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Learning and Unlearning at the End of the World: Towards a Trans Black Radical Imagination Against Pedagogical Colonialism



Photo: Michelle Marianne

Presenter: Vinícius da Silva, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

This talk starts from the assumption that teaching and learning processes replicate the foundations of modern colonial thinking. I argue, with the term "colonial pedagogy" or "pedagogical colonialism," that colonialism still infiltrates the educational system and organizes the ways in which our knowledge is validated and embedded in traditions or disciplines. This requires us to question even the structure of pedagogical theory. This is not, therefore, a brand new proposal, but rather the systematization of a discussion that cuts across radical black thought, as a whole, and also the emergent critiques of black trans people in Brazil in relation to discussions about learning. To this end, I resort to authors such as Jota Mombaça, Nilma Lino Gomes, abigail Campos Leal, Adrienne Castro, Allan K. Pereira, Miguel Arroyo, Saidiya Hartman, among others, to build a critique of the form of teaching and learning processes.

About the Presenter:

Vinícius da Silva (they/them) is a writer, artist and independent researcher, graduated in Environmental Control (IFRJ), studying Fine Arts (UFRJ), host of the podcast *Outro Amanhã* and columnist for the magazine *Ruído Manifesto*. They are the author of *Fragmentos do porvir* (Editora Ape'Ku, in press), where they discuss the ethical-political dimension of love in bell hooks, environmental racism and the possibilities of building a future from otherwise practices. Their research, from art, philosophy and environmental science, are directed to the discussion about the end of the world as we know it and the production of new alternatives, from black and *travesti* art and revolutionary mutuality. In 2021, with *De bala em prosa: vozes da resistência ao genocídio negro* (multiple authors, Editora Elefante, 2020), was a finalist (second phase) in the 63rd Jabuti Award; won, in second place, the essay contest of *serrote*, with the text "Barricadas para o fim do mundo" (published in issue 39 of the magazine); and was one of the ten artists selected, from the world, to participate in the elaboration of *The Red Earth* (Chapter A of *Opera Infinita*), a production/composition by Jota Mombaça, Denise Ferreira da Silva and Anti Ribeiro.