

Conference Program – Contagion, Information, Territory – June 17-19

Wednesday 17 June 2026

Panels: Lipsius building room 1.23

Thursday 18 June 2026

Keynote: P.J. Veth building room 1.01

Panels: Lipsius building room 1.48

Friday 19 June 2026

Keynote: Lipsius building room 1.48

Panels: Lipsius building room 1.48

09:30-10:00

Registration

10:00-11:30

Keynote

Dr. Seb Franklin

10:00-11:30

Keynote

Prof. dr. Jasbir Puar

10:00-10:30

Welcome

11:30-11:50

Coffee

11:30-11:50

Coffee

10:30-12:00

Panel 1

Informational Management, Policing & Occupation
(Burton; Awartani; Ludovice)

11:50-13:20

Panel 4

Blackness, Borders, Bodies
(Lenting; Sinha; Brunner)

11:50-13:20

Panel 6

Biopolitics and the Instrumentalization of Bodies
(Graham-Cooper; Yatsyk; Cuzzolino)

12:00-13:30

Lunch

13:20-15:00

Lunch

13:20-15:00

Lunch

13:30-15:00

Panel 2

Mediating Contagion
(Tay; Wowk; Casey)

15:00-16:30

Panel 5

Ecology, Toxicity, Biosecurity
(Smithwick; Shevchenko; Van Schie)

15:00-17:00

Panel 7

Relationality, Entanglement, Community
(Van Minnen; Ben Shimon; Van Berge; Hester)

15:00-15:20

Coffee

16:30-16:45

Break

17:00-17:20

Closing Remarks

15:20-16:50

Panel 3

Cleanliness, Immunity and Health
(Koufogiannakis; Rinzema; Bokestaël)

16:45-18:30

Film Program Curated by Leiden Shorts

(Lipsius building room 1.47)

19:00-21:30

Dinner

Conference Program – Contagion, Information, Territory – June 17-19

DAY 1 | Panel 1 | 10:30-12:00

Informational Management, Policing & Occupation

Laini Burton__The Face as Territory: Masking, Anonymity, and Resistance to Biometric Contagion.

Masa Awartani__Digital Occupation as Contagion: Telecommunications Control in the West Bank.

Nicolo Paolo P. Ludovice__Informational Territory-Making: Health Data, Sovereignty, and the Biopolitics of Philippine Reconstruction, 1946-1953.

DAY 1 | Panel 2 | 13:30-15:00

Mediating Contagion

Rachel Tay__ Valences of the Same: Memes, Metaphors, and Contagious Analogs.

Lucy Wowk__Melancholic Disavowal: Imagining the End of Humanity.

Max Casey__ Was the subject just a computer's idea for making more computers? On the viral logic of language and computation in the formation of subjectivity.

DAY 1 | Panel 3 | 15:20-16:50

Cleanliness, Immunity and Health

Stelios Koufogiannakis__Pathologizing Crime: Medical Metaphors and Models in Predictive Policing.

Lucas Rinzema __Sanctioned Sight: Biosecurity Infrastructure as Media in the Animal-Industrial Complex.

Mathieu Bokestaël__ImmunoValley: The Immunitary Imaginaries of Silicon Valley.

Conference Program – Contagion, Information, Territory – June 17-19

DAY 2 | Panel 4 | 11:50-13:20

Blackness, Borders, Bodies

Menno Lenting___Fugitive Community: Beyond the Paradigm of Immunization.

Sinha Aman___The Body, The Image and the Archive: Navigating Digitality in Zanele Muholi's Self Portraiture.

Christoph Brunner___Transparency Surround(ed): Édouard Glissant's Concept of *l'informatique* and Archipelagic Media Activism.

DAY 2 | Panel 5 | 15:00-16:30

Ecology, Toxicity, Biosecurity

Mays Smithwick___Rhetorics of Toxicity: The Making of Threat, Contamination, and Borders.

Sergei Shevchenko___From Ecological Preparedness to Epidemic Zoning: Soviet Approaches to Biosecurity.

Gerwin van Schie___Viral Tulips: A Critical Discussion of Virality, Symbiosis, and the making of Dutchness.

DAY 3 | Panel 6 | 11:50-13:20

Biopolitics and the Instrumentalization of Bodies

Thea Graham-Cooper___Reproductive Warfare and the Biopolitics of Settler Futurity: Post-Mortem Sperm Retrieval in Israel Post-October 7th.

Alexandra Yatsyk___The Biopolitics of Disability: Veteran Care and Abandonment in Russian war against Ukraine.

Alessandra Cuzzolino___The Making of the Migrant Sex Worker: Temporal Borders and the Defining of Agency through Burdened Agency.

DAY 3 | Panel 7 | 15:00-17:00

Relationality, Entanglement, Community

Karen D van Minnen___Territorial Cut.

Ohad Ben Shimon___Theorizing Immunity from the Autoimmune.

Laila van Berge___Sana Sana Pachamama: Spiritual Sanitization and Contagious Connections.

Rebecca Hester___Pathogenic Entanglements: Contagion, Information, and Territory.