



The Gender Institute Scholar of the
Month
February 2023

Feminist Arachnopolitics: White Feminist Textual Practices in Witchcraft and Women's Spirituality".

By Dr Kavita Maya

Monday 27th March, 1pm (GMT) on Microsoft Teams

Kavita Maya is a Research and Outreach Fellow of the Gender Institute at Royal Holloway and a member of the *Feminist Review* Editorial Collective. Her research focuses on entanglements of race, gender, coloniality and nationalism in the contemporary, post-Christian Goddess and Pagan movements, and on a critical analysis of contemporary spirituality and counterculture.

Metaphors of spiders, webs and weaving populate the imaginaries of women's writing, feminist witchcraft and Goddess spirituality, blending themes of divinity, nature and narrativity in a quest to reclaim women's stories and creative power.

'Feminist arachnopolitics' is a neologism that deconstructs these arachnean metaphors through the lens of black feminist, women of colour and decolonial theory, showing how white feminist textual practices in writing and contemporary spirituality reproduce the appropriation and consumption of racialised, postcolonial differences.

Dr Maya's full research record is available on Pure.



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