

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

May 16th 2024 | University of Exeter



**Resistance and Resilience:  
Gender and Sexuality in Digital Culture**



# CONFERENCE TIMETABLE

Location: Ibrahim Ahmed Room, Reed Hall, Streatham  
Drive, Exeter EX4 4QR



8:30- 9am: Coffee

9:15-9:30: Introduction

9:30-10:30: Dr. Daniel Fountain (40-minute presentation  
and 20-minute questions)


10:45 – 12:25: Session 1 (15-minute presentations and 25-  
minute for questions)

12:30 –14:00: Lunch




14:00-15:40: Session 2 (15-minute presentations and 25-  
minute for questions)

16:00-17:00: Professor Alison Phipps (40-minute  
presentation and 20-minutes for questions)



**Deeply embedded in our everyday life and our body, digital media have transformed gendered and sexual cultures and practices. Gender and sexuality as the performative have also transformed digital cultures, carving out important spaces for resistance and resilience in the face of systemic dehumanization. We have been witnessing how increasing (self-)representations of feminisms and LGBTQ people in the digital media landscape challenge and provoke backlash and how digitally mediated bodies (expressive form of gender and sexuality) complicate sexual and gendered norms. For example, the #MeToo movement has since evolved into a global phenomenon, symbolising the anti-sexual harassment movement in the digital age. Critical analysis within tweets, vlogs, TikToks and memes have become essential to deconstructing the transphobic rhetoric of the mainstream media.**

**The dialectics of gender/sexuality and digital media urge us to question changing forms, nature, and modes of resistance and resilience practices around patriarchy, heteronormativity, and cis-normativity at the intersection of racism, nationalism, colonialism, and neoliberalism. To tackle this question, and to launch a new Research Centre for Gender, Sexuality and Digital Culture, we invite scholars from all disciplines to join us at the Resistance and Resilience conference to engage in conversations about how networked digital media complicate national and cultural belonging and rearrange gendered, sexual, and bodily norms that move beyond colonial and neoliberal resilience.**





## Session 1:

# Intimacy, Platform Labor and the Gendered Self

Sock Fever on Digital Media: The Expression of Masculinity in the Chinese Online Gay Men's Pornography (Hao Tian, University of Exeter)

TikTok's "Hinge Dinner Parties" as Sites of Feminist and Queer Resistance (Erinne Paisley, University of Amsterdam)

North Korean Migrant Women's Self-Mediated Femininity on YouTube and Its Cultural Capital in South Korea (Halin Jun, University of Brighton)

Error 404: Sex Worker Digital Tactics Resisting Enforced Invisibility (Nicole Bush, University of Southern California & Christianna Clark, Pepperdine University)

Resisting the cis gaze through digital embodiment (Sam Godfrey, University of Exeter)







## **Session 2:**

### **Digital Activism, Solidarity and Disruption**

A Slippery Silence: Unheard Queernesses in South Asian Shorts (Juie Gune, independent researcher)

Embodied Digital Technologies and Transmodal Affordances of Nigerian Feminist/Queer Hashtag Activisms (Ololade Faniyi, Emory University)

Mapping online disinformation campaigns through far-right female political influencers in India (Sarah Khan, University of Michigan)

Queering the South Asian Gaze - neo-coloniality of popular Digital Media productions (Devi Chatterjee, University of Exeter & Monami Chatterjee, University of Calcutta)



**Keynote speaker:**

**Dr. Daniel Fountain**

**Senior Lecturer in Art History and Visual Culture  
University of Exeter**



Daniel is a practitioner, curator and academic who specialises in feminist, queer and transgender approaches to modern and contemporary art and visual culture. They are the editor of *Crafted with Pride: Queer Craft and Activism in Contemporary Britain* (University of Chicago Press and Intellect Books, 2023), and their monograph *Queer Crafts* is forthcoming with Bloomsbury Academic.





**Keynote speaker:**

**Professor Alison Phipps**  
**Professor of Sociology**  
**Newcastle University**

Alison is a political sociologist and scholar of gender with interests in feminist theory and politics, the body and violence and neoliberal racial capitalism.

She pursued these in various areas including sexual violence, sex work, reproduction, and institutional cultures. All this work has involved different forms of engagement and collaboration, locally, nationally and internationally.



# Organizing Committee:

Department of Communications, Drama, and Film, University of Exeter



**Dr. Woori Han**



**Dr. Haili Li**



**Dr. Amelia Morris**