

CLAS Events – Easter Term 2026

Wednesday 15 April - 2:00pm | Book presentation

Room S1, First Floor, Alison Richard Building, 7 West Road, CB3 9DA, Cambridge, UK

Memories and Social Struggles in Contemporary Bolivia

Speaker: [Sue A. S. Iamamoto](#) (Federal University of Bahia, UFBA)

Chair: [Sian Lazar](#) (University of Cambridge)

Abstract:

Memories and Social Struggles in Contemporary Bolivia: Platforms in Convulsive Times examines social memories as powerful platforms that structure the experience of activists in convulsive times. The first case analyses how the inhabitants of the province of Omasuyos mobilized the memory of the anti-colonial rebellion of Tupac Katari and Bartolina Sisa during the so-called 'Gas War' in 2003. The second case concentrates on how activists in El Alto recalled the War of the Pacific to make sense of the same conflict. Thirdly, this book explores the civic strike in Potosí in 2010 and its relation to the memory of the rise and fall of the Imperial City of Potosí. Sue A. S. Iamamoto argues these memories and narratives have often experienced a path-dependent continuous remembrance through history that is both constitutive and instrumental for the activists claiming it.

This book presentation will be followed by the comments of Prof. Sian Lazar.

About the Speaker:



Sue A. S. Iamamoto is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Science at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA), with a PhD from Queen Mary University of London and a MA from the University of São Paulo. She has investigated the intersections between collective memories, politics and citizenship among social movements and indigenous groups in Bolivia and in Brazil.



MEMORIES AND SOCIAL STRUGGLES IN CONTEMPORARY BOLIVIA

PLATFORMS IN CONVULSIVE TIMES

SUE A. S. IAMAMOTO

B L O O M S B U R Y

[*Memories and Social Struggles in Contemporary Bolivia. Platforms in Convulsive Times*](#)

Sue A. S. Iamamoto (Author)