

## Panel 6A. Theology, Philosophy and “Other Thought”

Auditorium  
16.00-17.15

**Azzeddine Azzimani**, Reading the Qur’an in Contemporary Morocco: Between the *Usuli* Paradigm and the Interpretive Turn

**Francesco Patrone**, Philosophy, but Why? Notes from a Lahbabi’s Autobiographical Essay

**Redouane Khamar**, Tattoos or the Interior Distance: Reading Abdelkébir Khatibi’s *La Blessure du nom propre*

**Juan A. Macías-Amoretti**, Abdessalam Benabdelali’s Approach to *Pensée-autre*: Deconstructing Metaphysics in Moroccan Thought

Chair **Elisabeth S. Kassab**, Doha Institute for Graduate Studies

## Panel 6B. Women Writing, Gender, and the Body – Part II

Building B, 4th Floor, Meetings Room  
16.00-17.15

**Jihane Haddouchi**, Navigating Gender and Identity: Moroccan Women Writers’ Perspectives

**Mimoune Daoudi**, Diasporic Space and Moroccan Women Literature: Revisiting Identity through Self-Writing

**Kaouther Karoui**, The Importance of the Feminist Thought of Fatima Mernissi in the (Re-)Writing of the Transcultural Approach to Feminism

Chair **Valentina Sagaria Rossi**, Tor Vergata University of Rome

## Keynote speech III (in absentia)

Auditorium  
17.15-17.30

**Sonja Hegazy**, ZMO – Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, Berlin, Germany  
**The Researcher’s Patience and the Historian’s Neutrality: Rewriting Morocco’s History?**

## Roundtable II and Book Launch\*

Auditorium  
17.30-19.00

### Moroccan Thought in the Arab World and Beyond

Roundtable and presentation of the volume *Contemporary Moroccan Thought: On Philosophy, Theology, Society, and Culture*, ed. M. Hashas (Brill, 2025, pp. 793)

<https://brill.com/display/title/63015>

With **Elizabeth S. Kassab**, **Shamil Jeppie**, **Hamza Salih**, **Juan A. Macías-Amoretti**, **Sara Borrillo**, **Brahim El Guabli**, the Editor

Chair **Francesca M. Corrao**, Luiss University of Rome

\* This event is supported by Brill Publishers.

19.00-19.15

## Concluding Remarks

19.30

## Shuttle bus departure

20.30

## Dinner

International Conference

## Re-Writing Morocco: Poetics, Politics, Philosophy, and History in Multiple Forms

21-22.11.2024

Sapienza University of Rome, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5  
Tor Vergata University of Rome, Via Columbia 1

### Organizers

**Fernanda Fischione**, Sapienza University of Rome  
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**Mohammed Hashas**, Tor Vergata University of Rome  
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<https://www.transect.eu/>

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Front image courtesy of **Zakaria Wakrim**, *Irology* series, 2012 <https://zakariawakrim.com/Irology>

Zoom link: <https://uniroma1.zoom.us/j/84765205435>



الجائزة العالمية للرواية العربية  
INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR ARABIC FICTION

International Conference

# Re-Writing Morocco

Poetics, Politics, Philosophy, and  
History in Multiple Forms

21-22.11.2024

Sapienza University of Rome  
Tor Vergata University of Rome



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## 20 November – Sapienza University of Rome, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5

Aula di Archeologia, Faculty of “Lettere e Filosofia”

18.00-19.30

**Welcome aperitif**

## Day I – 21 November – Sapienza University of Rome, Piazzale Aldo Moro 5

Aula Multimediale, Palazzo del Rettorato

08:00-08:30

**Registration**

08:30-09:00

**Welcome and introduction**

**Alessandro Saggiaro**, Head of the Department of History, Anthropology, Religion, and Arts, Sapienza University of Rome

**Fernanda Fischione**, Conference convenor, Sapienza University of Rome

**Mohammed Hashas**, Conference convenor, Tor Vergata University of Rome

09:00-10:00

**Keynote speech I**

**Brahim El Guabli**, Williams College/Johns Hopkins University

**History and Indigeneity: For an Amazigh Cultural History of Morocco**

Chair **Fernanda Fischione**, Sapienza University of Rome

## Panel 1A. Reclaiming Multiple Identities through Literature

Aula Multimediale, Palazzo del Rettorato

10.00-11.30

**Erragab Eljanhaoui**, Lost in the Desert: Moroccan Hassani Writers' Exploration of Desert Spirituality and Identity in the Modern Hassani Novel

**Mohamed Daoudi**, Why Nostalgia to the Homeland Is Omnipresent in Riffian Poetry: Towards a Critique of Ethnographic Discourse on the Rif Region, northern Morocco

**Mohamed Sguenfle**, The Metaphors of Suffering and Resistance in Moroccan Engaged literature of Amazigh Expression: An Approach to the Poetry of Sidqui Azaykou

**Adeli Block**, Scripting Linguistic Justice: Children's Lifemaps as a Moroccan “Other-Archive”

Chair **Rossana Tufaro**, Sapienza University of Rome

11.30-12.00

**Coffee Break**

## Panel 1B. Women Writing, Gender, and the Body – part I

Aula di Archeologia, Faculty of “Lettere e Filosofia”

10.00-11.30

**Rocío Velasco de Castro**, Breaking Taboos about Moroccan Women: Zainab Fasiki and Leila Slimani

**Zineb Rabouj**, The ‘Trans’ in Moroccan Realist Arabic Literature: Transgressing Borders and Genders in Fatiha Mourshid's *Lust Unbounded* (2019)

**Amrita Basu Roy Chowdhury**, Gendering Leila Abouzeid's The Last Chapter through Rights, Religion and Identity Nexus

Chair **Ana González Navarro**, Sapienza University of Rome

11.30-12.00

**Coffee Break**

11.30-12.00

**Coffee Break**

## Panel 2A. Capturing Morocco in Motion: Cinema and Visual Arts

Aula Multimediale, Palazzo del Rettorato

12.00-13:30

**Abdellah Sardaoui**, The Role of Cinema in Social and Political Change in Morocco: Between Creative Challenges and Realization Constraints

**Claudia Esposito**, From the *Halqa* to the Wave: Future Memories of Contemporary Morocco

**Arianna Jakubowski**, Writing Spaces. Toni Maraini Semantic and Emotional Cartographies

**Said Chemlal**, Visual Routes: Negotiating Home in Diasporic Moroccan Cinema

Chair **Fernanda Fischione**, Sapienza University of Rome

## Panel 2B. Writing Trauma, Resistance, and Reconciliation

Aula di Archeologia, Faculty of “Lettere e Filosofia”

12.00-13:30

**Ahmed Benali**, Archiving the Unarchivable: On the Historical Turn in Contemporary Moroccan Fiction

**Ismail Frouini**, Resisting the Epistemic Violence: Writing Trauma, Subalternity, and Postcoloniality in Morocco

**Angelika Palmegiani**, Is Reconciliation Possible? Moroccan Prison Narratives and Historical Memory

**Ana González Navarro**, Poetry as Testimony: Political and Feminist Commitment in Saida Menebhi's *Poèmes, lettres et écrits de prison* (1978)

Chair **Arturo Monaco**, Sapienza University of Rome

13:30-14:30

**Lunch Break**

## Panel 3A. Geographies of Identity Negotiation

Aula Multimediale, Palazzo del Rettorato

14.30-16.00

**Ikbale Bouziane**, Engaged Amazigh Poetry in Meteor Airlines' *Agdal*: Reviving Tradition and Addressing Global Environmental Issues

**Mokhtar Bouba**, An Indigenous Approach to Image Negotiation in Moroccan Sahara Desert Tourism

**Vaughn Rasberry**, Between Black Morocco and the Black Atlantic: Leila Lalami's *The Moor's Account* and the Geography of Diaspora

**Maryeme Ouchen**, The Representations of Moroccan Imazighen's Identity in Travelers' Narratives

Chair **Michelina Di Cesare**, Sapienza University of Rome

## Panel 3B. History between Fiction and Memory

Aula di Archeologia, Faculty of “Lettere e Filosofia”

14:30-16.00

**Chakib Ararou**, Aly El Hammamy: Fragments of a Forgotten Maghreb

**Manuela Ceballos**, Abdelfattah Kilito and the Politics of Memory

**Jonas Elbousty**, Echoes and Erasures: The Politics of Memory in *The Game of Forgetting*

**Joanne Brueton**, Abdelkébir Khatibi's Palimpsestic F(r)iction: Re-writing Morocco through Jean Genet

Chair **Ada Barbaro**, Sapienza University of Rome

16.00-16.30

**Coffee Break**

## Roundtable I\*

Aula Multimediale, Palazzo del Rettorato

16.30-18.30

**Writing Fiction in North Africa Today: Novels, Writers, and Literary Awards**

A Talk with the Novelists **Tareq Bakkari** (Morocco), **Amira Ghenim** (Tunisia), **Saïd Khatibi** (Algeria), and **Abdelmajid Sebbata** (Morocco)

Chair **Fernanda Fischione**, Sapienza University of Rome

\* This panel is in Arabic; translation to English will be available. The panel is organized with the generous support of the International Prize for Arabic Fiction (IPAF).

## Day II – 22 November – Tor Vergata University of Rome, Via Columbia 1

08.00-09.00

**Shuttle bus transfer** from Sapienza to Tor Vergata University of Rome

## Registration and Welcome

Auditorium

09:00-09:30

**Lucia Ceci**, Head of the Department of History, Society, and Culture, Tor Vergata University of Rome

**Mohammed Hashas**, Conference convenor, Tor Vergata University

**Fernanda Fischione**, Conference convenor, Sapienza University

09:30-10:30

**Keynote speech II**

**Sonja Hegasy**, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO)

**The Researcher's Patience and the Historian's Neutrality: Rewriting Morocco's History?**

Chair **Mohammed Hashas**, Tor Vergata University of Rome

10.30-11.00

**Coffee Break**

## Panel 4A. Remembering History: Places and Persons

Auditorium

11.00-12.30

**Valentina Sagaria Rossi**, al-Qarawiyiyine Library in Fez: History and Manuscripts

**Justin Stearns**, Rethinking Moroccan Intellectual History through the Life of al-Hasan al-Yusi (d. 1691)

**Gonzalo Fernández Parrilla**, Re-writing Moroccan Literary History: The Empire Does not always Write Back

**Ines Peta**, From the Self to the Collectivity: The Role of the Autobiographical Dimension in Hassan Aourid's Project of Reshaping Moroccan Identity

Chair **Elisabetta Marino**, Tor Vergata University of Rome

## Panel 4B. Writing Multiple Identities through Travel Narratives

Building B, 4th Floor, Meetings Room

11.00-12.30

**Mohamed Lazrak**, Moroccan African Religious Diplomacy: Prospects and Challenges

**Vedran Obućina**, Ibn Battuta – an Interreligious Traveller?

**Hajar Berghabi** and **Saad Boulahmane**, Re-writing Morocco through Auto-

ethnography in two Moroccan Ambassadorial Travel Narratives

Chair **Giovanna Zavettieri**, Tor Vergata University of Rome

12.30-14.00

**Lunch Break**

## Panel 5A. Identity, Law, and Muslim(a) Theology

Auditorium

14.00-15.30

**Hamza Salih**, Delimiting the Borders between the Cultural and the Political in Moroccan Nationalism: The Case of the Political Party

**Serena Fraiese**, Reforming Identity: Nationalism, *Sharī'a*, and Jurisprudential Innovation in Morocco

**Mariangela Laviano**, Mohammed 'Abid al-Jabri and Asma Lamrabet Discuss the Women's Issue: A Reading of Certain Concepts from the Qur'an

**Sara Borrillo**, Asma Lamrabet's Theology: Navigating Islam, Gender Equality and the Decolonial

Chair **Shamil Jeppie**, University of Cape Town

12.30-14.00

**Lunch Break**

## Panel 5B. Transnational and Multilingual Morocco

Building B, 4th Floor, Meetings Room

14.00-15.30

**Elisabetta Marino**, Larabi's Ox: *Stories of Morocco* (1992) by Tony Ardizzone: Negotiating One's Subjectivity

**Lidia Fernández Fonfría**, Memory and Autobiography of Spanish Travellers in Morocco (1860-1900): Cristóbal Benítez and José María Murga

**Monika Raič**, Morocco in Argentina: Ethnographical Poetics and International Politics

**Clara Défachel**, Translating for and from Morocco: Examining Literary Translations from Arabic into French Produced in Morocco in the Past Decade

Chair **Rosanna Maria Sebellin**, Tor Vergata University of Rome

15.30-16.00

**Coffee Break**