

Rhythm as Knowledge: Event Programme

Venice Workshop 4-6 November 2025

TIMETABLE OVERVIEW:

4 Nov	Venue / Meeting Point	
11:00 - 13:00	Speakers' Corner Arsenale Biennale di Venezia	<u>Beneath the Surface: The Soil as a Mirror of Our Urban Future</u> Synchronous Programme of Public Presentations Led by Joyce van den Berg (City of Amsterdam)
13:00 - 15:00	Meeting point: Arsenale entrance (Outside the Biennale)	<u>Exploring the Rhythm Library I: Embodied Listening</u> Workshop-in-motion linking theory and praxis Led by Caroline Nevejan
15:00 - 17:30	Room A2 San Giobbe Economics Department Ca' Foscari University	<u>Exploring the Rhythm Library II: Musical Presentation</u> Tabla performance, explanation and collaborative discussion Led by Sirishkumar Manji & Caroline Nevejan
17:30 - 18:30		<u>Official Welcome and Aperitivo</u> Led by Nicola Camatti

5 Nov	Venue / Meeting Point	
9:00 - 11:00		<u>Navigating Complexity: Rhythm and Technology</u> Introduction, keynote lecture and panel Led by Satinder Gill; Keynote: Sha Xin Wei
11:25 - 13:10	Room A10	<u>Rhythms of Sustainability in the Mediterranean</u> Panel presentations Led by Nicola Camatti & Carolyn Smith
14:35 - 16:35	San Giobbe Economics Department Ca' Foscari University	<u>Masterclass I: Meanings and Methods</u> Panel discussion and participative workshop Led by Robin Chang and Pinar Sefkatli, with collaborations
16:50 - 18:00		<u>Masterclass II: Jamigraphy: Writing as Rhythm</u> Participative workshop in writing and mark making through rhythm rather than spoken language. Led by Alice Mazzilli with collaborations

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6 Nov	Venue / Meeting Point	
9:30 - 10:45	Sala Partesotti San Giobbe Economics Department Ca' Foscari University	Where do we go from here? Informal discussion Led by Satinder Gill & Carolyn Smith
11:00 - 13:30	Meeting point: Front Gate of San Giobbe Economics Department Ca' Foscari University	Deep Time Walk Workshop-in-motion to sense to geologic time and scale Led by Liz Pavey with Veronique Chance
14:00 - 17:00	Speakers' Corner Arsenale Biennale di Venezia	Concluding Session and Concert Synchronous Programme of Public Presentations Led by Joyce van den Berg (City of Amsterdam)

VENUE INFORMATION:

The programme is split across two venues: San Giobbe Economics Department of Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE) and the Arsenale of the Biennale di Venezia.

Location pins:

San Giobbe Campus: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/djXKFSNDqsjdLaVz9>

Arsenale main entrance: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/29LetzVVUfvnCstt9>

The Economics Department is open between 9-7pm everyday and Room 3 is available throughout the programme to store belongings/valuables and/or to use as a work space if needed. This room will be locked when not in use. Please make yourself known to Nicola Camatti or one of his team if you require the key. PLEASE NOTE: The campus is locked at 7pm so it will not be possible to retrieve belongings once it has closed (until the following morning).

Tickets are required to access the Biennale site. If you have not received a ticket by the 21st Oct, please contact Carolyn at carolyn-smith@hotmail.com as soon as possible. The ticket permits access on only one day. Unfortunately, we have only been able to secure one ticket for each participant; this means that you will be required to purchase a single day access pass (€25) to visit on both the 4th and the 6th. If choosing between the two days, we suggest that the afternoon of the 6th would be the preferred session, as this programme includes two hours which have been developed by members of our group. If you choose to visit on the morning of the 4th, you may like to arrive when the Biennale opens (10am) so you have some time to explore before the talks begin.

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PROGRAMME // DAY 1 // TUES 4th NOVEMBER:

Morning Session: Speakers' Corner, Arsenale, Biennale di Venezia

- 10:30 - 11:00 Meet at the Biennale and locate the Speakers' Corner within the Arsenale
- 11:00 - 13:00 Beneath the Surface: The Soil as a Mirror of Our Urban Future
Led by Joyce van den Berg (City of Amsterdam)
Includes short talks from [Caroline Nevejan](#) and [Alex Cullen](#)
A synchronous public programme which explores the urban environment through dialogue, rhythm and resonance. The session connects ecological awareness with urban practice. What lies beneath the city and how do we listen?

Meeting Point: Entrance of the Arsenale, Biennale di Venezia

- 13:00 - 15:00 Exploring the Rhythm Library II: Embodied Listening
Led by [Caroline Nevejan](#)
This workshop-in-motion invites participants to engage with rhythm via an intuitive exploration. Each participant will receive a specific 'beat' to listen to on their phone (please bring headphones) and be tasked to play this on repeat as they journey across the city. Whilst alert to this rhythm, where do the participants see it arise around them, or in their imagination? How does this rhythm emerge in their body, movement and through their surroundings? *The allocated time includes both lunch (participants can where they would like to eat within their exploration of the city) and travel time for the afternoon session at Ca' Foscari University of Venice. Please note that the travel time between the Arsenale and San Giobbe is around 1 hour either walking or via vaporetto.*

Afternoon Session: Room A2, San Giobbe Economics Campus, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

- 15:00 - 17:30 Exploring the Rhythm Library II: In Concert
Led by [Sirishkumar Manji](#) and [Caroline Nevejan](#)
In an early experiment at the BBC Imagineering lab in 1999, it was found that Sirish, with his Tabla, could handle any latency in feedback when improvising with musicians online. The western musicians were unable to do the same. At the time, Sirish argued that any latency 'just creates a different beat'. Since then, Caroline and Sirish have been exploring how the old knowledge of Indian rhythms can help to understand the collaboration between co-emerging on-and offline realities. Where western music contains 'a handful' of rhythms, it is said that Indian music contains 109. Together, Sirish and Caroline have been working to document and organise these rhythms - and a Rhythm Library has begun to take shape. This workshop explores how and where ancient rhythms emerge in the world we know today through the first presentation of the Rhythm Library.
- 17:30 - 18:30 Official Welcome and Aperitivo (just outside Room A2)
With [Nicola Camatti](#)

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PROGRAMME // DAY 2 // WEDS 5th NOVEMBER:

Morning Session: Room A10, San Giobbe Economics Campus, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

- 08:30 - 09:00 Participant registration
- 09:00 - 09:15 Welcome and Introduction
[Nicola Camatti](#) and [Satinder Gill](#)
- 09:15 - 10:15 Keynote Lecture: Navigating Complexity, Open-ended Historicity and Rhythm
By [Sha Xin Wei](#)
How can we collectively make sense of open-ended, history-laden complexity at the scale of biosocial systems beyond the reach of *a priori* categories and schema? How can we navigate rather than try to command socio-technical and environmental systems beyond our power to control or predict them? I offer some concepts, techniques and potential technologies informed by textural (topological) approaches to the multidimensional rhythms of lived experience.
- 10:20 - 11:00 Panel I: Rhythm and Technology
Led by [Satinder Gill](#)
Technology may help to capture and communicate rhythmic phenomena, but it also offers an inevitably partial view of entangled processes. This panel investigates the ways in which technologies can both assist and impede rhythmic understanding at various scales. The panelists explore these complexities and contradictions at the scale of the individual (body) and the collective (city/society).
[Pinar Sefkatli](#): *Participatory Rhythm Analysis: A Method for Co-Producing Spatio-Temporal Knowledge at the Neighbourhood Scale* [10 mins]
[Kath Hughes](#): *Biometric Bodies Breathe: Exploring affective data representations of moving bodies, rhythmic synchronicities and embodied feedback loops in immersive XR* [10 mins]
[Katya Letunovskaia](#): *Title tbc* [10 mins]
[Veronique Chance](#) [5 mins]
- 11:00 - 11:20 **Coffee Break** (provided, just outside Room A2)
- 11:25 - 12:05 Panel II: Rhythms of Sustainability in the Mediterranean
Led by [Nicola Camatti](#)
Visiting partners from the ToCareMed project share the key challenges they face and their reflections on rhythm as a means to understand and engage with these contexts. There is time here for this to become a wider conversation with the group as a whole; the aim is to understand how knowledge can be shared and approaches applied.
- 11:25 - 12:05 Panel III: Venice as the 'Living Lab'
Led by [Carolyn Smith](#)

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Venice is often cited as a 'living lab'. This panel reflects on the lessons that might be learned from rhythmic approaches to Venice's key challenges.

[Eleonora Sovrani](#): *Giants of the Lagoon* [10 mins]

[Cristina Catalanotti](#): *Institutional Rhythms and Collective Action: Pathways towards SDG11* [10 mins]

[Khalid Shomali](#): *Composing Knowledge: Sound, Science, and Society* [10 mins]

[Carlo Federico dall'Omo](#) [5 mins]

[Margherita Scapin](#) [5 mins]

13:15 - 14:25 **Lunch** (provided, outside Room A2)

Afternoon Session: Room A10, San Giobbe Economics Campus, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

14:30 - 16:30 **Masterclass I: Meaning and Methods**

Led by [Robin Chang](#) and [Pinar Sefkatli](#)

Rhythm is understood in ways which are complex, and intricate, and not always very obvious. This session draws upon the signs and processes of sensing from different fields to shed light on the diversity of ways we 'know' rhythms and reproduce this knowledge in our respective disciplines. This masterclass presents a socio-semiotic introduction followed by two participatory activities. Participants can choose between a socio-spatial or somatic participatory activity to engage with these concepts in practice.

1>> In Room 10A, [Pinar Sefkatli](#) and [Robin Chang](#) offer an opportunity to reflect on the rhythms that shape daily life and their translation into environmental and embodied experiences. It is structured in two parts: Collective Baseline & Structuring, where participants work in small groups to map and discuss the baseline rhythms and their socio-spatial manifestation; and Emerging Experiences, where two larger groups explore how these rhythms develop into embodied and environmental experiences. *Participants are asked to reflect on their own daily rhythms in advance and, if possible, bring one printed photograph that captures an aspect of these rhythms.*

2 >> In Sala Partesotti, [Sha Xin Wei](#) offers structured somatic improvisation exercises to foment energetic understandings of hapticality – feeling the world through others – and to develop capacities for, as Erik Bordeleau put it, “perceiving a world peopled not with things but with forces, not with subjects but with powers, not with bodies but with bonds.” No prior experience with movement or somatic arts required, just a willingness to engage. *Please come dressed casually for comfortable movement. You will be guided through voluntary, simple movement exercises with each other, suitable for diverse ages and conditions. (Please alert the organizers ahead of time if you have specific access requirements)*

The two groups reconvene for a discussion of shared experience to conclude the masterclass.

16:35 - 16:55 **Break**

17:00 - 18:00 **Masterclass II: Writing as Rhythm**

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Led by [Alice Mazzilli](#) with musical accompaniment from [Sirishkumar Manji](#)

The workshop engages participants with 'Jamigraphy': writing as an embodied, sensory, and relational process. The method forms part of a larger research-based art practice called 'Interowriting', a term that merges *interoception* (our perception and interpretation of signals coming from inside and outside the body) with *writing* as both a cognitive and corporeal act. Jamigraphy (*jamming* + *graphia*) builds on this approach through collective, improvisational writing practices. Participants explore writing through somatic preparation, gestures, intersubjective movement, and rhythmic dialogue, generating marks that arise from the body's internal landscape and its relation to the environment.

19:30 onwards **Conference dinner at [Laguna Libre](#)¹**

PROGRAMME // DAY 3 // THURS 6th NOVEMBER:

Morning Session: Sala Partesotti, San Giobbe Economics Campus, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

09:00 - 09:30 Participants to assemble

09:30 - 10:30 Group Discussion: Where do we go from here?

Led by [Carolyn Smith](#) and [Satinder Gill](#)

This informal discussion is a place for the group to reflect on what has emerged this week and refine ideas. We open the floor to anyone to propose ideas for future projects, papers, collaborations - any and all suggestions and reflections are welcome. How has this week changed how we think and engage with our practice? How would we like to continue with these collaborations? What opportunities exist for future ventures?

Satinder will also outline plans for the AI & Society Special Issue and answer any questions from the group.

10:45 - 11:00 **Collect lunch to go**

We have arranged for 'packed lunches' to be provided by catering. These can be consumed during the Deep Time Walk (time to stop and eat and reflect has been accounted for within the activity)

Meeting Point: Entrance of the Economic Campus, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

11:00 - 13:30 Deep Time Walk

Led by [Liz Pavey](#) with [Veronique Chance](#)

An opportunity to embody rhythms of a history of our planet and experience something of this transformative practice co-created by ecologist Dr Stephan Harding and geologist Sergio Maraschin. A Deep Time Walk is a 4.6km walk where every metre travelled

¹ If you are planning to attend and have not notified Carolyn, please do so as soon as possible as we cannot guarantee space for those not on the list. The dinner is not funded.

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represents 1million years. We imagine we have jumped back to when Earth first formed and are making our way back to 2025. Walking together through Venice, stopping at key points in this narrative of geological time, there will be invitations to share moments of guided movement practice to support us to absorb the story through head, heart and body. *Please wear comfortable shoes (e.g. trainers) and clothes you can move in. The exercise also serves as a means of travel between venues, and incorporates a break for lunch!*

Afternoon Session: Speakers' Corner, Arsenale, Biennale di Venezia

14:00 - 17:00

Concluding Session and Concert

Led by Joyce van den Berg (City of Amsterdam)

Includes a lecture from [Caroline Nevejan](#)

The programme ends with our synchronous event at the Biennale. We conclude together with reflections and a concert delivered by [Sirishkumar Manji](#). His tabla rhythms respond and resonate with a Jamigraphy performance from [Alice Mazzilli](#) and visual technology courtesy of [Sha Xin Wei](#).