“When Black Consciousness and Critical Race Theory Meets Critical Whiteness”

Abstract
This lecture takes the participant on a tour-de-Azania-a-la-Black Consciousness excursion by situating White consciousness (as the absence of knowledge) and Whiteness (as the performance of racialised White identity) as central to the development of Critical Race Theory. In doing so Rozena Maart situates the White woman and the White man as beneficiaries of White Supremacy, which draws upon racism as its key tenet, and how through the body, the flesh, agency, acts of racism are perpetuated, reinforced, and reproduced in the society within which we live. Invoking Tunisian scholar Albert Memmi’s text, *The Colonizer and the Colonized*, she draws analogies between the agent of racism and the agent of colonisation and in the process revealing the salient features of the ‘the coloniser who accepts’ begging the question, where is ‘the coloniser who refuses’?