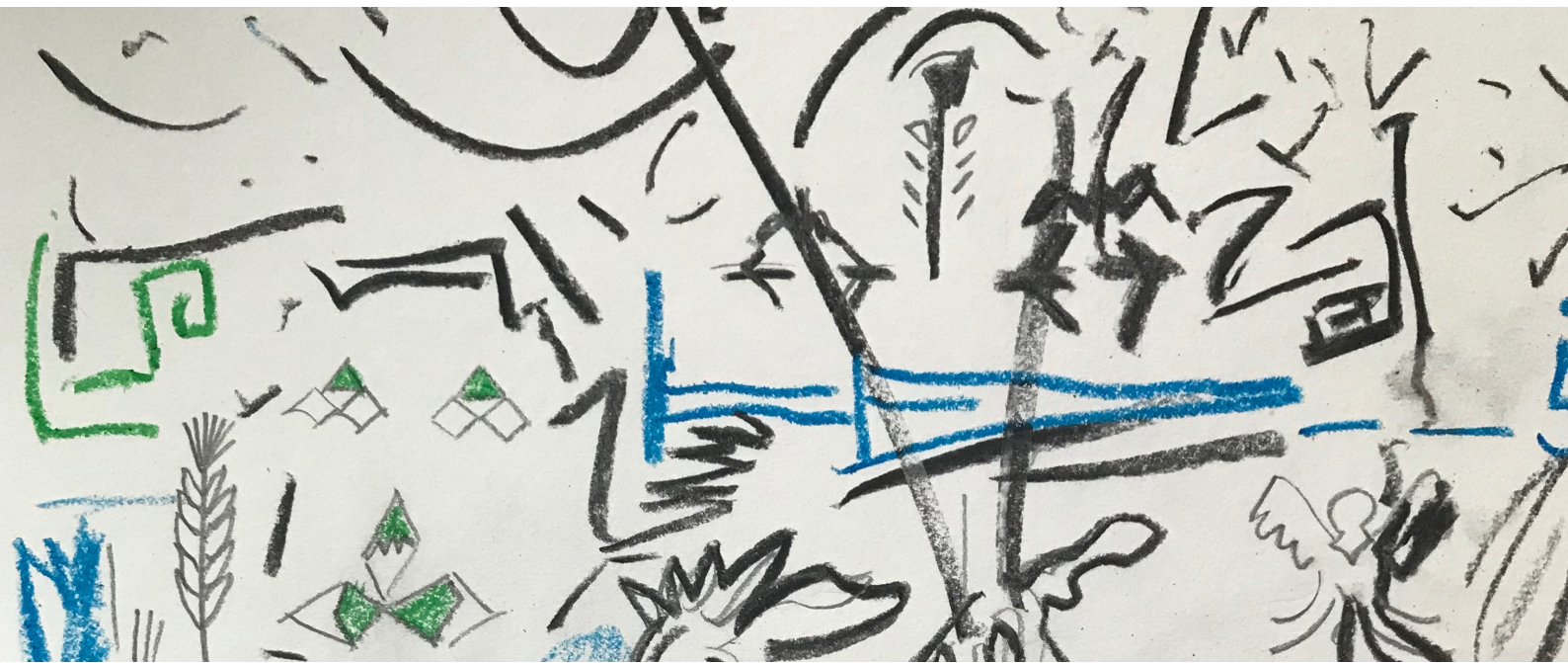


# Revis(ualis)ing Intersectionality: Series of Conversations: Pt. 3, *perception*

*A talk with Ashkan Sepahvand, with live drawing from Nine Yamamoto*

27 November 2019, 18h



## **The concept:**

Rather than categorizing or naming, we are interested in creating a space of conversation as a research methodology that ruptures binaries, one which employs the concept of intersectionality via the visual sphere. By filtering intersectionality through visibility, we arrive at questions of the un/seen regarding subjectivity, ontology, gender, and more generally, situatedness. In a series of four curated conversations, each dedicated to their own concept as follows: trans\*, sameness, perception, and intimacy, we will explore the multiple forms of intersectionality these approaches yield.

For the third conversation, we will inquire recent studies regarding perception, as a psychological process. Perception interrogates how visual information guides our actions in interacting with others as well as the environment. For this conversation, Ashkan Sepahvand will lead a talk on his current artistic research project on the AIDS crisis. Sepahvand writes, "I am interested in developing a queer critique of political visibility, suggesting instead an aesthetics of the (in)visible and a politics of (dis)appearance. My research asks: what does it mean to be seen, who is doing the looking, what are the risks of showing? My practice involves text, voice, and sound; accordingly, I am engaging with and responding to artistic positions from 1977-2000 that are primarily non-visual. As positions that evade or refuse representation, transparency, clarity, and understanding, I am interested in how these instead propose the visionary, sensory, imaginary, and mysterious as modalities for queer knowledge-(un)making. The talk will weave between primary research documents and personal creative work, an attempt at performative interlocution."

A text will be sent to all participants a week prior to the event that encourages us to think about perception and Sepahvand's work in more depth.



### **The who:**

Ashkan Sepahvand is a writer and artistic researcher from Berlin. He is currently pursuing his DPhil in Fine Art at the Ruskin School of Art and St. John's College, University of Oxford, where he is a Clarendon-AHRC Scholar. Prior to this, he was a Guest Lecturer at the Hochschule für Künste in Bremen, where he taught queer-feminist theory, performance, and creative writing. In 2017 he curated the exhibition "Odarodle – an imaginary their\_story of naturepeoples, 1535-2017" at the Schwules Museum\*, a postcolonial re-staging of the museum's display format as ethnographic exhibit. He also worked at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, where he co-edited the publication "Textures of the Anthropocene: Grain, Vapor, Ray" (The MIT Press, 2015). Since 2013 he collaborates with Natascha Sadr Haghigian as the institute for incongruous translation; their projects include „seeing studies“ (2010-12) and „Carbon Theater“ (2016-19).

Nine Yamamoto-Masson a French-Japanese artist, theorist, researcher, curator, translator, community organiser and PhD candidate at ASCA (Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam).

In academic research, artistic and activist practice, her work analyses the gendered necropolitics of coloniality with regard to the legacies of European and Japanese colonialism and their present manifestations as configurations of power and economies of knowledge that exert violence on bodies and futures. She studies the modes of organisation and effects of resistant memory countering hegemonic dominant narratives, focusing on the role of art and inter-diasporic, internationalist and intergenerational solidarities.

### **The text:**

A text will be sent out to all participants a week before the event. Please have the text read prior to the event as we will be discussing it in relation to the film.

### **The participants:**

There are limited spots available, please register by Monday, 18 November 2019. To register please email the following to [roxanne@dezim-institut.de](mailto:roxanne@dezim-institut.de): 1 - name / preferred pronoun / email + 2 - why are you interested in joining this event? (1-2 sentences)

### **The location:**

DeZIM Institut  
Mauerstraße 76  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Etage 3

The space is barrier-free accessible but the toilets are not.

A lift will take you to the third floor foyer where the screening and conversation will occur in English.

Light refreshments will be provided.

The workshop is organized by DeZIM-Institut's Department of Integration, Revis(ualis)ing Intersectionality project.



Funded by the Volkswagen Foundation.

