

Repair Words/Repair Worlds  
Open Session Description

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How have societies talked about repair across space and time? And how can different repair words inform scholarship about the nature of contemporary and historic repair worlds?

This panel will explore the myriad words communities use(d) to talk about the repair and maintenance of things, whether technological systems and political processes or bodies, communities, ideas, or cosmologies. We hope the panel offers an opportunity to expand on the many insights that turns to repair and maintenance have provided over the past decade in histories of technology. We hope to do so by extending this conference's theme – repair/*reparando* – to learn about the broader lexicons of repair and maintenance found around the world and in different time periods.

This will likely be a non-traditional panel with 5-8 presenters. The panel currently has at least three presenters. It will likely be hybrid. We're open to multiple panels if there's enough interest.

At this point, presenters have identified a word or words that may translate as maintenance or repair, but whose meanings aren't fully captured by translations into English and/or current scholarship on repair and maintenance. Of course, we're open to many other ways presenters come to their words. The goal is to have a lot of words and see where they take conversation.