

# DE-CARCERAL FUTURES:

## BRIDGING PRISON AND IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

Workshop Convened by: [Sharry Aiken](#) (Queen's Law & Cultural Studies),  
[Lisa Guenther](#) (Queen's Philosophy & Cultural Studies) and  
[Stephanie J. Silverman](#) (Trinity College, University of Toronto)

\* Advance registration required – please contact [decarceralfutures@queensu.ca](mailto:decarceralfutures@queensu.ca)

## Agenda

### THURSDAY MAY 9

08:00 – 08:50 – Breakfast & Registration

08:50 – 09:00 – Land Acknowledgement

09:00 – 11:45 – Walls 2 Bridges Collective Training Session, with Melissa Alexander, Simone Weil Davis, Denise Edwards, & Rachel Fayter (registration closed)

11:45 – 12:30 – Lunch & Registration

12:30 – 14:00 – **Panel 1: Why Abolitionism in Immigration Detention?**  
Discussant: Bridget Anderson, University of Bristol

Jessica Evans, Ryerson University	Crisis, Capital Accumulation and 'Carceral Keynesianism' in the Aftermath of the Global Slump
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Allegra McLeod, Georgetown Law, via <b>ZOOM</b>	No One Is Illegal, Not One More, and Abolish ICE: Movements to End Border Imperialism
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Sharry Aiken, Queen's University Faculty of Law	Detention Abolition in the "Hard" Cases
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14:00 – 14:15 – Coffee Break

**14:15–15:45 – Panel 2: Epistemologies of Abolitionism**

Discussant: Simone Weil Davis, Trinity College in the University of Toronto

Gillian Balfour, Trent University	Documenting Detention: Challenges and Assumptions of Privilege and Precarity in Academic Research
Dylan Rodríguez, University of California - Riverside	'Mass Incarceration' is a Useless Term: Race, Domestic War, and the Long Carceral Half-Century
César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández, University of Denver Sturm College of Law	Migrating to Prison: Immigration in the Era of Mass Incarceration
Nandita Sharma, University of Hawai'i Manoa	States and Human Immobilization: Bridging the Conceptual Separation of Slavery, Immigration Controls, and Mass Incarceration

**15:45– 17: 00 – Panel 3: Open Borders, No Borders, or Something Else? Ethical Imperatives for a World Without Immigration Detention**

Discussant: Christina Clark-Kazak, University of Ottawa

Stephanie J. Silverman, Trinity College in the University of Toronto	"Then I'll huff, and I'll puff, and I'll blow your house in." Three cautionary tales to test the argument for Canadian detention abolitionism
Alexander Sager, Portland State University <a href="#">via ZOOM</a>	Immigrant Detention and the Moral Logic of Abolitionism
José Jorge Mendoza, University of Massachusetts – Lowell <a href="#">via ZOOM</a>	Abolish ICE

**17:30 – 19:00 – Keynote Addresses** with

**Harsha Walia**, Activist, Researcher and Author of *Undoing Border Imperialism*

**Jonathan S. Simon**, Adrian A. Kragen Professor of Law and Director of the Center for the Study of Law and Society, University of California – Berkeley & (Public Event/Advance Registration Required)  
Location: Robert Sutherland Hall, Room 202

19:30 – Workshop Dinner, by invitation

## FRIDAY MAY 10

08:00 – 09:00 – Registration & Breakfast

09:00 – 10:30 – **Panel 4: Canadian Reforms and the Lingering Penal Questions**

Discussant: Lisa Kerr, Queen's University Faculty of Law

Efrat Arbel, UBC Allard Faculty of Law <a href="#">via ZOOM</a>	Immigration Detention and the Problem of Time: Lessons from Solitary Confinement
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Siena Anstis and Jared Will, Immigration & Refugee Lawyers	The Uncooperative Migrant: The Legality of Coercive Detention
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M'Bai Babou Jobe, former detainee and public advocate Harry Critchley, Burnside Prison Education Program & Coady Institute (Nova Scotia)	"You Are the Author of Your Own Detention": Anti-Black Racism and the Institutional Epistemology of Ignorance in Canadian Immigration Detention Review Hearings
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10:30 – 10:50 – Coffee Break

10:50 – 12:30 – Concurrent Panels

**Panel 5: A Wider Lens on the Impacts of Detention on Women, Children, & Others**

Discussant: Hon. Kim Pate, Senator

Sarah Turnbull, Birkbeck University	Vulnerability, Immigration Detention, and (Penal) Reform
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Salina Abji, Carleton University	Detention Avoidance or Detention Abolition? Analyzing the Politics of Immigration Detention for Pregnant Women and Vulnerable Groups
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Marlené Mercado, University of California - Davis	Femme Technologies as Tools of Subversion and Resistance within Mexican (Im)migrant Womxn Digital Narratives
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Louis-Philippe Jannard, Université du Québec à Montréal	Immigration Detention in Canada: A Socio-legal Study on the Engendering of Law
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## Panel 6: The Framework of Abolition

Discussant: Lisa Guenther, Queen's University

Michelle Brown, University of Tennessee

As Goes the South: Abolition, Immigration, and State Violence in Tennessee

David Moffette, Carleton University

Moving the fight upstream: Abolitionist responses to immigration policing

Souheil Benslimane, Criminalization and Punishment Education Project

Carceral Expansion and Resistance in Canada

Sarah Ashford Hart, University of California, Davis

Performance Practice-as-research on Mobility and Enclosure: facilitating affective spaces of creative expression with detained immigrants

12:30 – 13:00 – Lunch

## 13: 00 – 14:30 – Panel 7: Monitoring

Discussant: Stephanie J Silverman, Trinity College in the University of Toronto

Susila Gurusami, University of Toronto

Making it Home: Race, Gender, and Carceral Migration

Nicole Myers, Queen's University

Becoming someone's jailer: Transforming personal relationships in the bail process

Petra Molnar, Immigration and Refugee Lawyer

Artificial Intelligence in Migrant Monitoring: Techno-Solutionism and the Impacts on Human Rights

Marlene Nava Ramos, City University of New York

The Infrastructure of Immigration Detention and Expansion of Electronic Monitoring in the Era of Carceral Reforms

14:30 – 14:45 – Coffee Break

## 14: 45 – 16:15 – Panel 8: Learning from the Recent Past: Reducing or Eliminating Detention in Canada

Discussants: Nasrin Azar, Refugee Law Office & Nandita Sharma, University of Hawai'i Manoa

Lisa Guenther, Queen's University

No Prisons on Stolen Land: Abolition and Decolonization as Interconnected Struggles

Roula Eatrides, Deputy Chairperson, Immigration Division, IRB; Aviva Basman, Assistant Deputy Chairperson, IRB

Reforms at the IRB

Janet Cleveland, Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre; Michaela Beder, University of Toronto; Hanna Gros, University of Toronto Faculty of Law; Rachel Kronick, McGill University

Advocacy against immigration detention in Canada: comparing strategies of change

16:15 – 16:45 : Collective Wrap-up, Debrief, and Next Steps Discussion