**BAFTSS Documentary SIG event:**

**Book Launch: *Intimate Sovereignty* by Laliv Melamed (University of California Press, 2023), Queen Mary University London.**

**Date: 8th June 2023.**

The book launch took place, as scheduled, on 8 June 2023 in the Bloc Theatre at Queen Mary University of London. It was co-sponsored by BAFTSS, QMUL (which provided a wine and cheese reception), the Emergent Nonfiction Lab (Warwick) and Sussex Docs. The event was hosted and introduced by Dr Daniel Mann (QMUL), whose research on the intimate relationship between the military and film industries, dovetailed beautifully with the themes of the book being launched. We were three speakers in addition to the book author, Laliv Melamed. I kicked off the session, followed by Kareem Estefan (Cambridge), after whom we heard Patrick Brian Smith (Warwick).

While the event wasn’t as well attended as we might have hoped (in addition to the Central line not running that day, and the battles between staff and administration at QMUL, which kept several members of staff away, it also happened to be a gloriously sunny afternoon…), the discussion was rich and engaging and those who did come, I believe, got a lot out of it.

We recorded the audio of the event (though the opening remarks were, unfortunately, not recorded), and I recorded an interview with Laliv Melamed, the book’s author, the following day. This material will eventually be edited into a segment of an upcoming documentary studies podcast, *Animal, Vegetable, Mineral*(published by REFRAME, University of Sussex), where we will make sure to note the co-sponsors of this event, including BAFTSS.

**BAFTSS Documentary SIG convenors: Professor Alisa Lebow (University of Sussex) and Dr Patrick B. Smith (University of Warwick)**