

Colony Camp Border: Migration 2040

Colony Camp Border: Migration 2040 is a multimedia performance-lecture conceived for and first presented at the Workshop “Shaping the Future: The Emergence and Impact of Future-Visions and Processes of Societal Transformation”, as part of the panel *Migration 2040* at the Carl von Ossietzky University, Oldenburg in September 2018. In preparing the presentation and thinking about the concept of Migration in 2040, I wondered what kinds of questions the next generations would ask me about my generation and the conflicts and upheavals I had witnessed in my life-time, just like I had asked my parents’ and grandparents’ about their involvement in and traumatic experiences of World War II and beyond. The current global shift to the right in Germany, Europe, America and the World at large, with its dystopian narratives of migrant floods, replete with ugly, dehumanising and yet historically familiar attributions as parasites, imposters, dangerous Islamic extremists, uncontrolled sexual molesters, ... and so on, are worrying in their historical familiarity and repetition. The logic that sits behind the enduring ‘stickiness’ (Ahmed 2014) and reproduction of these historically-inspired derogatory racial stereotypes of otherness, as well as the discourses of enclosure, incarceration, entrapment and exclusion, finds its extreme manifestation in the societal willingness to look the other way and ‘let die’ those trying to enter Fortress Europe via the Mediterranean Sea.

Drawing on Ann Laura Stoler’s essay “A Deadly Embrace: Of Colony and Camp”, and Achille Mbembe’s concepts of ‘a borderless world’ and ‘planetary consciousness’ this multimedia performance lecture attempts to visualise a Foucauldian *dispositif* of Colony, Camp and Border and performatively speculate on where and how the borders of those marked ‘fit for living’ and those ‘not’ might be drawn.

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References:

- Ahmed Sarah. 2014, *The Cultural Politics of Emotion*, Edinburgh University Press
Mbembe, Achille. 2018, *The Idea of a Borderless World*, Tanner Lectures on Human Values, Yale University (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NKm6HPCSXDY> – last accessed 21 Nov. 2018)
Stoler, Ann-Laura. 2016 *Duress - Imperial Durabilities in our Times*, Durham/London