

# Listening to the Rivonia Trial

## Courts, Archives and Liberation Movements

27 September 2018

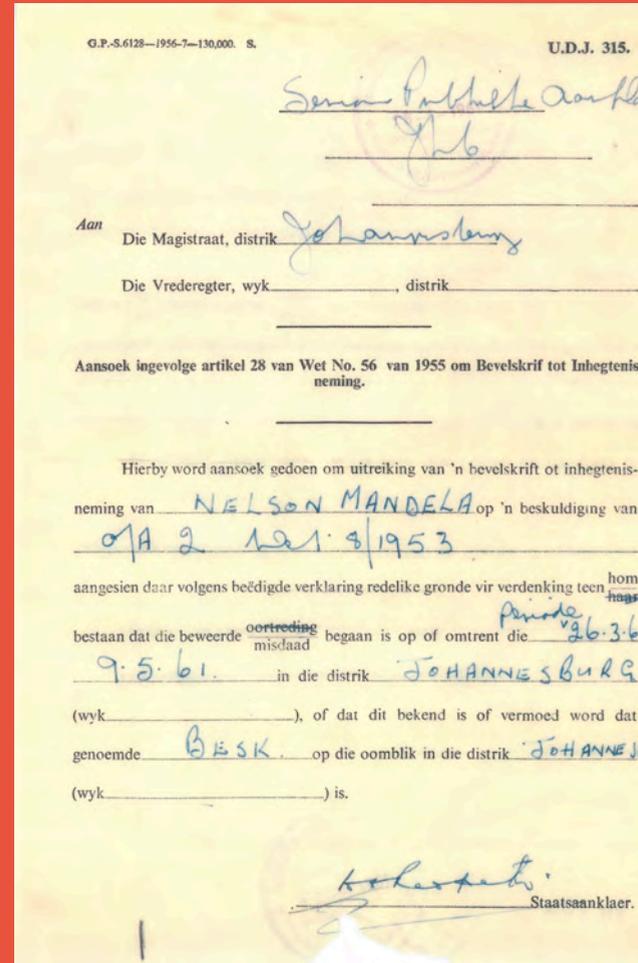
University of the Witwatersrand

Graduate Seminar Room, Southwest Engineering Building, East Campus

The colloquium, hosted at the University of the Witwatersrand as part of the opening and study of the apartheid archives in South Africa, intends to reflect on the contemporary and historical significance of the recently-restored Rivonia Trial sound archive and other legal archives, through a comparative reach into the experiences of colonial and repressive regimes in other parts of Africa. New perspectives on liberation movements and emancipatory politics will be at the heart of the panel discussions. A presentation of the processes of mapping the Rivonia Trial sound archive will serve as a point of departure for the study of archives elsewhere: the act of collecting, mapping, digitising and restoring the archives raises ethical questions that, in turn, become historical questions. These processes also shed light on the technical challenges of heritage management which hamper accessibility to such heritage for

future generations. Furthermore, the capacity of archives to negotiate the future by remembering the past finds expression in the struggle to speak about human rights violations and questions of social justice. Finally, archives in their legal capacity can serve as a tool for liberation, a belief shared among different actors in Africa and elsewhere.

*The colloquium is organised by the Wits History Workshop and IFAS-Research, in partnership with the French National Audiovisual Institute (INA), the Institut Français, the Department of Arts and Culture (DAC), the National Archives and Records Service of South Africa (NARSSA), the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research).*



Coffee and tea || 8:45-9:15  
Welcome and opening remarks || 9:15-9:30

Panel 1 || 9:30-11:00  
**Processing and Mapping the Rivonia Trial Sound Archive**

Chair | **Razia Saleh** (Nelson Mandela Foundation)

**Henri Chamoux** (Sound Engineer and Researcher, CNRS, LARHRA)  
*Digitising the Rivonia Trial Dictabelts with the Archeophone Phonograph*

**Quentin Geffroy** (Sound Engineer, INA)  
*Restoring the Rivonia Trial Recordings*

**Sarah Bruchhausen** (PhD Fellow, Wits History Workshop)  
*The Rivonia Trial and Emancipatory Politics: Listening to an Apartheid Archive*

**Nkwenkwezi Languza** (Head of the Sound Preservation Section, National Archives and Records Service of South Africa)  
*Freeing the Voices of Freedom: Trials and Triumphs in the Preservation of the Rivonia Trial Dictabelts*

Coffee and tea break || 11:00-11:30

Panel 2 || 11:30-13:00  
**Archives and the Fight for the Past**

Chair | **Nomzamo Zondo** (Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa)

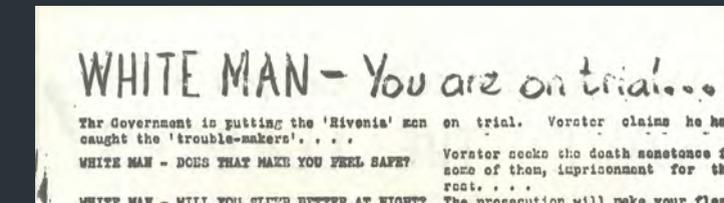
**Agnès Magnien** (Director of the Collections Department, INA)  
*Individual and Collective Responsibilities in Collecting, Selecting, Describing, Securing and Giving Access to our Memory*

**Yasmin Sooka** (Executive Director, Foundation for Human Rights, Former Commissioner of the TRC)  
*Access to the TRC Archives and the Link to Accountability and Reparations*

**Leyla Dakhli** (Researcher, CNRS, Centre Marc Bloch)  
*Tunisia, Between Memory and Justice, the Aftermath of the Revolution of 2010-2011*

**Sylvie Thénault** (Senior Researcher, CNRS, CHS)  
*The Archives of Colonisation in Algeria: A Political and Scientific Problem*

Lunch || 13:00-14:00



Panel 3 || 14:00-15:30  
**The Law and Liberation Movements**

Chair | **Arianna Lissoni** (Wits History Workshop)

**Chaymaa Hassabo** (Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Social Change, University of Johannesburg)  
*Law and Revolution in Saad Zaglul's Memoirs*

**Tembeka Ngcukaitobi** (Advocate, Author)  
*Title TBC*

**Meredith Terretta** (Associate Professor, University of Ottawa)  
*The Heart of the Matter: Changing Definitions of Death, International Anti-Apartheid Advocacy, and Transformative Law*

Closing remarks || 15:30-16:00

