

EVENT SERIES:

GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL HISTORY AS POLITICAL AND ETHICAL CRITIQUE

ORGANIZED IN COOPERATION BETWEEN THE JAPAN CENTRE AND MILINDA BANERJEE,
LMU RESEARCH FELLOW

NICHOLAS MATHEOU (OXFORD):

From Methodological Nationalism to an Anarchist Heuristic: Hegemony and Counterpower before Capital



Despite prominent critiques of nationalism and nationhood over the last forty years, history continues to be written as the story of reified peoples/countries – as ‘nations’. Clearly, therefore, these critiques have been insufficient, and ultimately this is down to one basic problem: the state. Behind the ideological façade of ‘national histories’ lies the assumption that history is the story of states, mystified as ‘peoples’ in the supposedly pre-state ‘pre-modern’ (=pre-capitalist) world. In this lecture, therefore, methodological nationalism will be situated as a particular instance of the general problem of methodological statism. The solution, then, becomes obvious: to develop of a methodologically anti-state, that is, an *anarchist* heuristic. Drawing on examples from the pre-capitalist eastern Mediterranean and Middle East, this lecture will demonstrate what an anarchist heuristic looks like in practice.

Dienstag, 15. Mai 2018, 18.30-20.00 Uhr

LMU Hauptgebäude, Geschwister-Scholl-Platz 1 , B 011