

Curating the Afropolitan City

New Ethnographies of Johannesburg

12-13 August 2014

During the last quarter of the 20th century, Johannesburg expanded in a relatively decentralized, if not random, way. Today the city is better understood as a largely de-territorialized mega-region with multiple urban enclaves and myriad links with the Continent and the world at large. One of its defining features is not only its disjunctive geography, but also the way in which humans and non-humans are linked together in heterogeneous and often unrecognized assemblages that contribute to the making of a uniquely Afropolitan urban form. In three keynote lectures, ten parallel sessions, one evening event and one musical performance, the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research invites you to explore this constantly evolving metropolis.

Tuesday, August 12

9:00 – 10:30

Keynotes

Chair: Pamela Gupta

Keith Breckenridge

The Making of Modern Johannesburg

Sarah Nuttall

Writing Johannesburg: Circa 2010-2014

Achille Mbembe

City Studies and the Anthropocene

10.30 – 10.45

Tea/Coffee

10.45 – 13:00

Platforms 1 and 2

Platform 1

Chair: Joshua Walker

Jameel Asani

Somali Migrants

Pamila Gupta

Portuguese Johannesburg

Christi Kruger

The New “Poor Whites”

Platform 2

Chair: Catherine Burns

M. Kottakkunnummal

Generic Antiretrovirals

Geronimo Thusi

Policing Sex

Melekias Zulu

Spirituality in a Wasteland

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 16:00

Platforms 3 and 4

Platform 3

Chair: Sarah Nuttall

Edgar Pieterse

Digital Artefacts

Kim Gurney

The Life and Death of an Atelier

Nicky Falkof

Garden Cottages

Platform 4

Chair: Kirk Sides

Cheryl Stevens

Skyline for Sale

Jason Frenkel

Arts on Main

Claire Rousell

Emerging Nature Cultures

16:00 – 16:15 Tea/Coffee

16.15 – 17.30 **Platform 5**

Platform 5

Chair: Achille Mbembe

Bettina Malcomess Not No Place?

Philip Harrison Assemblage in Context

Solam Mkhabela Urban Compounding and Zwakala
& Kirsten Dormann Kaneno

Edward Webster Surviving on the Margins
& Luli Callinicos

Wednesday, 13 August

9:00 – 11:00 **Platforms 6 and 7**

Platform 6

Chair: Tim Wright

Brett Pyper Jazz and Intimate Publics

Amber- Jade Geldenhuys Art, Design and (In)security

Daniela Goeller Reading Subcultures

Ntamack Serge

Science and Knowing

Platform 7

Chair: Dhammamegha Annie Leatt

Wamuwi Mbaio

Township Car-Wash

Dipalesa Mpye

Informal Hairdressing

Tracy Ledger

Food Networks

11:00 – 11:15

Tea/Coffee

11:15 – 13:00

Platform 8

Platform 8

Chair: Achille Mbembe

Fiona Rankin-Smith

Migrant Journeys

Matthew Solomon

Capitalism and Xenophobia

Alice Nevin

The Gentrification of Maboneng

13:00 – 14:30

**Lunch &
Musical Performance**

Clare Loveday and Mareli Stolp

14:30 – 16:30

Platforms 9 and 10

Platform 9

Chair: Sarah Duff

Clare Loveday & Mareli Stolp	City as Phantasmagoria
Erin Bosenberg	Listening for Narrative
Laura Burocco	Wandering as a Political Exercise
Clive Kellner	The Johannesburg Art Gallery

Platform 10

Chair: Jonathan Klaaren

Raymond Nyapokoto	Fanon and Gated Communities
Alexandra Mary Parker	Johannesburg Films
Charles Villet	Rich Master and Poor Slave
Lauren Kent	Inner City Childhood

16.30 – 17:00

Closing Comments

**WiSER Seminar Room,
6th Floor, Richard Ward Building,
East Campus,
Wits University**