-Marie Titzmann (RePLITO) and Maria Framke (DFG project "Hidden Histories") in cooperation with the TM5 Module "The Challenge of Gender" of ICAS:MP New Delhi organized a two-day workshop at the India International Center in New Delhi. The event focused on gendered engagement in social and political activism as well as on experiences and politics of care work migration in and from South Asia. The main interest was to bring together gendered perspectives on the two-fold dynamics of how local pioneers intervene(d) in and shape(d) transnational debates and how global engagement became/becomes localized. As ideologies, critique and visions travel, professional and activist networks and solidarities have developed across borders and helped to forge new global alliances.

**Read Fritzi-Marie Titzmann's
full workshop report here**



The intended output is a collection of contributions in the RePLITO Knowledge Archive as well as an anthology planned for 2024. Nadja-Christina Schneider (RePLITO) has published her contribution to this collection in an essay on the architect Minnette de Silva titled "Minnette de Silva, or: On how (not) to create an archive of the 'forgotten pioneer' of critical regionalism in postcolonial South Asian architecture."



Maria Framke



Fritzi-Marie Titzmann

Wikibooks release

Multilingual Dictionary: Living Together in a Refugee Camp



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Sister projects

- Wikipedia
- Wikiversity
- Wiktionary
- Wikiquote
- Wikisource
- Wikinews
- Wikivoyage
- Commons
- Wikidata
- MediaWiki
- Meta-Wiki

Book [Discussion](#)



Multilingual Dictionary



Multilingual Dictionary: Living Together in a

This is an unusual dictionary. It brings together v
They're common, various, random, multilingual,
They're created, repeated many times and in so
They bring the accumulation of different feelings
The writers of this dictionary are people who exp

Contents [hide]

- 1 A
 - 1.1 Afm
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 - 2.4 Bro
- 3 C
 - 3.1 Cheepro (Tsipo(u)ro)
 - 3.2 Coast guard
 - 3.3 Çabuk Çabuk
- 4 D
 - 4.1 Doktor (Doctor)
 - 4.2 Dokhan
 - 4.3 Doost
- 5 E
 - 5.1 Emmanuel (the lawyer)
 - 5.2 Euro Relief

On March 25th, the “Multilingual Dictionary: Living Together in a Refugee Camp” was presented as part of the Off-Festival event at Engelneest in Berlin and made available to the public as Wikibooks. The dictionary documents the everyday life and shared language of refugees in the camps of Moria and Mavrovouni in Greece, enabling them to live together multilingually. Dr. Nagehan Uskan, RePLITO visiting scholar and lecturer at the department for Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region (GAMS) of the Institute for Asian and African Studies (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) implemented the project in Lesvos together with Hadis Yakubi, Shahram Ahmadi and Mehdi Darif.

She says: “The dictionary documents in an extraordinary and very direct way the multilingual everyday life of refugees and their enormous competence to live together peacefully despite all adversities. Since the first presentation of the dictionary, we noticed that this vocabulary is used far beyond Lesvos by refugees to communicate. To collect and document more terms, we are using the tools of Wikipedia and inviting people to contribute their own words.”

The dictionary was originally created and first presented to the public by migrants and activists on the island of Lesvos on International Mother Language Day 2022 under the motto “Living Together in Multilingual Societies”. It is supported by the collaborative research project Beyond Social Cohesion - Global Repertoires of Living Together (RePLITO).

Public release of the wikibooks edition of the multilingual dictionary "Living Together in a Refugee Camp". A hybrid session with Shahram Ahmadi, Nagehan Uskan and Hadis Yakubi, moderated by Nadja-Christina Schneider



New Publications in RePLITO's digital knowledge archive

(published between Jan - April 2023)

Book Collection: Reimagining Housing, Rethinking the Role of Architects in India

A book collection is currently being created under the title "Reimagining Housing, Rethinking the Role of Architects in India", in which Nadja-Christina Schneider looks into the societal role and self-perception of critical architects in contemporary India. In particular, she is interested in the media and communicative practices that architects and urban design experts are using today to engage in current debates on the various urgent questions related to spatial design. What is noticeable here is that they do so in a way that is also accessible to non-experts and therefore has the potential to include many more participants in discussions of the built environment. As a heterogeneous group of actors who, as practitioners, teachers and theorists, develop and implement viable solutions at the intersection of extremely complex global challenges for specific regional and local contexts, architects from India (and South Asia in general), deserve more attention than they have received to date.

As Rahul Mehrotra has pointed out, architects currently play a rather subordinate role in such a central area as housing in India, which is a particular focus of this book collection. How they question and rethink their own role against this background is therefore a question that will run through the various contributions to this collection.

Articles published in this collection:

Reimagining Housing, Rethinking the Role of Architects in India

Book · Created Dec 02, 2022



Low-cost housing for the people - as projected by the Films Division of India (FDI)

by Nadja-Christina Schneider

Published: Mar 17, 2023



State of Housing/A Place to Live (2018)

by Nadja-Christina Schneider

Published: Mar 17, 2023

A documentary film by Sanjiv Shah



Critical regionalism as an approach to contemporary housing in India: architectural imagination in the two documentaries "Kanade" (2021) and "Building Visions" (2022)

by Nadja-Christina Schneider



Minnette de Silva, or: On how (not) to create an archive of the "forgotten pioneer" of critical regionalism in postcolonial South Asian architecture

by Nadja-Christina Schneider



Memory, Housing Architecture and Everyday Life

by Nadja-Christina Schneider

Published: Jan 03, 2023

"Lovely Villa: Architecture as Autobiography (2019)"

Forthcoming article : "Living Together in the Vertical City"

Upcoming Lecture Series & MA Seminar

(summer term 2023)

Interrogating Coloniality: Post- and Decolonial Theory and Practice

Schirin Amir-Moazami and Mahmoud Al-Zayed

Over the past decades post- and decolonial approaches have flourished both in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies as well as in the much younger research field of Islam in Europe. In this seminar, we will take stock of these discussions while focusing - particularly but not exclusively - on "Critical Muslim Studies". While discussing the ongoing debates around the divergences and convergences between the post and de-colonial, we will raise questions about the critical importance of these approaches as well as their marginalisation in the academy throughout Europe. We will further inquire into post- and de-colonial theory "in action" by engaging in activist practices in Berlin.

In the lecture series, invited international speakers – both scholars and activists – will share their approaches to post- and decolonial thought and practices with a public audience.

Further information will be published at <https://replito.de/>

New RePLITO Working/Reading Group Translational Encounters

Translation as a concept and as a site of thinking has travelled across various disciplines to understand, among many other things, religion, identity formation, power relations, different forms of sovereignty, and of 'living together'. Through this reading/working group, we want to take translation as a metaphor and concept (and practice) through which we attune to the power relations at play when making theoretical or linguistic claims.



One of the primary aims of this group is to think with (un)translatability as a productive site of thinking and theorising in the humanities and social sciences, with a special focus on knowledge production within the field of Islamic studies. While thinking the problematics of translation across different boundaries of language, memory, religion, culture, genre, and temporality, we want to challenge the assumed transparent (almost transactional) translatability across different modes of language, such as the religious, the sensible or the bodily, the secular or the liberal.

In general, the reading group is an opportunity to collectively discuss, think and examine the vitality of thinking with translation as a critical lens through which one can approach academic practices of thinking and theorising difference.

Our working/reading group comes together once a month to discuss a significant article that deploys the concept of 'translation' by way of theorising or making arguments.

Mahmoud Al-Zayed

Upcoming lecture & conversation series (summer term 2023)

Lecture and Conversation Series | Summer Term 2023



DWELLING TOGETHER

URBAN HOUSING, NEIGHBORLINESS AND MULTILOCAL HOMEMAKING

26.04. Dwelling in New Spaces

Tuba İnal-Çekiç (HU Berlin & Off-University)

03.05. Memory, Housing Architecture and Everyday Life

Nadja-Christina Schneider (HU Berlin & RePLITO)

10.05. Film screening: Kanade - a documentary about the architects Shankar and Navnath Kanade (2021)

by TEEPOI collective with the two directors & producers
Karishma Rao and Vishvesh Shiva Prasad

17.05. Living Together or Living Separately?

Indian University Spaces and their Neighborhoods

Anna Schnieder-Krüger (HU Berlin)

24.05. Homelessness and Homemaking

İclal Ayşe Küçükırca (HU Berlin & Off-University)

31.05. Tracing Vignettes of Srinagar's Old City Through a Memory Lens

Arshi Javid (HU Berlin)

07.06. Socio-Spatial Negotiations of the Highly Skilled Indian Migrants

Dhara Patel (TU Darmstadt)

14.06. Commoning the Mahalle. The Neighborhood as Urban Commons

Julia Strutz (HU Berlin, RePLITO & Off-University)

21.06. In the Company of Plants

Hilal Alkan (Leibniz ZMO Berlin)

28.06. Non-Humans and the Postcolonial City

Veena Hariharan (Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi)

05.07. Houshamadyan Archive and (Digital) Archiving

Vahé Tachjian (FU Berlin)

12.07. Concluding session with the working group Urban Dwellings

Wednesdays, 6-8pm at HU Berlin (in-person)

Contact: Prof. Dr. Nadja-Christina Schneider

nadja-christina.schneider (at) hu-berlin.de

<https://replito.de/>

<https://www.iaaw.hu-berlin.de/de/querschnitt/medialitaet>



(© Background Image Pavel Nekoranec on Unsplash)

Upcoming research colloquium
(summer term 2023)

Gender and Media Studies for the South Asian Region



GAMS RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM



SEASON 6 – SUMMER TERM 2023 | FRIDAY 10-12 AM – ROOM 217 AT IAAW

ARSHI JAVAID 28.04.

(GAMS/HU Berlin)

Seduction of Old Srinagar City: An Enquiry into Competing Narratives of Belonging

DEBANGANA BARUAH 12.05.

(CeMIS/Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

From Trans-local to Trans-national: Religious and Economic Practices of Bengali-speaking Muslim Migrants in India

CHANDRIKA YOGARAJAH 26.05.

(GAMS/HU Berlin)

On the Traces of Traumas and Memories in Family Intimacies: Filmmaking as a Resource and Strategy in the Eelam Tamil Context

ARANI BASU 09.06.

(Krea University/Sri City)

Indians in Germany: Media, Politics and Religion

VEENA HARIHARAN 23.06.

(Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi/Goethe-Universität Frankfurt)

Worldly Women: Gendered, Religious and Secular Spaces in the Indian Documentary

DEEPA DANDEKAR 07.07.

(Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin)

Umbartha: Marathi Cinema and Early Feminism in India



RePLITO

For registration please contact Prof. Dr. Nadja-Christina Schneider

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<https://www.iaaw.hu-berlin.de/de/querschnitt/medialitaet>

In cooperation with RePLITO – Beyond Social Cohesion: Global Repertoires of Living Together

(c) Background Image: Jr Korpa on Unsplash

Featured in PubPub Community Spotlights

Off University on supporting displaced academics



Developing emancipatory education-research activities

by Julia Strutz, Eren Paydas, and PubPub Team

Published: Feb 22, 2023

Off-University creates new strategies to uphold and sustain academic life and knowledge threatened by anti-democratic and authoritarian regimes.



Creating safe scholarly spaces

by Julia Strutz, Nadja-Christina Schneider, Eren Paydas, and Sarah Gulliford (Kearns)

Published: Mar 02, 2023

Sharing the experiences of displaced researchers and fostering an academic community despite authoritarian oppression.



Impressions of RePLITO's three-day writing retreat at Oyoun in Berlin in April 2023.

Participants: Fritzi-Marie Titzmann, Juliana M. Streva, Lara Kauter, Arshi Javid, Chandrika Yogarajah, Schirin Amir-Moazami, Mahmoud Al-Zayed and Nadja-Christina Schneider

Imprint

RePLITO Quarterly Newsletter No. 5, April 2023

Newsletter of the joint research project "Beyond Social Cohesion - Global Repertoires of Living Together (RePLITO)", funded by the Berlin University Alliance in the framework of the Main Call Exploration Projects Social Cohesion

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