

# SPRING 2025

## NEWSLETTER



### UPDATES, EVENTS AND INITIATIVES!

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Visiting Scholar

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Spring Colloquia Series

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Co-Sponsored Events

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CES Student Research  
Fellows Bios & News

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Jean Monnet Centre of  
Excellence

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Summer Book Club!

**This past semester in CES  
has been an exciting one!**

**Check out all the highlights from recent  
events, upcoming opportunities, and news  
from our community at the UBC Centre for  
European Studies!**

### Follow CES on Social Media!



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**UBC Centre for European Studies**

## We welcomed Dr. Renata Faizova as a Visiting Scholar!



**Dr. Renata Faizova**

Dr. Renata Faizova  
researches Kazakhstan's  
energy transformation  
after the fall of the Soviet  
Union.

She gave a presentation  
in the Centre on how  
national energy  
transition in  
Kazakhstan is tied to  
Kazakh identity.

Our Spring Colloquium showcased our affiliates' exciting research topics!



Postdoctoral Fellow **Dr. Babak Amini** gave a lecture on the role of World War I and its effect on North American sociological thought.



Postdoctoral Fellow **Dr. Jonah I. Garde** presented on trans\* historicization of Magnus Hirschfeld's sexological library and its impact today.



Assistant Professor **Dr. Georgios Makris** discussed Byzantine jewelry and its use by non-elites in remote areas.

# CES organized an exciting co-sponsored event!



**Dr. Svitlana Matviyenko** (SFU) gave a public lecture about the ways DeepStateMap is mapping the current war on the ground in Ukraine. She discussed how DeepStateMap could predict and speculate future events and outcomes for both Ukraine and Russia

This event was co-sponsored with the UBC Critical Image Forum, Eurasia Research Cluster, Bachelor of Media Studies, and Modern European Studies program.

## 2024/2025 CES Graduate Student Research Fellows!

**Nancy Ofori** is a first-year FHIS MA student at UBC. Her research explores the linguistic insecurity faced by Black African English language teaching assistants in France. Her work sheds light on the broader intersections of race, identity, and language ideologies within globalized education systems.



**Nancy Ofori**



**Sarah Revilla-Sanchez**

**Sarah Revilla-Sanchez** is a PhD candidate in Hispanic Studies at UBC. Her project, "Tracing the Legacy of European Female Gothic Writers in Contemporary Latin American Fiction," analyzes a selection of European literary texts belonging to the "Female Gothic" (Moers 1976). She examines critical theories of the genre centering around the metaphors of the haunted house, "the unspeakable," and the Gothic body as they relate to female resistance and violence against the female/feminized body.

## 2024/2025 CES Undergraduate Research Fellow!

**Selin Berktas** is a fourth-year undergraduate student in the English Language and Literature Department at UBC. Selin's project, "Rereading Russian Literature on the Account of its Periphery," investigates our understandings of classics through a lens of the Russian empire's neighbours, victims of Russian imperialism, and the sociopolitical influence of accredited literary classics.



**Selin Berktas**



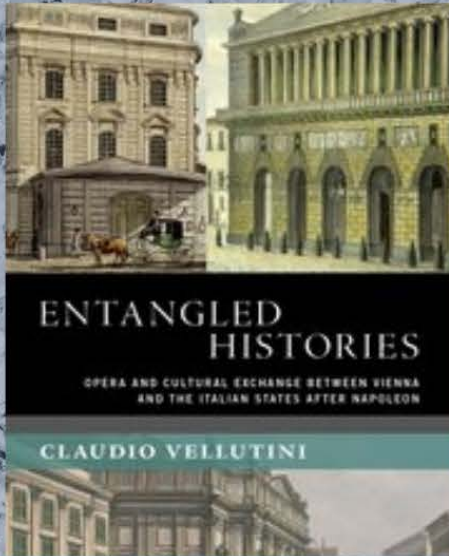
**Cheuk Him Ryan Sun**

## Past Student Fellow Publishes Research undertaken in CES

**Cheuk Him Ryan Sun** used his time as a CES 2024 Graduate Student Research Fellow to work on a project related to his PhD dissertation. The research Ryan conducted during his fellowship evolved into a scholarly article: "Between Viennese Childhood and Shanghai Survival: Gerda Gottfried's *Poesiealbum* as a Palimpsestic Object," published in the *Journal of Holocaust Research*. You can read the article here: <https://doi.org/10.1080/25785648.2024.2426871>

# Affiliate Research News!

Monographs published by our Affiliated Faculty!

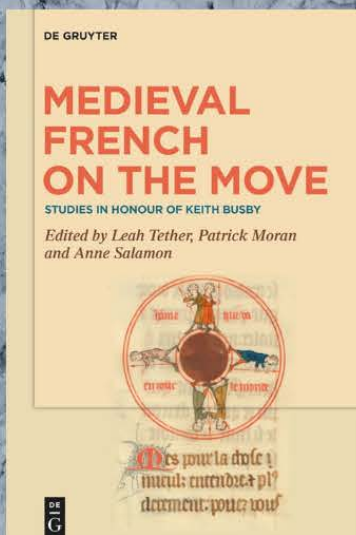
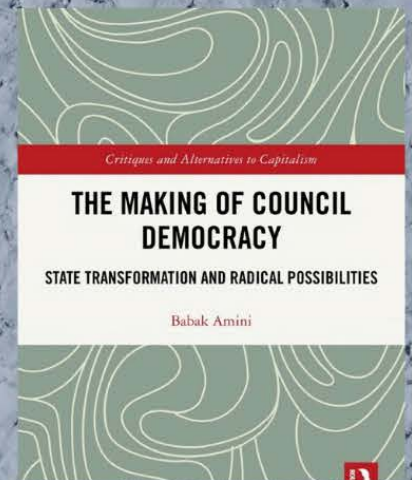


**Claudio Vellutini. *Entangled Histories: Opera and Cultural Exchange between Vienna and the Italian States after Napoleon.* Oxford University Press.**

Through a wealth of archival documents and printed materials, *Entangled Histories* shows how, over the first half of the nineteenth century, opera helped redefine questions of collective identity in the Austrian empire, serving as a testing ground for, among others, theories of language and education, notions of fatherland and citizenship, artistic expressions of cultural hybridity, new forms of managing economic and cultural capital, and practices of collective memory.

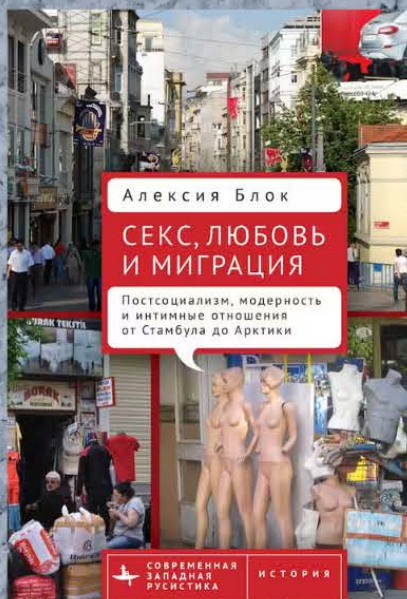
**Babak Amini. *The Making of Council Democracy: State Transformation and Radical Possibilities.* Taylor & Francis.**

“Council democracy” is a particular form of democratic socialism that strives towards democratic self-governance on the basis of active, free, and associated individuals working cooperatively within a federated council system. Both in political practice and in social theory, “council democracy” has resurfaced periodically in the past, most notably in the interwar period, in the “long 1960s,” and since the turn of the 21st century. This book offers a novel theoretical and methodological approach to the study of “council democracy.”



**Leah Tether, Patrick Moran, and Anne Salamon. *Medieval French on the Move: Studies in Honour of Keith Busby.* De Gruyter.**

This volume brings together a series of cutting-edge studies of medieval Francophonia, covering in one place and for the first time the fullest scope of the concept's remit, with contributions on history, historiography, language, literature, culture, society and authority. At the same time as offering a timely contribution to the field, this volume pays tribute to Busby's life work not only to pioneer medieval Francophonia, but also, and moreover, to encourage the study of the medieval through material philology. Each of the studies here, written by Busby's friends and colleagues, thus roots its approach in a material context.

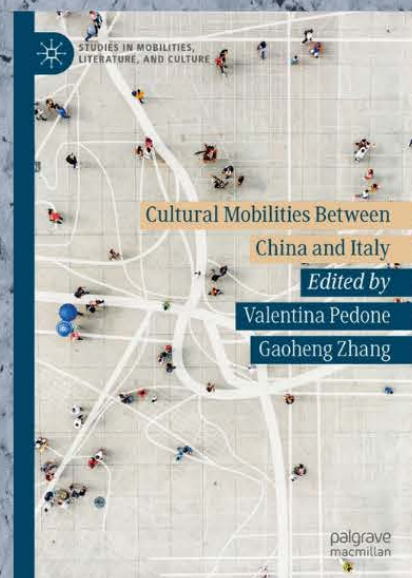


**Alexia Bloch. *Секс, любовь и миграция: постсоциализм, модернизм и интимность от Стамбула до Арктики* [Russian translation of *Sex, Love, and Migration: Postsocialism, Modernity, and Intimacy from Istanbul to the Arctic*]. Academic Studies Press.**

*Sex, Love, and Migration* complicates a narrative of women's exploitation as a feature of migration in the twenty-first century, to argue that women's mobility is marked not only by risks but also by personal and social transformation. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork spanning a decade (2002-2011), Alexia Bloch shows how women moving between the former Soviet Union and Turkey forged new forms of relationships in their households in Moldova, Ukraine, and Russia, but also in Istanbul, where they often worked for years on end.

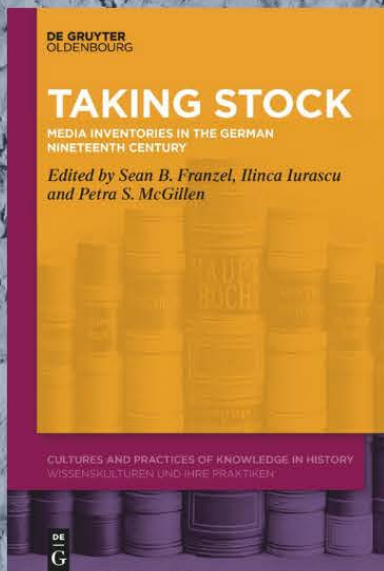
**Valentina Pedone and Gaoheng Zhang. *Cultural Mobilities Between China and Italy*. Springer and Palgrave Macmillan.**

This book offers a critical analysis of global mobilities across China and Italy in history. In three periods in the twentieth century, new patterns of physical mobilities and cultural contact were established between the two countries which were either novel at the time of their emergence or impactful on subsequent periods. In analyzing these cultural mobilities, this book opens a new line of inquiry in Chinese-Italian Cultural Studies, which has been dominated by historical study, and contributes a significant case study to the scholarship on global cultural mobilities.



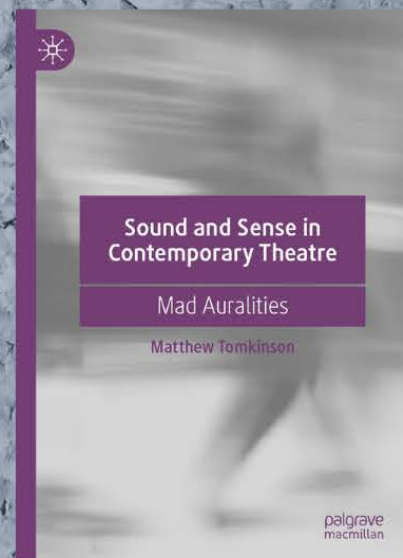
**Franzel, Sean B., Iurascu, Ilinca and McGillen, Petra S. *Taking Stock: Media Inventories in the German Nineteenth Century, Berlin*. De Gruyter Oldenbourg.**

The volume examines the proliferation of inventorying models and practices as cultural techniques of knowledge organization and production during the long nineteenth century. While inventories are still broadly treated as raw data and unprocessed source materials, the book shows how they function as complex media formats, intersecting and interfering with other material techniques to produce, store, distribute, organize and process cultural information.



**Matthew Tomkinson. *Sound and Sense in Contemporary Theatre: Mad Auralities*. University of Toronto Press.**

This book is among the first to consider the subject of mad auralities in theatre and performance, asking: What does it mean to hear and listen madly? Drawing widely upon mad studies, critical disability studies, theatre studies, sound studies, queer studies, and critical race theory, it seeks to explore the theatrical relationship between sound and mental health differences by examining a range of case studies in which audience members are immersed in auditory simulations of madness.



## Journal Articles and Special Issues by CES Affiliate Faculty

Amini, B. and Kemple, T. (2024) 'Introduction: Social Theorists and the First World War', *Journal of Classical Sociology*, 24(4), pp. 307-315. Available at: <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jcsa/24/4>

--- and Kemple, T. (eds.) (2024) 'Special Issue: Social Theorists and the First World War', *Journal of Classical Sociology*, 24(4).

--- (2024). 'Gramsci's dissidence beneath and beyond the First World War', *Journal of Classical Sociology*, 24(4), pp. 471-486. Available at: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1468795X241280953>

--- and Gordon, R. (eds.) (2025) 'Symposium Editors' Introduction', *Contemporary Sociology*, 54(3), pp. 185-190. Available at: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00943061251330131>

Bowers, K et al. (2025) 'Collective Praxis, Collaborative Publishing: The Case of the Data-Sitters Club', *The Journal of Electronic Publishing*, 28(1), pp. 95-113. Available at: <https://journals.publishing.umich.edu/jep/article/id/6093/>

Effros, B. (2025) 'Late Antique Cemeteries', in Rutgers, L. V. et al. (eds.) *The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of Late Antique Art and Archaeology 1: Architecture, Artefacts and Evidence*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 244-262.

--- (2024). 'Sacred Archaeology in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Century', in Díaz-Andreu, M. and Coltofean, L. (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of the History of Archaeology*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 663-681. Available at: <https://academic.oup.com/edited-volume/58978/chapter/494456928>

Fisher, A. (2024). Chapter 11 Confraternities, Congregations and Aural Culture in Counter-Reformation Germany. In *Listening to Confraternities*, Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill. Available at: [https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004702776\\_012](https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004702776_012)

## Share Your Research News!

Want to share your news with the UBC European Studies community? We would love to help! To be featured on our website, social media pages, and/or our next newsletter, fill out one of the questionnaires below. We look forward to supporting your work!

### Articles, Projects, Grants, and Awards:

<https://ces.ubc.ca/opportunities/share-your-research-news/>

### Books and Edited Volumes:

<https://ces.air.arts.ubc.ca/affiliate-bookshelf-submissions/>

# **Jean Monnet Center of Excellence in Critical Infrastructure Studies**

**We are excited to announce that  
CES will house the new Jean Monnet  
Center for Excellence in Critical  
Infrastructure Studies at the  
University of British Columbia!**

**The Center for Critical Infrastructure  
Studies will bring together faculty,  
graduate students, and regional experts  
who share an interest in using Critical  
Infrastructure Studies to address  
East/West binaries that persist in  
political, social, and cultural thought.**



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
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**UBC Centre for European Studies**

# Summer CES Book

## Club

Take part in the CES community summer book club led by **Dr. David Gramling!** We will be reading *Ada's Room* by Sharon Dodua Otoo, trans. by Jon Cho-Polizzi.

**June 25th**

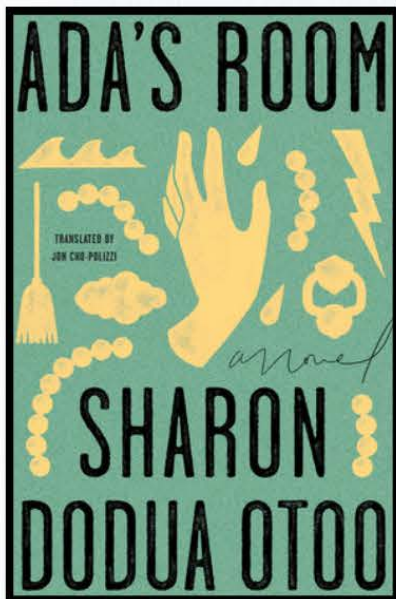
With translator Jon Cho-Polizzi

**July 25th**

**August 25th**

Each meeting will be held online from

10:00AM - 11:30AM PST



Author, Sharon Dodua Otoo

Translator, Jon Cho-Polizzi





**The CES Staff  
wishes you all  
a wonderful  
Summer Term!**