

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

Fall 2017 Review

December 2017

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The Arts


Events

Toxic Assets

October 18, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm. 612 Schermerhorn, Columbia University.

IMAGINARIES
FRONTIER ED. N°3
TOXIC ASSETS
CINEMA ASSETS

OCTOBER 18 TH, 6 – 8 PM
at **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**
612 Schermerhorn Hall
New York, NY 10027



Karrabing Film Collective, Wundjarramu, Oshana, and others. Video still courtesy of the artists.

IMAGINARIES
FRONTIER ED. N°3
TOXIC ASSETS
LANGUAGES
SOVEREIGNTY
PROPERTIES

Featuring

Rui An Ho	Yazan Khalili
Julieta Aranda	Brian Kuan Wood
Richard Bell	Simon Leung
Johnathan Beller	MTL Collective
Gregg Bordowitz	Angela Mitropoulos
Miguel Coyula and Lynn Cruz	Naeem Mohaiemen
Jaskiran Dhillon	Christian Nyampeta
Bonita Ely	Wendelien van Oldenborgh
Karrabing Film Collective	Rachel O'Reilly
Tara Chrichlow	Elizabeth A. Povinelli
Demian DinéYazhi'	Ryan Presley
Cassie Fennell	Farida Sedoc
Stefana Fratela	Adania Shibli
Laura Harris	Neferti X. M. Tadiar
Gordon Hookey	Greg Tate
Maria Hupfield	Constantina Zavitsanos
David Kim	and others

Curated by Vivian Zihnerl

IMAGINARIES FRONTIER COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

e-flux UN DO

A public seminar featuring dance, poetry, art installation, screenings, and talks that responds to the question: What would it take to detox New York City? The project marks the arrival of art and research initiative Frontier Imaginaries to New York City from October 18–22, as a guest of e-flux lectures and Columbia University’s Ruth S. Biermann Memorial Meetings.

The Center for Palestine Studies was pleased to invite the Palestinian author **Adania Shibli**, who presented a paper titled **A Play in One Act, and Many More**. Adania’s paper discussed how do the tactics of “playing” and “cunningness” manifest themselves privately and publicly as tenable measures for challenging the toxicity of state sovereignty and countering tyranny, exploitation and deep inequality? Playing and cunningness are increasingly put into practice by Palestinians as means to guarantee their existence where it is caught between the Israeli settler state and a subordinate Palestinian authority. Among the instances that will be examined are the north Jerusalem neighborhood of Kufer Aqab. With it is increasing concrete high-rise buildings, Kufer Aqab has become a theatre set for Palestinian Jerusalemites to stage plays before the Israeli interior ministry. Here the asset and value registers of “property”, “address” and “residence” are all chequers in a far greater game of disavowal and expulsion.

The Arts

Minor Archives: Memory, Narrative and Counter-Narrative

October 9, 2017, 6:00- 7:30 pm. 754 Schermerhorn Ext., Columbia University.



The University Seminar on Cultural Memory Presents
"Minor Archives: Memory, Narrative and Counter-Narrative"
A talk and discussion by **Professor Gil Hochberg**
Monday, October 9th, 2017
6:00 – 7:30 pm
754 Schermerhorn Ext.

Gil Hochberg is a Professor of Hebrew and Visual Studies, Comparative Literature and Middle Eastern Studies in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University.



Prof. **Gil Hochberg**, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, focused her presentation on the work of the Palestinian artist **Jumana Manna**. This talk was a part of the University Seminar on Cultural Memory.

Looted and Hidden, Palestinian Archives in Israel

September 27, 2017, 6:00 pm. 511 Dodge Hall, Columbia University.

The film **Looted and Hidden**, by Curator **Rona Sela**, unravels the fate of the Palestinian film archives that were looted throughout the 20th century. Based entirely on archival materials, long-term research, and in-depth interviews with key figures the film raises questions about archival institutions in areas of conflict and point, as in detective work, to the need to dig into the invisible and hidden in order to reveal what has been erased or rewritten. The event was introduced by Prof. **Rashid Khalidi**, who conducted a Q & A with the filmmaker following the screening.

RONA SELA 6:00PM
511 DODGE
2960 Broadway
SEPT 27
curator, researcher of visual history & culture & lecturer at Tel Aviv University
screening and q&a
Introduction by **Rashid KHALIDI**
Edward Srad Professor of Modern Arab Studies

Looted and Hidden
Palestinian Archives in Israel

Looted and Hidden unravels the fate of the Palestinian film archives that were looted throughout the 20th century. Based entirely on archival materials, long-term research, and in-depth interviews with key figures the film raises questions about archival institutions in areas of conflict and points, as in detective work, to the need to dig into the invisible and hidden in order to reveal what has been erased or rewritten.

MEI MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The Arts-Theater

Break the Wall: Short Plays on Palestine

November 18, 2017, 6:30 pm. Lenfest Center for Arts, Columbia University.



The Center for Palestine studies hosted an evening of Break the Wall plays to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Break the Wall aims to provide a continually growing collection of short, free theatrical works that illuminate the central dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and cut through the fog of deliberate distortions while challenging complicity, complacency, and ignorance in mainstream discourse on Palestine/Israel. Among the featured plays were *A Stone Throw* by **Ismail Khalidi** and *9 Visions of Gaza* by **Noelle Ghossaini**.

The event attracted a large audience, beyond Columbia University, and the following reception allowed for discussions and exchange among the audience and the performing crew.



The Arts-Palestine Cuts



Open Bethlehem

November 28, 2017, 6:15 pm. 612 Schermerhorn Hall, Columbia University

TUESDAY NOV. 28
6:15 - 7:45 pm
Schermerhorn Hall- Room 612
Columbia University

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

OPEN BETHLEHEM

"One of the most remarkable and moving documentaries I have seen, about this unreported story. The tragedy of the Palestinians encapsulated in the life of one family and one town- Bethlehem. See the film, then go to Bethlehem and see for yourself." Jon Snow

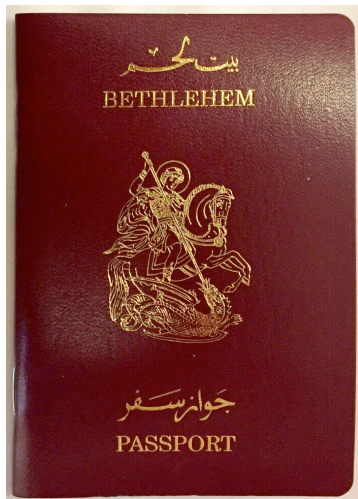
film screening followed by Q&A
with
Director Leila Sansour & Prof. Richard Peña
Film Department, School of the Arts,
Columbia University

C
PALESTINE CUTS

OPEN BETHLEHEM, a film by **Leila Sansour**, is a story of a homecoming to the world's most famous little town. The film spans seven momentous years in the life of Bethlehem, revealing a city of astonishing beauty and political strife under occupation. The making of this film has led to the creation of the largest visual archive of Bethlehem in the world.

While telling a personal story, the film charts the creation of a campaign to compel international action to bring peace to the Middle East. As the credits roll, there is snow over Bethlehem. Leila has stayed long enough to realize that she is home for good and her battered little family car takes to the sky.

Prof. Lila Abu-lughod introduced the event, and the film screening was followed by a Q&A with Director **Leila Sansour** and **Professor Richard Peña** of the Film Department, School of the Arts, Columbia University.

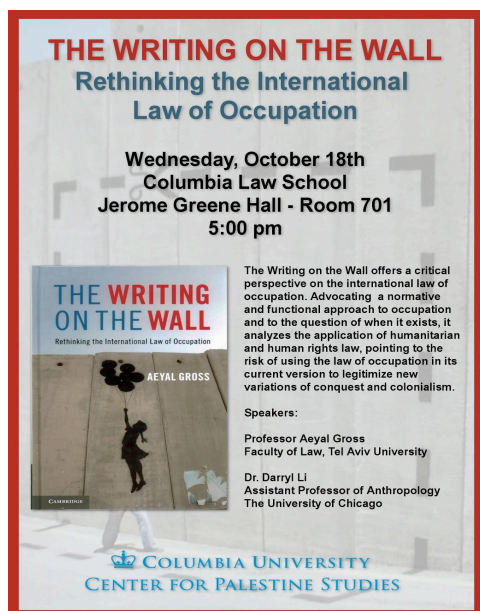


CPS faculty members were presented with honorary Bethlehem Passports.

Palestine and the Law

The Writing on the Wall: Re-thinking the International Law of Occupation

October 18, 2017, 5:00 pm. Jerome Greene Hall 701, Columbia Law School



Professor **Aeyal Gross**, of the Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University, introduced his new book, offering a critical perspective on the international law of occupation. Advocating a normative and functional approach to occupation and to the question of when it exists. His book analyzes the application of humanitarian and human rights law, pointing to the risk of using the law of occupation in its current version to legitimize new variations of conquest and colonialism. The event was introduced and moderated by Professor **Brinkley Messick** and also featured the comments of Professor **Darryl Li**, of the University of Chicago.

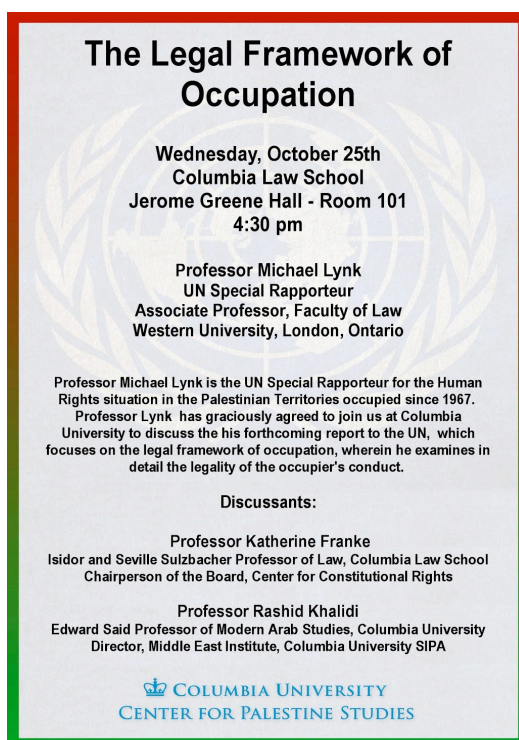
The Legal Framework of Occupation

October 25, 2017, 4:30 pm.

Jerome Greene Hall 101, Columbia Law School

Professor **Michael Lynk**, the Special Rapporteur to the United Nations, spoke about his new report to **The UN General Assembly Third Committee**, to be submitted October 26th. He was joined by discussants Professor **Katherine Franke**, of Columbia Law School, and Professor **Rashid Khalidi**, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia University, and a Co-director of the Center for Palestine Studies.

Michael Lynk full report is available on our website: <http://www.palestine.mei.columbia.edu/annual-reports/2017/11/1/situation-of-human-rights-in-the-palestinian-territories-occupied-since-1967>



Palestine and the Law

Family Life in the Ottoman Mediterranean: A Social History

October 24, 2017, 5:30- 7:30 pm. Heyman Center, Common Room, Columbia University

Beshara Doumani
Professor of History
& Director of Middle East Studies at Brown University

discussing his new book,
*Family Life in the Ottoman Mediterranean:
A Social History*
(Cambridge University Press, 2017)

In writings about Islam, women and modernity in the Middle East, family and religion are frequently invoked but rarely historicized. Based on a wide range of local sources spanning two centuries (1660-1860), Beshara Doumani argues that there is no such thing as a typical Muslim or Arab family type that is so central to Orientalist, nationalist, and Islamist political imaginations.

introduction by
Rashid Khalidi
Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies
History

with commentary by
Baber Johansen
Professor of Islamic Religious Studies
Harvard Divinity School

&

Brinkley Messick
Professor of Anthropology and MESAAS
Director of the Middle East Institute

5:30-7:30PM
October 24
Heyman Center
Common Room

M E I
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CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

Based on comparative research on archival records from Nablus (Palestine) and Tripoli (Lebanon), Professor **Beshara Doumani** of Brown University, argues that there is no such thing as a typical Muslim or Arab family type that is so central to Orientalist, nationalist and Islamist political imaginations.

Doumani focuses on the history of social groups, places, and time periods that have been silenced or erased by conventional scholarship on the early modern and modern Middle East. He contributes to the fields of social history, family history, and history of the Palestinians. Most of his writing is based on locally generated sources, especially registers of Ottoman shari`a (Islamic law) courts and family papers.

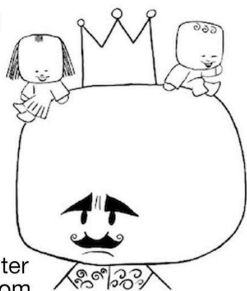
Palestine Library

The Untold Event, Grasping Arab Children's Literature

September 12, 2017, 4:00- 6:00 pm. Heyman Center, Common Room, Columbia University

The Untold Event Grasping Arab Children's Literature

4-6PM
TUES
SEPT 12



Heyman Center
Common Room
74 Morningside Dr
New York NY 10027



An investigative journey into Arab children's literature, exploring the manners through which Arab "grown ups" exported/translated their own tragic sense of collective "defeats" into a literary form directed to the Arab children as a reading public.

a book talk

ESMAIL NASHEF

Associate Prof., Dep. of Sociology & Anthropology,
Doha Institute for Graduate Studies.

Senior Lecturer, Dep. of Sociology & Anthropology,
Ben-Gurion University.

in conversation
with

HAMID DABASHI

Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian
Studies & Comparative Literature

department of
Middle Eastern,
South Asian,
& African Studies



Middle East Institute
Columbia University

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

In conversation with Prof. **Hamid Dabashi**, **Esmail Nashef** of the Doha Institute (Qatar) takes an investigative journey into Arab children's literature, exploring the manners through which Arab "grown ups" exported/translated their own tragic sense of collective "defeats" into a literary form directed to the Arab children as a reading public.

Esmail Nashef is also an art critic and curator and has published several collections of short stories. He has initiated different cultural projects and institutions that cater for art and literature in the Palestinian context, in order to build institutional infrastructures for advancing knowledge production, art, and

Resistance Literature

October 12, 2017, 2:00 pm.

Jerome Greene Annex Columbia University.

A symposium to mark three decades since the publication of Barbara Harlow's *Resistance Literature* - and to mark the passing of Barbara as a teacher, mentor, interlocutor, and comrade.

A symposium to mark three decades since the publication of Barbara Harlow's *Resistance Literature* - and to mark the passing of Barbara as a teacher, mentor, interlocutor, and comrade.

Organized by Joseph Slaughter and Jennifer Wenzel

Thursday, 12 October 2017, 2:00pm, Jerome Greene Annex

RESISTANCE LITERATURE

Bret Benjamin
University at Albany

Fran Buntman
George Washington University

Yvette Christiansë
Barnard College

Eve Dunbar
Vassar College

Peter Hitchcock
The Grad Center, CUNY

Neville Hoad
University of Texas at Austin

Isabel Hofmeyr
University of the Witwatersrand /New York University

Marnia Lazreg
Hunter College and The Grad Center, CUNY

Johnny Lorenz
Monclair State University

Vasuki Nesiah
New York University

Michael Rubenstein
Stony Brook University

Thirty Years Later/Then and Now

Sponsored by the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, the Institute for African Studies, the Department of English and Comparative Literature, the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Center for Palestine Studies, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

Palestine Library

State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel

September 25, 2017, 12:00-2:00 pm. Knox Hall 2017, Columbia University.

book
talk

Tom Suárez

Researcher, writer

State of Terror:

How Terrorism Created Modern Israel

12-2PM
Monday Sept 25
KNOX 207

Suárez has uncovered documents in the British archives, many revealed for the first time, which establish beyond doubt that far from being isolated incidents by rogue groups, the use of terror to acquire and keep Palestine for the Jews was deliberate, planned and sustained well into the early years of the Jewish state. It also casts new light on the continuing use of violence by Israel against the Palestinians.

"A tour de force, based on diligent archival research that looks boldly at the impact of Zionism on Palestine and its people in the first part of the 20th century."

- Ilan Pappé, Israeli historian and author

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

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The Israeli historian **Ilan Pappé** describes the book as *"A tour de force, based on diligent archival research that looks boldly at the impact of Zionism on Palestine and its people in the first part of the 20th century."*

Jerusalem

Al-Quds: Community Leading Change: A talk with Fayrouz Sharqawi

November 3, 2017, 10:10 am-12:00 pm. Knox Hall 207, Columbia University.



This talk explored the challenges faced by Palestinian Jerusalemites living under the Israeli occupation, and the grassroots mobilization and self-organizing through which Palestinian communities reclaim their city and raise their collective voice against oppression, leading to the change they wish to see. This past summer's movement for al-Aqsa mosque was used to illustrate the origins and potential of local organizing.

Jerusalem without God: Portrait of a Cruel City

November 13, 2017, 12:00-1:45 pm. Knox Hall 207, Columbia University.

Paola Caridi, Middle East reporter and author of *Hamas: From Resistance to Government*, brings Jerusalem alive in her new book by describing it as a place of sights and senses, sounds and smells, but she also shows us a city riven by the harsh asymmetry of power and control embodied in its lines, limits, walls, and borders. She explores a cruel city, where Israeli and Palestinian civilians sometimes spend hours in the same supermarkets, only to return to the confines of their respective districts, invisible to each other.



History of the Present

Balfour Declaration and the US Immigration Act.

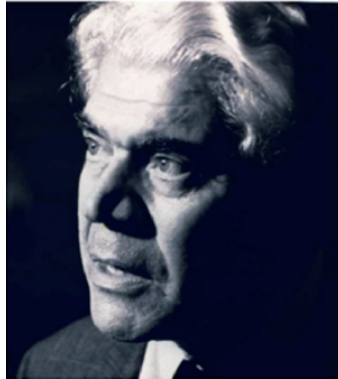
November 10, 2017, 12:00 pm. Knox Hall 207, Columbia University



Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the **Balfour Declaration**, the Center for Palestine Studies organized a closed workshop on the *Balfour Declaration and the US Immigration Act*. The session was led by Prof. **Darryl Li** of the University of Chicago and Prof. **Maryanne Rhett** of Monmouth University and attended by a number of Columbia University faculty and students.

Fellowships

Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Award in Palestine Studies 2018-2019



The Center for Palestine Studies at Columbia University's Middle East Institute is pleased to announce, and to invite applications for, the seventh annual Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Award, a post-doctoral fellowship in Palestinian Studies. The year-long fellowship carries a stipend of \$50,000 and includes teaching one undergraduate course. The fellow must have a PhD in hand by June 2018.

The award recognizes and seeks to foster innovative scholarship on issues related to Palestine and Palestinians. It will support a post-doctoral scholar working on a book project in any field of the humanities or social sciences.

The Fellow will spend the academic year at Columbia University, pursuing her or his research and writing, teaching one undergraduate course, and participating in the intellectual life of the Center for Palestine Studies at the Middle East Institute. The Fellow will present a seminar paper in the Middle East Institute's colloquium series and may be invited to speak at other universities in the United States.

Established in 2010, the IAL Award is made possible through the generosity of the late Abdel Mohsin Al-Qattan in honor of his friend, the Palestinian scholar and intellectual, Ibrahim Abu-Lughod (1929-2001). Their close friendship began in the aftermath of the Nakba of 1948 and evolved into a shared commitment to justice for Palestinians to be realized through support for excellence in higher education and scholarship. The IAL Award also is supported by other donors and by the Arts & Sciences at Columbia University.

News

- **Dr. Brian Boyd** will Co-direct the Center for Palestine Studies with Prof. Nadia Abu El haj starting Spring 2018. Dr. Boyd received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in 1996. He is currently Program Director of the Center for Archaeology and Director of the M.A. in Museum Anthropology at Columbia University. He has been carrying out archaeological research in Palestine/Israel for almost thirty years, and is currently co-directing (with Dr. Hamed Salem, Birzeit University) the Columbia-Birzeit project “*Building Community Anthropology Across the Jordan Valley*” in the West Bank.

- **Dr. Helen Malko** has recently joined the Center for Palestine Studies as the Program Manager. Dr. Malko received her M.A. in Archaeology of the Near East from Baghdad University, and her PhD from Stony Brook University. She has a degree in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies from Rutgers University. She has worked on various archaeological projects in the Middle East, and most recently, she has been involved in an ongoing project that documents endangered heritage sites in Iraq and Turkey and the surrounding region.

- Op-eds by **Prof. Rashid Khalidi**, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia University and Co-director of the Center for Palestine Studies.

Trump’s error on Jerusalem is a disaster for the Arab World...and the US too. [The Guardian](#) Dec. 6, 2017.

After Jerusalem, the US can no longer Pretend to be an Honest Broker of Peace. [The Nation](#) Dec. 8, 2017.

- On Nov. 2, 2017 **Prof. Rashid Khalidi**, the Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia University and Co-director of the Center for Palestine Studies, presented a lecture at the United Nations on the Balfour Declaration and the impact it has had on the Palestinian people. Video available [HERE](#)

- **Lila Abu-Lughod**, a CPS faculty member and Prof. of Anthropology at Columbia University, moderated a panel on Gender and the Technologies of State Violence on Nov. 16, 2017. The program, part of a series of critical lectures in Reframing Gendered Violence, comprises a panel discussion with Sherene Razack (UCLA), Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian (Hebrew University and Columbia Law School), and Miriam Ticktin (The New School).

- **Prof. Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian** of Hebrew University spent the fall semester at Columbia’s Law School where she held workshops and participated in panels on Gender and the Technologies of State Violence. She presented her work on state violence against Palestinian Jerusalemite.



A new children’s story, **P is for Palestine** by Dr. Golbarg Bashi is an Alphabet book that introduces children to the heritage and culture of Palestine. The book is available from Book Culture, New York.

Upcoming

The Center for Palestine Studies is pleased to announce the following events for Spring 2018

- ✚ Feb. 26, 2018. **JERUSALEM LIVES At the Palestinian Museum** *A conversation* with Reem Fadda, Emily Jacir, and Beshara Doumani. Introduced by Lila Abu-Lughod and moderated by Brian Boyd.
- ✚ **Hassan Jabareen**, Founder and General Director of Adalah will be speaking at Columbia Law School in Feb. 2018.
- ✚ March 27, 2018. **Raed Andoni** screens his film **Ghost Hunting**.
- ✚ March 29, 2018. **Yael Berda** presents her book titled *Living Emergency, Israel's Permit Regime in the Occupied West Bank*.

And much more.....

These & other events have been made possible through the generous support of the CPS friends, with special thanks to

A.M. Qattan Foundation

Fadi Ghandour

Raghida Ghandour

Zina Jardaneh

Arif Naqvi

Miram & Nabil Marshood

Dalia Al-Sayeh

Abu-Lughod Family

Jeanne & Ken Levy-Church

Asem & Zina Toukan

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