

WORKSHOP

RETHINKING ABOLITION:

RESEARCH PATHS AND
HISTORICAL QUESTIONS
1750-1850



Nicolas-André Monsiau, *L'Abolition de l'esclavage proclamée à la Convention* (1794)



23th/24th
SEPTEMBER
2026

PALAZZO
D'AZEGLIO

Via Principe Amedeo, 34
Torino

23/9

ENLIGHTENMENT, REVOLUTION AND
THE LANGUAGES OF EMANCIPATION

15.00

Welcome and Introduction

Valentina Altopiedi (University of Turin)

Chair **Giulio Talini**

15.10

Franco Motta (University of Turin)

Enlightenment Universalism and Abolitionism

15.40 KEYNOTE LECTURE

Frédéric Régent (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)

*La Révolution française comme point d'ancrage
des luttes des esclaves et des abolitionnistes
pour la liberté*

16.25 Discussion

16.45 Coffee Break

Chair: **Samuel Harrison**

17.05

Valentina Altopiedi (University of Turin)

*Staging Abolition: Olympe de Gouges's Theater
Against the Slave Trade*

17.25

Giulio Talini (THP)

*The Material of Freedom:
Emancipation and Land in the Cercle Social*

17.45 Discussion

24/9

SLAVERY, RACE AND THE LIMITS OF ABOLITION

Chair **Suzanne Levin** (THP)

10.00

Fausto Ermete Carbone (Università del Salento)

*"I am for the whites, because I am white".
Use of Violence, Abolitionism and Slavery
during the Haitian Revolution (1792-1804)*

10.20

Samuel Harrison (THP)

*Universal Servitude:
An Argument Against Abolitionism*

10.40 Discussion

11.00 Coffee Break

11.20

Alessandro Maurini (University of Turin)

*Outliving Slavery: The Biologization of Race
in the Atlantic World, 1750-1850*

11.40

Amelia Spooner (Columbia University)

*What Did Abolition Abolish? 1848 and the Ends
of Slavery in the French Empire*

12.00 Final discussion

Discussant: **Vincenzo Ferrone** (University of Turin)

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

**Nicholas Cronk, Vincenzo Ferrone,
Sophus Reinert, Céline Spector**

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

**Valentina Altopiedi, Samuel Harrison,
Suzanne Levin, Giulio Talini**