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His research is on visual cultures in global settings, with emphasis on contemporary art and film. Related areas of enquiry are digital cultures and queer cultures. Across these fields, he addresses theoretical questions of visibility, visuality and materiality, as well as (anti-)identity and post-representation. His work draws on Jacques Derrida's philosophy, and more recently on Derrida's engagement with Sufism. Vlad is active as editor and curator, shaping debates through exhibitions, publications and networks that connect artists and scholars across the Global East and Global South.