



AALBORG UNIVERSITY
DENMARK

Optimism at the End of the World

Helenekilde Badehotel, August 22-24, 2018

Wednesday August 22

08:30 09:30	Bus leaves from Scandic Hotel, Sankt Annæ Plads 21, Copenhagen Arrival at Helenekilde Badehotel
10:00 - 10:45	Welcome and introduction by Anja Kublitz, Aalborg University, & Michael Ulfstjerne, Aalborg University
11:00 - 11:45 11:45 - 12:15	The Gift of Internationalism: Hope and Optimism in U.S.-Japan Citizen Diplomacy for Peace, Keynote by Hirokazu Miyazaki, Northwestern University Questions and discussion
12:30-13:45	Lunch
Session 1	Divine Optimism
13:45-14:10	Theological Optimism and Unappealing Men by Alice Elliot, University of London
14:10-14:18	Discussant 1: Lotte Buch Segal
14:18-14:26	Discussant 2: Frida Hastrup
14:26-14:45	Open discussion
14:45-15:10	Pentecostal Experiences of Pervasive Pessimism and Selective Optimism in Ghana by John Dulin, Utah Valley University
15:10-15:18	Discussant 1: Alice Elliot
15:18-15:26	Discussant 2: Christian Vium
15:26-15:45	Open discussion
15:45-16:45	Break: room check-in + coffee, tea and cake
16:45-17:10	Born (again) in the USA? by Christian Vium, Aarhus University
17:10-17:15	Discussant 1: Steffen Jensen
17:15-17:20	Discussant 2: Anja Kublitz
17:20-17:45	Open discussion
17:45-18:00	Evening reflections by Hirokazu Miyazaki
18:00-19:00	Walk and talk/swim and sing
19:00	Dinner
21:00	Evening coffee



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Thursday August 23

08:00-09:00	Breakfast
09:15-09:20	Introduction
09:20-10:05 10:05-10:30	Affects after Finitude. Keynote by Elizabeth Povinelli, Columbia University Questions and discussion
Session 2	The End of Optimism?
10:30-10:55	Optimism, Madness, and a Maddening Ordinary – masculine and feminine philosophies of realism in contemporary Palestine by Lotte Buch Segal, University of Copenhagen
10:55-11:03	Discussant 1: Ilana Feldman
11:03-11:11	Discussant 2: Alice Elliot
11:11-11:30	Open discussion
11:30-11:55	The Promise and Peril of the International: A Palestinian Conundrum or, Untimely Optimism by Ilana Feldman, George Washington University
11:55-12:03	Discussant 1: Steffen Jensen
12:03-12:11	Discussant 2: Lotte Buch Segal
12:11-12:30	Open discussion
12:30-13:30	Lunch
Session 3	Extracted Optimism
13:45-14:10	Processing Industrial Landscapes: Optimism, Impact and the Greenlandic Mining Complex by Frida Hastrup & Nathalia Brichet, University of Copenhagen
14:10-14:18	Discussant 1: Lars Højer
14:18-14:26	Discussant 2: Tamta Khalvashi
14:26-14:45	Open discussion
14:45-15:10	Mining optimism at “the end of the world” and disjunct temporalities in Mongolia by Lars Højer, University of Copenhagen
15:10-15:18	Discussant 1: Ryan Davey
15:18-15:26	Discussant 2: Frida Hastrup
15:26-15:45	Open discussion
15:45-16:45	Break: coffee, tea and cake/ walk-and-talk



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16:45-17:10	The relationality of optimism: notes from Cape Town and Manila by Steffen Jensen, Aalborg University
17:10-17:15	Discussant 1: Ilana Feldman
17:15-17:20	Discussant 2: Tamta Khalvashi
17:20-17:45	Open discussion
17:45-18:00	Evening reflections by Elizabeth Povinelli
18:00-19:00	Walk and talk/swim and sing
19.00	Dinner
21.00	Evening coffee

Friday August 24

08:00-09:00	Breakfast
09:00-09:05	Introduction
Session 4	Indebted Optimism
09:05-09:30	Peripheries of Optimism: Affective Economies of Indebtedness in Georgia by Tamta Khalvashi, Free University of Tbilisi
09:30-09:38	Discussant 1: Ryan Davey
09:38-09:46	Discussant 2: Christian Vium
09:46-10:05	Open discussion
10:05-10:30	<i>Mise en scène</i>: The make-believe space of over-indebted optimism by Ryan Davey, London School of Economics
10:30-10:38	Discussant 1: Lars Højer
10:38-10:46	Discussant 2: Michael Ulfstjerne
10:46-11:05	Open discussion
11:05-11:30	Closing discussion and way forward
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13.00	Departure for Copenhagen