

States of Memory

26th November 14:00 – 16:00
CML Meeting room ø20-405a-1



Photo: Alessio Pellicoro, 2023. From *Nel quasi invisibile*.

With guest speakers Ravinder Kaur (University of Copenhagen) and Sara Dybris McQuaid (Aarhus University)

What happens to our understanding of the state when we take seriously the relationship between memory and time?

States are commonly understood as institutional structures, comprising governments, administrative bodies, borders and constitutions. Yet the state is also a profoundly temporal project, shaped by interpretations of the past and visions of the future. This perspective is particularly relevant in uncertain times marked by political rupture and crisis.

This raises questions about how states organise, select, institutionalise and mobilise particular versions of the past? And how the state itself is represented, reconfigured and made politically meaningful in moments of crisis and uncertainty?