

## Legacies and Afterlives of the Empire

### Public Reading with

# Karen McCarthy Woolf

Writer, Poet, Editor and Critic

## Poetry collection 'Un/safe' and other poems

**Mon 20 Nov 2023**

17:00 hours s.t.

Centre for British Studies  
Mohrenstr. 60, 10117 Berlin

Born in London to English and Jamaican parents, Karen McCarthy Woolf is the author of two poetry collections and the editor of six literary anthologies. Shortlisted for the Forward Felix Dennis and Jerwood Prizes, her debut *An Aviary of Small Birds* tells the story of losing a son in childbirth and was an Observer Book of the Year. Her latest, *Seasonal Disturbances*, which explores gentrification, the city and the sacred, was a winner in the inaugural Laurel Prize for ecological poetry.

In 2019 she moved to Los Angeles as a Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar and Writer in Residence at the Promise Institute for Human Rights at UCLA, to explore the relationship between poetry, law and capitalism's impacts on black, brown and indigenous bodies. She has served as Chair and Judge of the Brunel International African Poetry Prize and was a judge of the National Poetry Competition in 2021 which made literary history when the panel awarded the prize to a black writer for the first time in 40 years.

In 2021 she travelled to Brazil as an artist in residence at the Sacatar Institute in Bahia to research new work that explores sugar and its cultural and material legacies.

*Everyone is welcome to attend.*

Großbritannien-Zentrum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

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Register at: [events.gbz@hu-berlin.de](mailto:events.gbz@hu-berlin.de)

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