

# Can the Migrant Speak?

## Border crossing, racism, and migrant memories in Italy



January - February 2019

participatory video screening series  
(English subtitles)

Room E410 Graduate School of Intercultural Studies  
Kobe University



**7 January** Monday (17:00-19:00)

**Like a Man on Earth** (60', 2008)

A. Segre, D. Yimer, R. Biadene

The film is a journey of pain and dignity, through which Dagmawi Yimer voices his memories of unthinkable human suffering to denounce the brutal ways in which Libya, aided also by Italian and European funds, is operating to control the immigration movements of people from Africa.

**15 January** Tuesday (17:00-19:00)

**Nothing but the Sea** (49', 2011)

D. Yimer, G. Cederna, F. Barraco

A few years after landing in Lampedusa in 2006, Dagmawi Yimer returns with a videocamera and a regular identity card to see and film what he could then only imagine as he looked through the gratings on the windows of the detention centre. Shot between 2010 and the beginning of 2011, the film is a tribute to the island and its inhabitants.

**21 January** Monday (17:00-19:00)

**Welcome to Italy** (60', 2012)

A. Amiri, H. Dera, H. Dilara, Z. Mohamed Ali, D. Yimer

Five shorts written, shot and directed by young immigrants to Italy. A mosaic of stories providing an inside approach to the migrant condition, together with a composite portrait of Italy and its reception system as perceived by the new arrivals. The authors of the film come from a wide variety of countries and were selected regardless of their having any experience in the audiovisual field. Many had never held a video camera before. After a period of training they chose to set their stories.

**28 January** Monday (17:00-19:00)

**Va' Pensiero. Itinerant Stories** (55', 2013)

Dagmawi Yimer

An interwoven account of two racist attacks in Milan and Florence and the victim's painful attempts to piece the fragments of their lives back together. The stories of the three protagonists intersect with one another as they speak of their dramatic experiences and their hope, nonetheless, that they can continue living in Italy, despite the constant fear they may encounter a glance or gesture that will take them back to the time of the aggression.

**5 February** Tuesday (17:00-19:00)

**To Whom it May Concern** (16', 2013)

Zaccaria Mohamed Ali

After "Nothing but the sea", another "Returning to Lampedusa diary" this time by Zakaria Mohamed Ali, a young Somali journalist. A chance to recall his stay in the CIE (Centre for Identification and Expulsion) and to go in search of lost memories.

**Asmat-Names in Memory of All Victims of the Sea**  
(17'23", 2015) Dagmawi Yimer

A video to commemorate the victims of the disaster that occurred on October 3, 2013, off the coast of Lampedusa. Its intention is to force the institutions and civil society, in the words of the director, to "name each and every one, to make us aware of how many names lost their bodies on one single day, in the Mediterranean sea".