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When Solidarities Break: Learning from the "Beefs" of Liberation

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Why do radical alliances so often splinter? This roundtable reframes the infamous “beefs” within liberation movements—from the disputes over tactics and strategies to the very definition of liberation—not as failures, but as crucial diagnostics of power. We argue that these clashes between artists, organizers, and intellectuals are inevitable symptoms of working within systems of racial, capitalist, and imperial violence. By examining these broken solidarities, we uncover how power co-opts and corrupts. Moving beyond viewing these “beefs” as simple personal dispute our conversation focuses on the critical stakes for contemporary organizing: how can movements learn from internal conflict to build more resilient and self-critical praxes that actively trouble the structures they seek to dismantle?

Track Classification: Colonial, Postcolonial and Decolonial Working Group