THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Biopolitics of Science Research Network

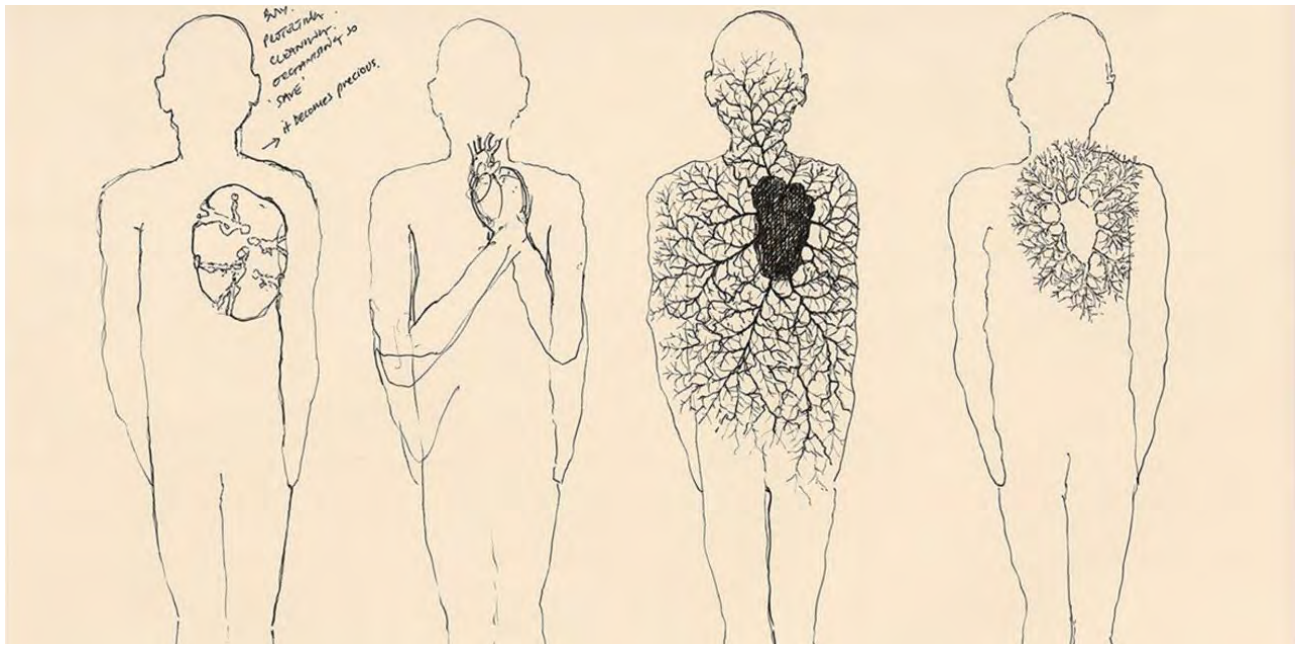
Sydney Social Sciences and Humanities Advanced Research Centre

Biolegality Pop-Up Research Lab

MASTERCLASS

with Margrit Shildrick

ON DOING COLLABORATIVE AND INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH



Speaker

Margrit Shildrick
Stockholm University, Sweden

When

10.00am-12.00pm,
29 August 2018

Where

CCANESA boardroom, Madsen Building, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney

How to apply

Open to all PhD students and early career researchers working in the humanities, social sciences, and law. To apply email Zsuzsanna Ihar at ziha2281@uni.sydney.edu.au and Sonja van Wichelen at sonja.vanwichelen@sydney.edu.au with your name, affiliation, discipline, research interests and a 200-word statement of interest before **July 1, 2018**.

ABSTRACT

The masterclass engages with the problematic of how to conduct interdisciplinary research across the visual arts/humanities/science divides. It will look critically at a supposedly single biomedical event, that of heart transplantation, to investigate how variety of data and discourses can be brought together in the production of knowledge. In conventional biomedical terms, organ transplantation constitutes an unproblematised form of spare part surgery in which failing biological components are replaced by more efficient and enduring ones, but once that simple picture is complicated by employing a radically interdisciplinary approach, any certainty is profoundly disrupted. The project we will examine has aimed to explore the complexities of heart transplantation by explicitly entangling research from the arts, biosciences and humanities without privileging any one discourse. The collaboration has not always been easy yet it has been highly productive of new insights. Drawing on research with both heart donor families and recipients, we will explore different perceptions of what constitutes data and how the dynamic entangling of multiple data produces a constitutive assemblage of elements in which no one can claim priority. Core questions of the master class include: What counts as data? What does the idea of a research assemblage entail? What new insights could emerge that remain hidden in conventional research? What might get lost in such a process of collaboration? And is consensus desirable?

AUTHOR BIO

Margrit Shildrick comes from a background in feminist poststructuralism and postmodernist bioethics. She is a body theorist with major research into the philosophy of organ transplantation and the nature of visceral prostheses, and most recently the significance of cellular microchimerism. Past books include *Leaky Bodies and Boundaries; Dangerous Discourses of Disability, Sexuality and Subjectivity*; and *Embodying the Monster*, as well as many other edited collections and numerous journal articles. She is Guest Professor at Dept of Ethnology, History of Religions and Gender Studies at Stockholm University, and Visiting Professor of Critical Disability Studies at York University, Toronto.