

# The shape of space - *A conversation on the making of metaphors, materiality, and geometries of power.*

Feb 14- 15, 2025, Yale University Campus  
Email: [shapingspace.yale@gmail.com](mailto:shapingspace.yale@gmail.com)

Graduate Student Symposium at Yale University

## February 14th (Day 1): Location: HQ 136

9: 30 AM: Breakfast for Symposium registrants

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM: (30 mins/ panelist + 30 mins Q and A)

### **PANEL 1: Bounding Vitality:**

Moderated by Connor Liskey

Angelika Joseph, Architecture PhD Program, Princeton University: Shaping Sovereignty: An Architectural Plan for Indigenous Nation-Building at Wounded Knee, 1973

Emma Kahn, Anthropology PhD program, Brown University: Heart of the City: The Albuquerque Rail Trail as a Settler (Re)vitalizer

Stephanie Birch, History PhD program, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign: Making the Midwest: Carcerality in the American Heartland

Gonzalo Aguirre Orellana, Anthropology PhD program, Brown University: Modern Salmon, Old Disputes: The Distribution of the Sensible in Chiloé and Chilean Patagonia

12:45 PM: Lunch for Symposium Registrants

1:45 PM - 4:15 PM (30 mins/ panelist + 30 mins Q and A)

### **PANEL 2: Lines and Lineages:**

Moderated by Alfonse Chiu

Matthew Ballance, Anthropology PhD program, Brown University: Shaping the Camino Real: Circulation, Space-Time, and the State in Colonial South America

Patrick McKenzie, Anthropology PhD program, University of Colorado, Boulder: Remembrance, Revival, and Ruin: Monumental Histories and Futures in Bulgaria

Xhulio Binjaku, Architecture PhD program, Princeton University: On Contours

Qianye Yu, History of Architecture & Urban Development PhD program, Cornell University: Landscape of Vigilance: The TAZARA Railway (1968-1976) and the Institutionalization of Territory

4:30 - 5: 30 PM: Keynote Address by Dr. Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen, Yale University

5:30 - 6:00 PM: Q and A

Day 1 event closes at 6 PM

Keynote Speaker:



Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen  
Lecturer, African Studies and  
Middle East Studies and faculty  
affiliate in Anthropology, Yale  
University



Register here.



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**February 15th (Day 2): Location: 10 Sachem 105**

9:30 AM: Breakfast for Symposium registrants

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM: (30 mins/ panelist + 30 mins Q and A)

## **PANEL 3: Living Interstices:**

Moderated by Lisa Beyeler-Yvarra

Fatema Tasmia, History of Art & Architecture, PhD Program, Boston University: Shaping Unmapped Spaces: Everyday Urbanism and the Adaptive Role of Sidewalks as Social Space in Dhaka's Urban Landscape

Elisheva Levy, Architecture PhD program, University of Pennsylvania: Individualism vs. Collectivism: Comparing the Impact of Ideologies on the Material Realm of the Home

Kara Morgan Plaxa Arxa, Architecture PhD program, Princeton University: Behind Closed Doors: Masculinity and Identity in Leftover Spaces within the social context of the US

Kristen Miller, Religious Studies PhD program, Arizona State University: Hindu Varanasi: Iconographic Street Art and the Transformation of Urban Space

12:45 PM: Lunch for Symposium Registrants

1:45 PM - 4:15 PM (30 mins/ panelist + 30 mins Q and A)

## **PANEL 4: Im/materialities:**

Moderated by Siddhartha Mukherjee

Annika Hirmke, Geography PhD program, University of Colorado Boulder: Shaping Energy: Constructing Spaces of Energy, Extraction, and Conservation in Montana

Moad Musbahi, Anthropology & Interdisciplinary Humanities, Princeton University: Buying and Selling Air in the Sahara: Field Notes on Aeration

Bailey Miller, Anthropology PhD program, Princeton University: Concrete Topologies: Construction, Destruction, and the Shape of Value in Beirut

Layna Chen, Architecture MED program, Yale University: Reconstituting the Void: Value and Visibility in Indonesia's Peatlands.

4:30 - 5:30 PM: Keynote Address by Prof. Vyjayanthi Rao, Yale University

5:30 - 6:00 PM: Q and A

Vote of Thanks: Organizing Committee

This event is co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, Yale School of Architecture & the Dean's Fund.

## Keynote Speaker:



Vyjayanthi Rao  
Visiting Professor, Yale  
School of Architecture



Register here.