Seminari transdisciplinari a.a. 20-21

Borderscapes
‘verso altri immaginari’

17th June 2021
h 14.30-16.00 online

Investigating the ‘What if’

Samina Virani (Founder / Artistic Director of ‘The rabbit hole’)
Dr Don Rodrigues (Gender Studies, Memphis University).

Live streaming on FB:
https://www.facebook.com/centrostudipostcolonialiedigenere

S. Varani, Wonderlands landscape: 2021-2022

Samina Virani and Dr. Don Rodrigues will present “the art of remembering” the rabbit hole’s first global residency program, to be held at Fondazione Morra from September 21 – October 4, 2021. “What if we stop remembering?” is the core philosophical inquiry of the program, where 7 international artists and 3 Neapolitan artists have been selected to interrogate this question and go down the rabbit hole.

Samina and Don will discuss the process of developing “the rabbit hole method” an investigation method that extracts and distills from contemporary artistic practices, philosophy, mysticism, mathematics and dance. It includes the teachings of Hazrat Inayat Khan, Farid Ud-Din Attar, Jorge Luis Borges, Alejandro Jodorowsky, Lewis Carroll, and others. They will also give a retrospective of “the rabbit hole” depicting how the landscape of wonderland and “What ifs” have changed for the collective. From the 2000s in New York deconstructing “time” through public intervention, to 2010 onwards where the collective has been questioning and renegotiating the landscape of wonderland amid the fluidity and subliminal codes of the Mediterranean’s discursive pathways.

Samina Virani is a performative researcher, writer and conceptual artist. She graduated from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 2002, with a Degree in Culture, Politics and Semiotics and a Certificate in Muslim-Christian Understanding, grounding much of her academic interests while attending Edward Said’s Orientalism class. The essence of her work is rooted in deconstruction and an esoteric inquiry about inner journeys and transformations, particularly focusing on the gaze, and referring to her deconstructed world as “wonderland.” Samina is the founder “white rabbit” and artistic director of “the rabbit hole” – a creative collective and international residency program that began in New York in 2008.

Dr. Don Rodrigues is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Memphis. His research focuses on early modern literature and culture, digital humanities, queer theory, and philosophical approaches to understanding literature. A founding member of “the rabbit hole” international collective and known as “the madhatter”, Rodrigues has held fellowships at the Folger Institute, the Vanderbilt Center for Digital Humanities, the metaLAB at Harvard University, and the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change. He is currently finishing his first book, Shakespeare’s Queer Analytics (Bloomsbury, 2022).