

**Confronting Atrocity Conference**

**Narrating Transitional Justice:**

**History, Memory, Poetics and Politics**

**McMaster University**

**Hamilton, ON, Canada**

**July 29 – 30, 2021**



**SSHRC**  **CRSH**

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada  
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

Organized by

the Confronting Atrocity Project  
Centre for Human Rights and Restorative Justice (CHRRJ)  
Centre for Community Engaged Narrative Arts  
Centre for Peace Studies  
McMaster University, Canada

Illinois State University, USA

### **Conference Organizing Committee:**

Dr. Bonny Ibhawoh  
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Dr. Paul Ugor  
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### **Keynote Speakers:**

Juan Gabriel Vásquez

Dr. Zakes Mda

## Confronting Atrocity Conference Programme

### Day One-July 29, 2021

#### Plenary

- 10:00 - 10:30 am     Registration / Sign in and Welcome
- 10:30 - 10:45 am     Opening Remarks and Updates by Dr. Bonny Ibhawoh
- 10:45 - 11:00 am     Welcome Remarks by Dr. Pamela Swett,  
Dean of the Faculty of Humanities
- 11:00 - 12:00 am     Keynote Address by Juan Gabriel Vásquez  
“The Invention of Past Truths”

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12:00 - 1:00 pm     Lunch break

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#### PANELS

#### 1:00 - 2:30 pm     On Transitional History and Restorative Justice (Panel A)

**Chair:** Rhoda E. Howard-Hassmann

**Bouwknegt, Thijs** - On Transitional History

**Federman, Sarah & Niezen, Ronald** - Victims and Perpetrators in the  
Aftermath of Mass Atrocity

**Romeri-Lewis, Natalie Wright** - Academic and Policy Project Summary  
(Larger Project)

**Howard-Hassmann, Rhoda E.** - A Truth Commission on the Africa Slave  
Trade? Some Possible Problems

**1:00 - 2:30 pm      National Contexts I (Panel B)**

**Chair:** Bonny Ibhawoh

**Kiepe, Jasper A** - Punishment Instead of Progress: The Psyche of Injustice as a Critique of Punitive Transitional Justice

**Yilmaz, Melike & Momodu, Fatima** - Restorative Justice in South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission

**Weis, Valeria Vegh** - Building a transitional narrative in Colombia

**Topouzova, Lilia** - Truth-Telling & Truth-Staging: Bulgaria's Special Inquiry Commission for the Investigation of Forced-Labor Camp Atrocities

**Kirabira, Tonny Raymond** - Cultural and Social representations in Transitional justice: The Case of Northern Uganda

**1:00 - 2:30 pm      Cultural Representations, Memory, and the Discourse of  
Transitional Justice (Panel C)**

**Chair:** Martha Galvan Mandujano

**Frouini, Ismail** - Narrating Transitional (Un)Justice, Atrocity and Memory in Morocco

**Harroff, Lindsay** - Storytelling after the Public Hearings: Cultural Representations of South Africa Truth Reconciliation Commission

**Jennifer Wallace** - Translating truth commissions: An examination of how truth commission discourse presents itself in South Africa's private museum sector

**Mandujano, Martha Galvan & DiGeorgio-Lutz, JoAnn** – "Memory Words" and Museums: The Efficacy of Never Again in Guatemala



**2:45 - 4:15 pm      National Context II (Panel A)**

**Chair:** Mariana Prandini Assis

**Pavlakis, Christoforos** - Creating Safety, Finding Voice and Remembering: Local NGOs Work Towards Dealing with Cambodia's Legacies Through Non-Judicial and Social Processes of Dialogue and Restoring Cultural Memory

**Mustakim Ansary** - Religious and Caste Based Persecutions in India: Study of Two Transitional Justice Commission Reports

**Knowledge Mwonzora** - The nexus between Transitional Justice and memory in Zimbabwe

**Vargas, Laura & Assis, Mariana Prandini** - Buen vivir in the aftermath of armed conflict: A critical examination of a community-level reconciliation experience in Colombia

**2:45 - 4:15 pm      Arts, Cinema and the Memorialization of Transitional History and Healing (Panel B)**

**Chair:** Adeolu Oyekan

**Adebayo, Sakiru** - "The Only Truth I Know is What I Feel in my Body": Memory, Affect & and the Cinematic Prism of Trauma in Zulu Love Letter

**MacAulay, Alison** - "Hillywood" as History, "Hillywood" as Healing: Transitions in Rwandan Filmmaking, 2004-2014

**Ombati, Mokua** - Visuals: The Symbolic Face of Collective Truth, Justice and Reconciliation in Kenya

**Nicolás Cuéllar** - "HISTORIAS EN KILÓMETROS Laboratory for Audiovisual Training and Content Generation with Social Impact"

**Oyekan, Adeolu** - Narrating the Genocide in Rwanda Years after: Art, Censorship and the Challenges of Sustainable Cohesion

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**4:30 – 5:00 pm:      Networking Time**

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## Day Two- July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Plenary

- 9:15 - 9:45 am      Sign in and Welcome
- 9:45 - 10:00 am      Opening Remarks by Dr. Paul Ugor
- 10:00 - 11:00 am      Keynote Address by Zakes Mda  
“A Storage Place of Memory: Misremembered Narratives of  
Reconciliation, Restoration and Betrayal”

### PANELS

#### 11:15 am -12:45 pm    Fictions of Reconciliation (Panel A)

**Chair:** Jeannette Squires Okur

**Cole, Soji** - Nothing But the Truth: The TRC and the Trauma of Shattered Assumption

**Osita, Nicholas O** - Atrocity and Trauma of an African Tragedy and the Quest for Justice: Post Rwandan Genocide Francophone African Testimonios and the Gacaca Justice System

**Okur, Jeannette Squires** - Art and Justice in Bakhtiyar Ali's Shari Mosiqare Spiyekan

**11:15 am - 12:45 pm Gender, Youth, Popular Arts and Projects of Healing and Reconciliation (Panel B)**

**Chair:** Ndiritu John Wahome

**Quiroga-Villamarín, Daniel R** - “Coming along through the Radio”: The “Kidnapped Voices” and the Production of Political Memory in Colombia (1994-2018)

**Olayoku, Philip Ademola** - Representation of Women Through Class and Ethnicity / Race in the Testimonials of the Human Rights Violations Investigation Commission of Nigeria

**Chacha, Babere Kerata & Wahome, Ndiritu John** - Life After the Camps: Transitional Justice, Children and Youth Rehabilitation in Kenya

**Salihu, Amina & Omotoso, Sharon Adetutu** - Gender, Power and the Politics of Memory: Weaving ‘Just’ into Transitional Justice in Nigeria

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*12:45 - 1:30 pm* Lunch break

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**1:30 - 3:00 pm Narrativizing Historical Violence (Panel A)**

**Chair:** Paul Ugor

**Katila, Anna** - Imagining and Narrating Transitional Justice: Representation of the aftermath of genocide in Rwanda in Raoul Peck’s *Sometimes in April* (2005)

**Michelberger, Pascal** - After the Facts: The Ambitious Pursuit of Prosecutorial Truth-Seeking in Giulio Ricciarelli’s *Labyrinth of Lies*

**Moreno, Julián Numpaque** - The disappeared: memory, narratives, and representation from Colombia

**Ugor, Paul** - Creative Imaginaries of Truth and Reconciliation: Nation and Narration in Antjie Krog’s *Country of My Skull*

**1:30 - 3:00 pm      Bearing Witness in Transitional Justice Narratives (Panel B)**

**Chair:** James Ile Onyebuchi

**Onah, Chijioke Kizito** - Framing Remembrance: Witnessing, Memory, and Narratives of Boko Haram Terrorism

**Knaus, Juliann** - The Strength of My Roots: The Political, Cultural, and Historical Significance of Hair in Indigenous Canadian Plays

**Gustavo Rojas-Páez** - Between accountability and oblivion: understanding state crime narratives in transitional Colombia

**Onyebuchi, James Ile** - Art, Peace Building and Development in Nigeria: Ethnic Identity Construction and Ethnic Conflict in Buchi Emecheta's Destination Biafra

**1:30 -3:00 pm      Trauma, Historical Narratives and Memory (Panel C)**

**Chair:** Lindsay Scorgie

**Graham, Shane** - Stolen Memories: Trauma, Memory, and Forgetting in Mohale Mashigo's the Yearning and "The Parlemono"

**Habintwari, D'Artagnan & Scorgie, Lindsay** - Genocide Denial and Transitional Justice: The Role of Memorials, Testimony, and Literature

**3:15 - 4:45 pm      Art and Truth in Colombian Armed Conflict (Colombia Panel)**

**Chair:** Jorge Luis Fabra-Zamora

Alfredo Duplat-Ayala

Lina María Céspedes

Andrés Molina Ochoa

Ana Patricia Pabón Mantilla

Jenny Sánchez





**4:50– 5:00 pm    Closing Remarks**

Dr. Bonny Ibhawoh

Dr. Melike Yilmaz

