This talk dwells on the remains of a century of racial capitalism and struggle in ‘Indian’ and ‘Coloured’ neighborhoods in the shadows of oil refineries in South Durban, South Africa. After conveying a sense of the racial palimpsest that is 20th and early 21st century Durban, Dr. Chari will focus on four spatiotemporal ‘moments’ in South Africa’s revolution against apartheid, from the early 1970s through the 1980s. He argues that these divergent spatiotemporal moments, as they work through the profane world of South Durban, speak to its differential outcomes in the curious time after apartheid, as well as to the ruination of the concept ‘revolution’ itself.

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