Irmgard Emmelhainz
Gut_Brain 3: Destructive Desires and Other Destinies of Excess. Predatory and Omnicidal Violence

Rebecca Belmore, *Fringe*, 2008. Cibachrome transparency in fluorescent lightbox, 81.5 x 244.8 x 16.7 cm. © Rebecca Belmore



Seminar
10–11 November 2026
10h30–14h00

According to *Forbes México*, nearly eleven women are murdered in Mexico daily. Such a statistic frames violence as discrete, preventable events and cannot register that it may belong to the conditions under which the social order reproduces itself. If so, the violence that displaces, disappears and strikes women's bodies is constitutive: it gives the social field its form, and capitalism is one name for the order it sustains.

Inherited from ancestral structures, this violence expropriates the body and reaches into the affects. Emmanuela Borzacciello calls it the apparatus of the 'expropriation-dispossession of the body,' which destroys affective bonds and instrumentalises feminised and dissident bodies to display force and affirm power. Indifference to it legitimates heteropatriarchy and erodes communal capacities to sustain life. By omnicide we mean violence aimed at a world, the totality of relations sustaining a form of life, rather than at individual lives. Gender violence and predatory, omnicidal violence operate in tandem, rooted in capitalism and in a colonial system that the nation-state has perpetuated rather than dismantled.

Being constitutive, gender violence implicates society as a whole, including its cultures and forms of subsistence. We examine works by Tracey Emin, Rebecca Belmore, Daniela Ortiz, Regina José Galindo, Lorena Wolffer, Marisol García-Walls, Neige Sinno, Natacha Appanah and Ximena Santaolalla, which make perceptible what the statistic cannot. The individuated body emerges as a surface of inscription, afflicted by anorexia, diabetes, cancer, fibromyalgia and other autoimmune and inflammatory illnesses, exposing transgenerational trauma and suggesting that predation extends beyond the self. Slowly, predatory and omnicidal violence drains life from our bodies.

Irmgard Emmelhainz is an independent translator, writer and researcher based in the Anahuac Valley (Mexico City). Her writing on film, the Palestine Question, art, culture and neoliberalism has been widely translated and has appeared in numerous international publications. Her books include *The Tyranny of Common Sense: Mexico's Post-Neoliberal Conversion* (Paradiso 2016, SUNY Press 2021, Debate 2023); *The Sky Is Incomplete: Travel Chronicles in Palestine* (Taurus 2017, Vanderbilt 2023, Siglo XXI 2025); *Jean-Luc Godard's Political Filmmaking* (Palgrave Macmillan 2019); *Toxic Loves, Impossible Futures: Feminist Living as Resistance* (Vanderbilt 2022, Taurus 2022); and *Envíos desde otros mundos posibles: ejercicios de imaginación radical* (Bajo Tierra 2023). Most recently, she edited the anthology *Contrahistoria del "pueblo" mexicano* (Debate 2025). *Forthcoming are Neurofascismos* (Siglo XXI) and *Un mundo se desvanece* (Canal Press). She is currently a grantee of Mexico's National System of Art Creators for essay writing (2025–2027).

Venue: **Maumaus**
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Registration is free but limited to the number of seats available. Please send an email with a short CV to **admin@maumaus.org** by 05.11.2026. Confirmation of registration will be sent by email. The seminar will be in English.

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