

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA (ASSAf) ANNUAL HUMANITIES LECTURE 2020

Presented by ANGELA SAINI

award-winning author of *Superior: The Return of Race and Science*

ASSAf invited Ms Saini to give the ASSAf Annual Humanities Lecture this year because *Superior* speaks to the topic of race and racism in deeply informative and relevant ways. Most pertinent in our interest in having Ms Saini is the explanation she makes for the resurgence of racism around the world in the current period. This explanation is essentially that 'race science', as she describes it, remains alive and well in the academy. Even as it has been scientifically disproved it continues to inform not only fields of study such as the social sciences and humanities but also the hard sciences. Her analysis is directly relevant for understanding better what is unfolding on a global level around questions of race and racism and their related questions of social equality, and also how the social sciences and humanities ought to be responding here in South Africa to the challenges of transformation in higher education.

ANGELA SAINI on Race Science

Tuesday, 6 October 2020
16:00 - 17:30 (SA time)

[Click here](#) to RSVP by 5 October 2020. A link will be sent to all participants closer to the date

Any queries may be directed to Henriette Wagener at communications@assaf.org.za.



Angela Saini is an independent British science journalist and author. She presents radio and television programmes on the BBC and her writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Sunday Times*, *Prospect*, *New Scientist*, *New Humanist* and *Wired* among others. She has won a number of national and international journalism awards.

Her two-part documentary series for *BBC Four* about the history of science of eugenics aired in autumn 2019 and was a pick of the day in many national newspapers. Her latest book, *Superior: The Return of Race Science*, was published in summer 2019 by 4th Estate and Beacon

Press to widespread critical acclaim, and has been named a book of the year by the *Financial Times*, *Guardian*, *The Telegraph* and *Sunday Times* among many others. Her previous book, *Inferior: How Science Got Women Wrong*, was published in 2017 and has been translated into eleven languages. For more information, Angela's website is: www.angelasaini.co.uk

The ASSAf Annual Humanities Lecture was inaugurated in 2017. Its primary purpose is to provide a platform, within ASSAf and its multidisciplinary suite of activities and projects, for showcasing and promoting the Humanities and its significance for social and human development. It does so through inviting a leading Humanities scholar to deliver a lecture on a question which is of interest in the country. Previous lectures focused on the student uprisings of 2015, the significance of Steve Biko for thinking about human equality and the role of intellectuals for the policy of apartheid.

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University of Cape Town, Stellenbosch University and University of the Witwatersrand
for their contribution to this event.



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