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TE KUNENGA KI PŪREHUROA
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COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

GENDER, DEMOCRACY AND FASCISM · LECTURE SERIES

A LIVE LECTURE BY DARSHANA SREEDHAR MINI

VISUALISING RUBBER: PLANTATION MEDIA AND COLONIAL INFRASTRUCTURES IN MALAYA



THE TALK

Examining the visual cultures of rubber plantations, this talk explores how photography, film, and publicity materials shaped regimes of labor, indenture, and extraction in colonial Malaya. It also traces how contemporary Malaysian Tamil artists reinterpret colonial archives through memorial practices, transforming historical records into political claims about belonging and citizenship.

THE SPEAKER

Darshana Sreedhar Mini is an Associate Professor at the Department of Communication Arts, University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is the author of *Rated A: Soft-Porn Cinema and Mediations of Desire in India* (UC press/ Zubaan Books, 2024) and co-editor of *South Asian Pornographies: Vernacular Formations of the Permissible and Obscene* (Routledge, 2024) with Anirban Baishya, and *The Intellect Handbook on Adult Film History*, with Patrick Keilty and Peter Alilunas (Intellect Books, 2026). She is currently working on her book titled *Telegeographies of Indian Migration: Malayan Imaginaries* which studies media flows between South Asia and Southeast Asia—specifically, between India, Singapore, Malaysia and their shared colonial pasts.

HOW TO JOIN

WED 25 NOVEMBER 2026, 12.00 NOON NZST · LIVE ON ZOOM · link at carecca.nz
Broadcast afterwards on the **CARE YouTube** channel (@caremassey) and the **CARE Facebook** page (/CAREMassey). All welcome · free.

https://carecca.nz/

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