

From the circulation of poetic forms across different languages and traditions around the globe, through the envisioning of national and transnational discursive communities, to the use of poetry in contemporary episodes of political resistance and its dissemination on social media, lyric poetry seems to be a privileged site for an inquiry into community formation and its politics. Various theoretical approaches cast poetry in this peculiar role, from French and French-oriented political philosophy, (exemplified in the famous exchange between Maurice Blanchot and Jean-Luc Nancy begun in the 1980s), to the reevaluations — in reader-response criticism as well as in postcolonial and decolonial studies — of poetry's roots in orality and performance.

The workshop aims to bring the investigation of historical poetic communities into dialogue with recent developments in the theory of the lyric and in theories of community. While discussing a variety of poetic phenomena in modern European poetry that have been at the center of the critical debate — the poetics of the fragment, the unworking or *désœuvrement* of the work, the obscurity or polysemy of language, a change of aesthetic regime —, the workshop will also explore the lyric, in its longer history and transnational features, as a particular discursive mode that may offer alternative models of community formation.

This symposium consists of three parts: an Oxford workshop session at the Christ Church Research Centre, on 23 June 2022, a Berlin workshop session at the ICI Berlin, on 5 July, and a poetry event, also on 5 July, at the ICI Berlin with Vahni Anthony Capildeo, Christian Hawkey, and Daniel Tiffany, who will read a selection of their poetry and offer their reflections on poetry, community, and translation.

In cooperation with ICI Berlin, Bard College Berlin, and the EXC Temporal Communities

With the support of the Oxford-Berlin Research Partnership

Rethinking Lyric Communities

Symposium

Organized by Irene Fantappiè,
Francesco Giusti, and Laura Scudatti

23 June 2022,
External Venue:
Christ Church
Research Centre, Oxford
and

5 July 2022
14:00 – 20:30
ICI Berlin
In English

TEMPORAL
COMMUNITIES
DOING LITERATURE IN A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE

ici
BERLIN
KULTURLABOR
INSTITUTE FOR CULTURAL INQUIRY



Bard College Berlin
A LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMME

Thursday
External Venue

23 June 2022 14:00 – 19:00 local time ^(HYBRID)
Christ Church Research Centre, Oxford

14:00 Introduction by Irene Fantappiè, Francesco Giusti, and Laura Scuriatti

PART I

14:10 Derek Attridge ^(UNIVERSITY OF YORK)
Poetry in Kaaps, Readership, and Community

14:25 Peter D. McDonald ^(UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)
Tagore's (Désœuvrée) Communities of Song/Ananda

14:40 Jahan Ramazani ^(UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA)
Community of the Bereaved: Elegy across Borders

14:55 – 15:25 Q&A

PART II

15:25 Philip Ross Bullock ^(UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)
The Transnational Lyric Community of
Soviet Underground Music under Late Socialism

15:40 Karen Leeder ^(UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)
'We were here': Forms of Lyric Community

15:55 Emily McLaughlin ^(UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)
At the Limits of the Lyric:
Towards a Community of the Human and the Nonhuman?

16:10 – 16:40 Q&A

16:40 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 18:00 Discussion, coordinated by Anita Traninger ^(FU BERLIN)

18:00 – 19:00 Conversation with Vahni Anthony Capildeo

Tuesday

5 July 2022 14:00 – 18:00
ICI Berlin

14:00 WELCOME

14:05 Introduction by Irene Fantappiè, Francesco Giusti, and Laura Scuriatti

PART I

14:10 Jonathan Culler ^(CORNELL UNIVERSITY)
Lyric Address and the Problem of Community

14:25 Daniel Tiffany ^(UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA)
Logophobe

14:40 Francesco Giusti ^(UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)
Gestural Communities: Lyric and the Suspension of Action

14:55 – 15:25 Q&A

PART II

15:25 Laura Scuriatti ^(BARD COLLEGE BERLIN)
Mina Loy's Elusive Communities

15:40 Roberto Binetti ^(UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)
Ecology of the Self and Lyric Communities in Italy's 'gruppi di autocoscienza'

15:55 Adele Bardazzi ^(TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN)
Lyric and Weaving Communities

16:10 – 16:40 Q&A

16:40 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 18:00 Discussion, coordinated by Manuele Gragnolati ^(SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ/ICI BERLIN)

Staged Reading
and Discussion

5 July 2022 19:00 ^(LIVESTREAM AVAILABLE)
ICI Berlin

With Vahni Anthony Capildeo
Christian Hawkey
Daniel Tiffany

Moderated by Irene Fantappiè

Poetry can unite and estrange us. In this event, poets and translators Vahni Anthony Capildeo, Christian Hawkey and Daniel Tiffany, will read a selection of their poetry and offer their reflections on the proximity and alienation of other people's voices or even one's own; on the sense of never quite being at home in language; and on the potential of poetry to open up not only habitable and shareable spaces but also haunted and unbridgeable distances.