Relational Knowing and Subjectivity

9th-10th May, 2023

Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

Accounts about relational knowing draw attention to the concrete processes through which knowledge is made. When an inquirer seeks to understand something, they do not typically encounter phenomena as entities or facts external to themselves. They are deeply intertwined with the world even as they attempt to understand it from their specific locations in space and time. Several scholars have begun tapping into, as well as developing their own, accounts of relational knowing.

This workshop will bring together scholars and practitioners who work on aspects of relational knowing as they pertain to world philosophies, history, and art history. The workshop will focus on both, the impact of relational knowing on notions of subjectivity as well as its ramifications.

In addition to the conceptual work on relational knowing, the workshop will focus on curatorial practices of indigenous /people of color who touch upon decolonial perspectives and practices in their curation. It will discuss their strategies for navigating museum spaces with their genealogies and embeddedness in colonialism. Further, it will ask whether art and artists provide space and new perspectives for a non-exploitative curatorial practice.

Organizers: Monika Kirloskar-Steinbach and Wim Manuhutu

Program

9th May

9:30-10:00

Welcome

10:00-11:00

Helen Verran (Charles Darwin University, Australia)

Relational Knowns and Knowers; Relational Epistemics. In the Collections Archive of the Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory (MAGNT)

11.00-12:00

Dean Brink (National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan)

Kotodama and Philosophies of Relational Aesthetics in Japanese Poetry and Anime

12.00-13:00

Michael Kaulana Ing (Indiana University, USA)

Comparative Conceptions of Oneness: Kanaka (Hawaiian) and Chinese Views

Lunch break

14:30-16:00

Doctoral Panel

Dominique Ankoné (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Looking Beyond the Imperial Horizon: Tran Duc Thao's Theory of Relational Freedom and Situated Autonomy

Merel Talbi (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Can We Integrate Personal Narratives into Philosophical Knowledge-Production in a Non-Exploitative Way?

Yasunori Hayashi (Charles Darwin University, Australia)

The Figure of an Aporetic Knower Doing World Philosophy as Situated 'Field' Philosophizing in Northern Australia

17:00-18:00 Keynote

Carl Mika (University of Canterbury, Aotearoa/New Zealand)

'Who Are You?' When Maori Identity is Frustrated by the More-Than-Human

10th May

9:30-10:30

Susan Legêne (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Epistemic Communities between *Eastward Bound!* (Tropenmuseum 2003) and *Our Colonial Inheritance* (Tropenmuseum 2022) – Colonial Episteme, Relational Knowledge and Changing Relations

10:30-12:30

Curatorial Panel

Chair: Wim Manuhutu (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Panelists: Karl Chitham (Dowse Art Museum, Aotearoa/New Zealand), Nancy Jouwe (independent researcher, Netherlands), Wonu Veys (Curator for Oceania at the National Museum for World Cultures, Netherlands) and Richard Kofi (International Theatre Amsterdam, Netherlands)

12:30-13:00

Lunch

(afternoon program at the Tropenmuseum for delegates)