

Lara Righi (Università di Verona)
"He taught me how to be the person I was not". Otherness and Armenia in Andrej Makine's My Armenian Friend

Caterina Re (Università di Genova)
*"А ты по-русски говоришь?"
Black Otherness in Hamid Ismailov's Mboobo (2009)*

13.00-14.30 Lunch

14.30-16.00 **Panel 4. Mapping Cultures:
Imperial Travels, Imperial Discoveries**

Chair: **Maria Emeliyanova**

Polina de Mauny (Sorbonne Nouvelle University)
*The Cultural Creation of Africa in the Russian Empire:
David Livingstone's African Expeditions in Maurycy
Wolff's Illustrated Travel Series*

Thomas Delattre (Moscow)
*Gifts from the Negus of Moscow: Theory and Practices
of the Early Czarist's Involvement in Ethiopia, 1866–1892*

Stephen Badalyan Riegg (Texas A&M University)
*"We are special but not too special": Rostislav Fadeev's
Comparison of the North Caucasus with Northern Africa*

16.00 Closing remarks, **Scientific Committee**

18th October 2023
Sala delle Edicole
Palazzo del Capitano

19th October 2023
Sala Sartori
Palazzo Liviano

Comparing Colonial Discourses: Africa and the Caucasus in Russian Thought



Midjourney's rendering of a /blend between Dejneka's and Aivazovskij's paintings

Scientific Committee: Claudia Criveller, Sara Dickinson, Dominik Gutmeyr-Schnur,
Il'ja Kukulin, Alberto Masoero, Niccolò Pianciola, Farah Polato

Organising Committee: Anita Frison, Martina Morabito, Maria Emeliyanova

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UNIVERSITY OF PADOVA

Dipartimento di Studi Linguistici e Letterari (DiSLL)
Complesso Beato Pellegrino - Via E. Vendramini 13 Padova

Day 1 – 18th October 2023

9.00– 9.15 *Registration*

9.15– 9.30 *Institutional Greetings*

9.30-10.30 **Keynote speech** and discussion,
Maxim Matusevich (Seton Hall University)
*From the Comintern to the Sovereignty Discourse:
The Many Lives of Soviet Antiracism*
Chair: **Anita Frison**

10.30-11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00-13.00 **Panel 1. Visual dimensions:
Painting, Filming, and Collecting Otherness**
Chair: **Martina Morabito**

Maria Taroutina (Yale-NUS College in Singapore)
*Ivan Aivazovsky's Imperial Sublime: The Politics and Aesthetics
of Romantic Landscape Painting in the Age of Empire*

Alžběta Filipová (Masaryk University)
*From the Transcaucasian Periphery to the Georgian Socialist
Soviet Republic: Medieval Art of Georgia Through the Pages
of Russian Encyclopaedias (1893–1949)*

Johanna Hügel (University of Erfurt)
*Criticizing European Colonialism from within the Colonial
Ethnographic Collections: Vladimir Markov's Iskusstvo Negrov*

Gesine Drews-Sylla (Julius-Maximilian University of Würzburg)
Conflations of Georgia and Africa: Il'ia Zdanevich and Otar Ioseliani

13.00-14.30 *Lunch*

14.30-16.00 **Panel 2. Ruling the People:
Politics of Power in Russian Official Documents**
Chair: **Niccolò Pianciola**

Evgeniya Prusskaya (Ilia State University, Tbilisi)
Muslim "Others" in the South Caucasus of the 19th Century

Jakob Zollman (Berlin Social Science Center (WZB))
*Expansion – Power – Civilisation. Legal Colonial Discourses in Tsarist
Russia, 1860-1914*

Ivan Sablin

(Heidelberg University / Institute of Contemporary History, Ljubljana)
*Constitution-making in African People's Republics in Soviet Legal
Commentary*

16.00-16.30 *Break*

16.30-18.30 *Cinema. Screening of and discussion on the documentary
Black Russians: The Red Experiment (2023) with the
director Yelena Demikovsky and Maxim Matusevich*
(The event will be held at the cinema "Multisala Pio X",
Sala Giotto, via A. F. Bonporti, 22)

Day 2 – 19th October 2023

9.00- 9.15 *Institutional Greetings*

9.15-10.15 **Keynote speech** and discussion,
Harsha Ram (University of California, Berkeley)
*Alpine Romanticism: Political Sovereignty and the State
of Nature in Russian Representations of the Caucasus*
Chair: **Sara Dickinson**

10.15-10.45 *Coffee break*

10.45-13.00 **Panel 3. Prismatic Literature:
the Other in Prose, Drama, and Poetry**
Chair: **Anita Frison**

Laetitia Decourt (Sorbonne University)
*Comparing Colonial Discourses: Bessarabia and the Caucasus
in Early 19th-century Russian Literary Prose*

Kirill Zubkov (Università di Bologna)
*"There were three brothers there, in the Caucasus":
Orientalism and Russian Drama in the Late 19th Century*

Daria Sinichkina (Sorbonne University)
*The Caucasus as a Homoerotic Landscape in Nikolai Klyuev's
Poetry*