

# COMICS

## AND THE POLITICS OF LOOKING

GENDER, REPRESENTATION, AND THE TRANSNATIONAL GAZE



18-19 SEPTEMBER 2025

GUM (Gents Universiteitsmuseum)

### ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Prof. Maaheen Ahmed (Ghent University), Dr. Manuela Di Franco (Ghent University/Trinity College Dublin), Dr. Giorgio Busi Rizzi (Ghent University)



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### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. Maaheen Ahmed (Ghent University), Dr. Giorgio Busi Rizzi (Ghent University), Dr. Manuela Di Franco (Ghent University/Trinity College Dublin), Dr. Lorenzo Di Paola (ULB), Dr. Nicoletta Mandolini (University of Minho)

# PROGRAM

## DAY 1: INTERMEDIAL GAZES AND PRACTICES OF ADAPTATION

### 9:30-10:00 Coffee and welcome

Organising Committee (Ghent University): Manuela Di Franco, Maaheen Ahmed and Giorgio Busi Rizzi

### 10:00-11:30 Panel 1: Gazing Across Media – Comics, Film, and the Moving Image

Chair: TBA

Miriam Kent (University of Leeds) – *Remediating the Gaze: Comics, Film and Interdisciplinary Practice-as-Research*  
Yasco Horsman (Universiteit Leiden) – *Gaze and Suture in Comics and Cinema: Revisiting Maroh vs Kechiche*  
Giorgio Busi Rizzi (Ghent University) and Manuela Di Franco (Ghent University/Trinity College Dublin) – *Operationalising the Male Gaze in Dylan Dog*

### 11:30-11:45 Coffee break

### 11:45-12:45 Panel 2: Queer Gazes and Feminist Re-visions

Chair: TBA

Cassia Hayward-Fitch (University of East Anglia) – *From the Male Gaze to the Female Gays: Universalizing Lesbian Experiences in Alison Bechdel's Dykes to Watch Out For*  
Sébastien Conard (LUCA School of Arts) and Margot De Grave Loyson (LUCA School of Arts) – *Framing Traces, Tracing Frames: A Feminist Methodological Approach to Drawing as Remembering in Graphic Storytelling*

### 12:45-13:45 Lunch

### 13:45-14:45 Panel 3: The Gaze in Manga

Chair: TBA

Asuka Ozumi (University of Turin) – *Shifting gazes and gender representation in Torikai Akane*  
Sarah Darley (University of East Anglia) – *It's in their DNA . . . Or Not: Poetics of Bodily Transformation in Mia Ikumi and Reiko Yoshida's Tokyo Mew Mew (2000-3) and 4Kids Entertainment's Localised Mew Mew Power (2005)*

### 14:45-15:00 Coffee break

### 15:00-17:00 Drawing and writing Workshop

Dragana Radanović (KU Leuven) and Poorva Goel

## DAY 2: NATIONAL HISTORIES, TRANSLATIONS, AND STORYTELLING

### 10:00-11:30 Panel 4: National Histories and the Visual Storyteller

Chair: TBA

Lorenzo Di Paola (ULB) – *Playing with the Other: Race, Spectacle and Visual Pedagogy in BilBolBul and I tre Cinesini (Corriere dei Piccoli, 1908-1909)*  
Sabrina Aragao (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina/Université de Lille) – *Translating Otherness: An Analysis of Marjane Satrapi's Persepolis*  
Felipe Muhr (Ghent University/KU Leuven) – *Caniff's Confidential: Drawing Women from Milton Caniff's Picture Reference Files*

### 11:30-11:45 Coffee break

### 11:45-13:00 Roundtable: Interrogating the Politics of Looking through the Drawn Line

Poorva Goel, Gabri Molist (LUCA School of Arts), Dragana Radanovic (KU Leuven) and Mathilde Van Gheluwe (école de recherche graphique)

### 13:00-14:00 Lunch Break - Closing remarks

### 15:00 Visit to the Comics Museum & drinks at Wolf Sharing Food Market in Brussels (optional)