UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

BULLETIN

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

26 February 2019

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CHRC News

Registration Open for the Annual Heritage Lecture 2019

The CHRC are delighted to name the speaker for our **2nd Annual Heritage Lecture**. This year our Annual Lecture will be give by **Prof. Mark Turin** (University of British Columbia) who will speak on **'Language as Heritage: Indigenous Language Resurgence in the 21st Century'.**

The lecture will take place in the Frankopan Hall, Jesus College on **Tuesday 7 May 2019** from 5:00pm. The event is free to attend but tickets need to be booked - visit: https://bit.ly/2BxGmVy

Read more about the lecture on page 2.

Cover Story

Kalasha women preparing for the Zhoshi Spring festival

The Kalasha women of the Afghan-Pakistan frontier are famous for the creativity expressed in their costumes. This picture of Arab Gul and her sisters embroidering in preparation for the Zhoshi Spring festival was taken by CHRC graduate member, Tom Crowley, during his recent fieldwork in Pakistan. Tom's research focuses on heritage practices in the Kalash Valleys.

Photograph and Text: T Crowley

https://www.instagram.com/cambridge_heritage/

Annual Heritage Lecture 2019

Language as Heritage:
Indigenous Language Resurgence in the 21st Century

On Tuesday 7 May Prof Mark Turin will give the **2nd Annual Heritage Lecture** hosted by the Cambridge Heritage Research Centre.

In a year declared the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL19) by the United Nations it is most appropriate that CHRC uses the flagship public event in its calendar to draw attention to increasingly threatened languages and oral traditions.

Inuktituk street signs © Alanah Heffez (Flickr 2019)

As Prof Turin explains:

"The linguistic diversity of our species is under extreme stress, as are the communities who speak these increasingly endangered languages. While some Indigenous mother tongues and narrative traditions have been in inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding and on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, many more have received no official recognition and continue to be oppressed by colonial-era legislation in the nation-states in which they are spoken.

In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages to help promote and protect indigenous languages. This celebration of Indigenous linguistic vitality and resilience is welcome, but is it enough? Does official recognition 'work', and if so, how? Does 'heritaging' language help communities to reclaim their narrative and speech traditions? And do the goals of historically marginalized communities who speak under-resourced languages align with those of immigrants who advocate for resources to have their 'heritage' languages taught in schools and spoken in their homes."

Engaging with critical heritage studies and an emerging body of decolonial theory on language, this richly illustrated lecture draws on contemporary and historical examples from North America and Asia to ask whether we need a new language for talking about linguistic heritage and heritage languages.

The Annual Heritage Lecture will take place on Tuesday 7 May from 5-6 PM in the Frankopan Hall, Jesus College.

Attendance is free and open to all. To register for a ticket visit: *https://bit.ly/2BxGmVy*

Mark Turin is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and First Nations Languages at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Trained in anthropology and linguistics, he has worked in collaborative partnership with Indigenous peoples in the Himalayas for over 20 years and more recently with First Nations communities in the Pacific Northwest. He is a committed advocate for the enduring role of Indigenous languages, online, in print and on air.

2019 | INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF Indigenous Languages

EVENTS

Tuesday, 26 February, 5:45 PM
"The restitution of Nazi-looted art in post-fascist Austria, Italy and West Germany"

Dr Bianca Gaudenzi, Wolfson College, Cambridge, and German Historical Institute, Rome

Gatsby Room Chancellor's Centre, Wolfson College

https://www.wolfson.cam.ac.uk/about/events/humanities-society-restitution-nazi-looted-art-post-fascist-austria-italy-and-west

***

Wednesday. 27 February 2019, 6:00 PM
Gates Cambridge Annual Lecture

Irina Bokova
Director General of UNESCO (2009 to 2017)

Palmerston Room, St Johns College, Cambridge

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gates-cambridge-annual-lecture-irina-bokova-director-general-of-unesco-2009-2017-why-heritage-tickets-55150572848

***

Thursday, 28 February 2019, 1:00 PM
Cambridge Heritage Centre Seminar

'Winifred Lamb: Aegean Prehistorian and Museum Curator'

David Gill

McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Cambridge

https://www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk/Gill_seminar

***

Friday, 1 - Saturday, 2 March 2019
Cultural Protection in Armed Conflict

Protecting Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict and Situations of Forcible Displacement: An (Emerging) Human Right?

The Boiler House, Newcastle University Campus

https://research.ncl.ac.uk/chp-conflict-and-displacement/register/

***

Details of future CHRC Events can be found on the CHRC website:
https://www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk/events

You can send notices of events of interest to subscribers to heritage@arch.cam.ac.uk for inclusion in the fortnightly bulletin.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

2019 | INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF Indigenous Languages

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

2019 Annual

Heritage Lecture

hosted by the Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

by Alanah Heffez on Flickr

Language as Heritage

Indigenous Language Resurgence in the 21st Century

Prof. Mark Turin

Associate Professor of Anthropology and First Nation Languages

University of British Columbia, Vancouver

5:00 - 6:00pm, Tuesday 7 May 2019

Venue: Frankopan Hall, Jesus College, Cambridge

Free Admission. To book visit: https://bit.ly/2BxGmVy

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

Winifred Lamb

Aegean Prehistorian and Museum Curator

Winifred Lamb served as honorary keeper of Greek antiquities at the Fitzwilliam Museum from 1920 to 1958. One of her first tasks was to create a prehistoric gallery at the Fitzwilliam where finds from British excavations at Phylakopi on Melos, Palaikastro on Crete, and various sites on Cyprus could be displayed. This work was informed by involvement in the British School's excavations at Mycenae, and then her own work at Thermi on Lesbos. She developed a strong research interest in small bronzes, in part informed by her work at Sparta, as well as Greek figure-decorated pottery. The seminar will explore the interaction between Lamb's fieldwork in the Aegean and her curatorial duties in Cambridge, and identify her priorities in presenting and publishing antiquities from the Fitzwilliam's collection.

Prof David Gill

Professor of Archaeological Heritage, University of Suffolk

Visiting Research Fellow, University of East Anglia

Thursday 28 February 1-2pm

Seminar Room, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Downing Site

OPPORTUNITIES

Disposals Manager (IWM Duxford)

Imperial War Museums

UK, England, Cambridge
Contract Type: Fixed term Salary: £26,316 - £31,925 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 4 March 2019

You will drive forward IWM's programme of curatorial-motivated disposals, ensuring that items approved for disposal and exit complete the process and exit our estate.
You will take responsibility for all elements of the process, from securing all relevant approvals and liaising with internal colleagues on issues such as hazard and risk assessment, to identifying new recipients for items and managing a compliant exit process.

This activity is an integral part of our dynamic collections management, and IWM's disposal activity was singled out as a positive case study in Sir David Cannadine's report Why Collect, published by Art Fund and the Wolfson Foundation.

Your role will contribute to IWM's masterplans, and part of your initial focus will be large objects.

You will combine attention to detail and a sound understanding of the disposal process and connected collections management procedures with pragmatism, personal drive and an ability to work well with your colleagues.

Your background may be in curatorship, collections management or project management. The role is based at IWM Duxford but you can expect to travel to other branches occasionally for meetings.

Please note we do not accept only CV's, you will be required to fill in an online application form.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 9 am, Monday 4 March 2019.Interviews will be held on Wednesday 13 March 2019.

Apply online via their website: www.iwm.org.uk/corporate/jobs http://www.iwm.org.uk/corporate/jobs

Community History Curator (Curating London)

Museum of London, UK, England, London

Contract Type: Fixed term (until March 2023)
Salary: £27,362 per annum, rising to £33,413
Closing Date: 3 March 2019

At the Museum of London and the Museum of London Docklands, we connect people with the lived experience of London. The story we tell is one of place and people, evolving through interaction and exchange. We summarise what we do in three words: We Are London. It is at once our aspiration and our mandate.

We are now launching our Curating London project, to capture and explore contemporary London. We will approach Londoners to help build and diversify the collection, and shift traditional collecting practices. Over the course of the project we will develop local partnerships across London, drive Londoners' involvement both in person and via social media, develop new strands of collecting and display, and actively involve Londoners in creating museum content.

The Community History Curator at the Museum of London Docklands will be an integral part of this exciting new project and team, providing innovative curatorial leadership and expertise on the history and legacy of the slave trade in London and beyond, as part of community-led history initiatives linked to the Curating London programme.

You will take special responsibility for the curation and onward development of the London Sugar and Slavery gallery and develop community-led history initiatives in the five surrounding boroughs to the Museum of Docklands as part of Curating London programme.

For more information about this position, please see the Job Description/Person Specification. Successful candidates will be invited to an interview on Wednesday 13 March 2019.
Application forms and further details about the role can be found at https://jobs.museumoflondon.org.uk/vacancy/1055/LeicesterUniversity/detail

Summer school on "Music as Heritage: from Tradition to Product"

Central European University (CEU)

Budapest, Hungary
1 July - 10 July, 2019
Closing date: 31 March , 2019

There is a long tradition of cooperation between ethnography and musicology in Central and Eastern Europe, which has been challenged by modern trans-disciplinary approaches of ethnomusicology. Combined with the extensive experience of CEU's Cultural Heritage Studies and CEU's Arts and Culture Center, this course provides an insight into the intangible heritage scene and its most universally accessible fields: music.

This course tackles the methods and approaches of modern musicology as an integral part of heritage studies, using music as a tool for analyzing and describing social changes, interaction of state policies, culture, cultural heritage and audience, as well as a potent identity marker.

The other major theme of the course is to explore various aspects of musical heritage management creating audience development-focused, yet socially conscious business policies; as well as to present a contemporary and viable approach to responsible arts management. The course includes a field trip providing both a unique opportunity to get further insights into research methods and a real-life experience of traditional music.

The course relies greatly on both CEU lecturers and leading scholars in the field such as Jonathan Stock from University College Cork, as well as Martin Stokes from King's College London (author of "Ethnicity, Identity and Music: The Musical Construction of Place.").

URL: https://summeruniversity.ceu.edu/music-2019

Analysis and Management of Cultural Heritage

2019/20 PhD program

IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca
Closing date: 23 April, 2019, 12:00 pm CEST

Applications are now accepted for the 2019/20 PhD Programs at the IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca, one of the six Schools of Excellence in Italy. Highly motivated candidates from all disciplines are invited to apply for one of the 32 fully-funded scholarships, which are equally divided between two doctoral Programs that integrate scientific competences of economics, engineering, computer science, neuroscience and behavioral psychology, physics, applied mathematics, statistics, history and sciences of cultural heritage.

Eligible students, in addition to free room and board, will also receive a research scholarship which amounts to approximately €15,300/year. The scholarships are fully-funded for up to four years, with a possibility of graduating after the third year.

The track in Analysis and Management of Cultural Heritage proposes courses in Archaeology, Art History European and International Legislation on Cultural Heritage and Landscape, Museology, Management of Cultural Heritage and Cultural Institutions, Technologies applied to the valorization of Cultural Heritage. Both research- and practice-oriented courses constitute the program, which aims at educating qualified professionals operating in the concrete field of cultural management and academics. It promotes research by exposing the students to different research approaches and methodologies, through case studies belonging to research fields such as Art History, Classical Archaeology and Museology.

To find out more about the School, the admission requirements and how to apply, please see

www.imtlucca.it/en/programma-dottorato/overview

Call for Applications: The Vivian G. Prins Fellowship at the Museum of Jewish Heritage– A Living Memorial to the Holocaust

Closing date: 1 April 2019

The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust is pleased to offer a fellowship for emigrating scholars, artists, museum professionals, and researchers through a grant from The Vivian G. Prins Foundation. The grant is in honor of Bronia Brandman, a survivor of Auschwitz and one of the Museum's earliest and most steadfast volunteers. The Vivian G. Prins Fellowship Program is an opportunity in multidisciplinary fields to conduct research, engage in scholarly exchange, take part in public workshops, seminars, related collaborations and art installations, and to provide emergent and established experts from around the world with opportunities for professional development and training in the United States. Fellows will receive a stipend of up to $48,000 during a one year residency at the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust working on projects relevant to the Museum.

The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust is New York's contribution to the global responsibility to never forget. The Museum is committed to the crucial mission of educating diverse visitors about Jewish life before, during, and after the Holocaust. The Museum offers a specialist library and a vast testimony collection open to Fellows as well as partnerships with academic and cultural institutions in the New York region. Fellows' time will be devoted to furthering their own research and developing adjacent projects related to the work and collections of the Museum, such as conference planning, public programming, or exhibition preparation. Fellowship participants will develop first-hand experience, expertise, and confidence on which to base an interpretive career in museums, whether as museum curator, expert-in-residence or museum educator. The fellowship serves as a valuable first step for those seeking integration into North American cultural and academic institutions.

Responsibilities of the Prins Foundation Fellow

- Conduct work onsite at the Museum to both further the Fellow's own scholarship and collaborate with Museum staff on projects and programming.
- Deliver public presentations to showcase work to the broader community.
- Acknowledge the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust and the Prins Foundation in all publications resulting from the Fellowship.
- Submit a final report and an evaluation upon completion of the Fellowship.

Eligibility

This fellowship is open to foreign scholars from outside North America who are early in their careers and who seek permanent positions in the United States and Canada. Israeli citizens are not eligible.

The applicant is responsible for obtaining the appropriate visa for acceptance of the stipend for the duration of the fellowship. The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust is not a visa-granting institution, but will help facilitate the visa application process.

The online application requires the following: a cover letter; curriculum vitae; a detailed project proposal; at least three professional recommendations; and an essay articulating why s/he wishes to emigrate and what s/he hopes to accomplish after concluding the fellowship.

Application schedule

- Application deadline: April 1, 2019
- Announcement of Fellowship recipients: June 17, 2019
- Commencement of Fellowship period: September 2, 2019
- Conclusion of Fellowship period: August 28, 2020

Applications are to be submitted online:

mjhnyc.org/prins2019

Call for abstracts : Heritage and Waste

Special issue of the Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

Closing date: 1st April 2019

The aim of this special issue of Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development is to create an exchange of knowledge that joins the efforts of sustainable heritage conservation with those of waste management, environmental studies, industrial ecology and other fields that approach materials reuse without paying attention to heritage values, principles and possibilities for interpretation of the significance of these materials. The expectation is to begin to inform heritage policies and practices with opportunities for reducing material waste by engaging in processes that heritage conservation has been setting aside as "not conservation". More broadly, the intention is to influence the discourse on heritage value to engage in broader ideas of value and the limits of the values-based conservation paradigm.

Abstracts must be maximum 250 words, including a draft title and a summary of proposed text, including its relevance to the theme issue, identifying if it is research/ project underway or completed, does it offer a specific disciplinary perspective (e.g. Heritage studies, sustainable design, etc). For more information on how abstracts should be structured, please see the author guidelines. Submitted abstracts are also requested to include a brief biography of maximum 100 words, including the author's title, or as appropriate, degrees or membership, affiliation with a university or organization.

Abstracts must be submitted by **1st April 2019**

Abstracts must be **maximum 250 words**, including a draft title and a summary of proposed text, including its relevance to the theme issue, identifying if it is research/ project underway or completed, does it offer a specific disciplinary perspective (e.g. Heritage studies, sustainable design, etc). For more information on how abstracts should be structured, please see the author guidelines.

Potential themes for papers include:

- Heritage values and waste: case studies, best practices, policies
- Deconstruction and materials re-use as heritage conservation strategies and trades
- Cultural heritage management and materials in the circular economy
- Specific material challenges for reuse: modern assemblies and contaminated materials
- Connecting the embedded stories, skills, carbon and energy of materials
- Modern spolia: narratives of reuse for salvaged materials in new places
- Site values and other impediments in conservation principles to reuse
- Demolition labour as a trade, as critical actors in deconstruction as part of conservation
- Demolition, deconstruction and material stock data sources and limitations
- Reclamation and loss aversion as part of curated decay, risk mitigation and post-disaster reconstruction
- Innovative use of digital tools such as inventories that help integrate heritage and materials management.

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http://emeraldgrouppublishing.com/products/journals/call_for_papers.htm?id=8186

Engaging Cultural Heritage. German-British Perspectives on Regional Memorial Cultures

International Conference
6–8 June 2019

Bayreuth, Prince Albert Society/ University of Bayreuth, Germany

Closing date: March 31, 2019

Who decides what remains? What regulates the social discourse about the cultural value of historical objects and practices? What is considered worth remembering and protecting? How are cultural assets relevant to a modern society, and what are their effects on their immediate regional contexts? How did the public perception and treatment of these cultural assets, as well as their social acceptance and institutionalisation, change over time? How and in what medial forms are questions of cultural heritage negotiated?

To address some of these aspects, the Prince Albert Society, in cooperation with the Verein Kulturerbe Bayern and the University of Bayreuth, is hosting an interdisciplinary conference in June 2019 in Bayreuth, Germany. From a comparative German-British perspective, speakers are invited to focus on the topics of cultural heritage and regional memorial culture. The conference intends to promote a dialogue between academic debates about memorial culture(s) and key actors in the areas of historical preservation and cultural policies.

The conference programme includes trips to selected historical sites in Upper Franconia from different periods. Each of them represents a social process of socio-historical negotiation and illustrates different forms of local or regional memorial culture. Among the destinations will be the city of Coburg, seat of the Prince Albert Society.

One central aspect of the conference will be the examination of different concepts of memory and memorial culture(s) as encountered in material and medial practices. Furthermore, special emphasis is laid on the task of making heritage – material or otherwise – perceptible and accessible for the public. In what ways is information about historical objects and practices made available to the public? Which methods are used to present relevant topics to a broader audience? How are memorial culture and its objects represented and negotiated in media such as literature and film?

In a second session, the conference takes actor-centred perspectives on those working immediately with cultural assets. Besides exploring specific practices in the field of cultural heritage, this session sheds light on work and achievements in the field in historical perspective. An additional core theme will be the public reception of cultural heritage.

This British-German conference takes a comparative approach, but contributors are also welcome to focus on individual aspects of the broader topic. Proposals for thirty-minute papers should include an abstract (300 words) and a short cv. Please submit your proposal by 31 March 2019 to verena.spicker@uni-bayreuth.de. Conference languages will be German and English. Travel and accommodation expenses of contributors will be covered.

Contact email: verena.spicker@uni-bayreuth.de

URL: https://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-39518

Human, Intellectual, and Cultural Mobilities between Africa and the Caribbean – From the Late 19th Century to the Present

Editors: Birgit Englert, Immanuel R. Harisch, Sigrid Thomsen

University of Vienna, Research Platform "Mobile Cultures and Societies"

Closing date: 10 March 2019

With this Call for Papers, we encourage researchers to take a fresh look at connections between the African continent and the Caribbean from the late 19th century until the present by analyzing various phenomena through a mobility studies lens.

We are looking for contributions that examine one or more of the different forms in which mobilities occur: humans, objects and ideas might be mobile, either in a material sense or in imaginary terms. Further, virtual mobilities have come to play an important role over the last two decades and thus their influence on the other forms of mobilities mentioned above also needs to be included in an analysis of more recent phenomena. As we aim to create a volume which contributes to bridge debates in the humanities and the social sciences, we welcome proposals from scholars based in African and/or Caribbean Studies, Social and Cultural Anthropology, History, Literary Studies, Film Studies, Geography, Sociology, Political Science as well as related disciplines. Proposals for book chapters which are transdisciplinary and/ or which take a comparative perspective are especially welcome.

To start with, individual trajectories and/or collective experiences as mobile workers, students, tourists, development workers, soldiers, etc. may be examined along questions of belonging, solidarity, identity, or racism. Contributions may further look at how discursive meanings around mobility are produced, and which actors are involved in these processes. Further, possible contributions could look at the plethora of ideas, such as Pan-Africanism, which were incredibly mobile in connecting the Caribbean and Africa as their advocates organized conferences, disseminated printed works or ran shipping lines between the continents for repatriation purposes. The mobilities of religious practices and thought as well as the mechanisms of adaption and appropriation of certain ideas between Africa and the Caribbean also provide possible areas of study for this volume.

Other fruitful fields of inquiry refer to the imagined mobilities and longing that Africa has evoked—and still evokes—in the Caribbean as well as the other way around. Contributions that highlight imaginary mobilities between Africa and the Caribbean may for example draw on various forms of cultural expression, such as literature, film, music or other forms of art. For example, contributions on the rich literary tradition running between Africa and the Caribbean could look at a movement like négritude, which, spanning Africa and the Caribbean, was in dialogue with the Pan-African project and argued for an appreciation of African heritage within the diaspora and on the continent.

Other possible literary routes for inquiry might be the depiction of Afro-Caribbean religions in Caribbean literature, contemporary Afro-Caribbean literature, or travel writing moving between the two spaces. Articles could look at both individual works of literature or other forms of cultural expression such as film or related arts, or, more broadly, theorize literary and cultural interpellations between Africa and the Caribbean.

Last but not least, the increasing importance of the mobile phone and, more recently, the use of social media which the mobile device enables, has impacted on societies at large. Possible contributions may emphasize how the relatively widespread access to these technologies has shaped relations between actors in Africa and the Caribbean.

Please send abstracts of a maximum of 500 words and a short biographical note to mobilities.afro.carib@gmail.com

The selection of abstracts will be completed by 15 March 2019 and the selected contributors will be asked to send in draft chapters by 1 September 2019.

An authors' workshop will be held in late September/early October 2019 (exact date to be announced) at the University of Vienna, Austria. All participants are expected to read all draft chapters and to take part in feedback sessions which aim to make sure that the chapters contribute to the common thread running through the volume.

We can assist a limited number of participants with travel costs and accommodation when required. Please mention in your abstract whether you might need financial support for the workshop and where you will be traveling from.

Politics of e-Heritage: Production and regulation of digital memory in Eastern Europe and Russia

Second joint workshop

Between the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East Central Europe, the Aleksanteri Institute – University of Helsinki and CEES University of Glasgow

3-4 June 2019, Marburg, Germany

Closing date: 31 March 2019

In the last decade, there has been increasing interest in digital technologies and their influence on the production of memory, history and heritage not only within academic research, but also in politics, especially in Eastern Europe and Russia. The tendency toward selective history, heritage and memory politics in the region manifests itself more and more in the digital sphere. Politicians decide on what will be remembered and how. These decisions also influence the decision on what will be digitised and how. Whose heritage will be secured by digitisation and whose will not? Simultaneously, these decisions also aim to regulate the accessibility of digitised heritage. Which materials or collections will be accessible, and which will not? Moreover, the types of users are regulated through these politics.

In this framework, this workshop – the second of a series on the challenges of digital humanities in Europe, with a special focus on Eastern Europe and Russia – formulates questions on concrete strategies, policies and interests connected to the digitisation of heritage in this region.

Therefore, this workshop focuses on:

a.) various relations between memory/history politics and digitisation

b.) methods of e-heritage production

c.) exclusion and inclusion mechanisms in e-heritage production

To investigate these connections and interdependencies, scholars with methodological and theoretical approaches from various disciplines such as history, art history, political sciences, media studies, sociology and digital humanities are invited to submit their proposals.

Please submit your short abstract (max. 300 words), a short CV and contact details to: eszter.gantner@herder-institut.de andolga.dovbysh@helsinki.fi by 31 March 2019.

Minorities, Migration and Memory in East European Borderlands (1945-present)

"Jews and Germans in Polish Collective Memory"

at the Nordost Institut (IKGN e.V.) and the German Historical Institute Warsaw

Organized by DFG/NCN – Project

24 – 26 September 2019
Closing date: 15 March 2019

Located in the periphery of one country and in the proximity of another, borderlands form crossroads of different political systems and cultural spheres. Subjected to competing interests of the bordering states, most borderlands share a troubled past with shifting borders and changing rulers.

Due to their contested character, the population´s loyalty and sense of belonging constitute sensitive and disputed topics. Thus aggressive nationalism including rejection and exclusion of the (often imagined) "Other" influenced borderland identities. Conflicts between ethnic or cultural groups and the repression of minorities are a common feature of many borderlands.

At the same time, borderlands were and are home to various languages and dialects, religions and ethnicities, creating diverse and entangled cultures. Their function of cross-border communicators, and thus translators between the interior and exterior, further enhances pluralism and flexibility.

Certainly, the nature of the border determines the landscapes of borderlands. As long as the border is permeable, borderlands are places of trade, transfer and transnational influence. In cases of closed borders, borderlands resemble fortified toeholds with massive military presence and control of the population.

Borderlands seem to be strongly determined by dualities, as for instance the relation between two empires, between center and periphery, the two sides of the border, or its open or closed status, between majorities and minorities. However to study borderlands, we need to grasp the complexity that evolves from the entanglement of these different dynamics. Interpretative framework of a single group or society as well as a focus on a single duality fail to explain historical processes in borderlands.

We suggest to study borderlands as places of cultural, political and social entanglement, with ever changing dynamics of communication and circulation. Moreover, we interpret borderlands as heterotopian places that might at times adapt to hegemonial discourse but often rather challenge them.

Our conference thus aims to discuss approaches towards borderlands that take transregional perspectives and focus on dynamics of entanglement, disentanglement and transfer. Observing landscapes and storylines over time and in various regions we aspire to identify the Eigensinn of borderlands - dynamics of how people relate to the border, the other side of the border, the borderland as region and the respective center. Looking for influential factors and patterns, we are particularly interested in similar dynamics that develop in different regions at different times.

For this purpose we invite scholars from all disciplines who focus on borderland topics in the region of Eastern and Central Eastern Europe and the post-war period until today (1945-2018). Potential topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Borderland identities between separation and suture
- Nationalism and regionalism
- Inclusion, exclusion and repression
- Border shift and association with changing powers
- Cultural heritage and landscapes of memory
- Borderland biographies
- Multiethnicity, multilinguality, multireligiosity
- Center-periphery relations and the Eigensinn of peripheries
- Forced migration, work migration and multiple citizenship
- Gender and childhood in borderlands
- Borderlands in literature

We invite abstracts of 300 words by March 15, 2019. Please include a short bio as well and send it to the following addresses: k.steffen@ikgn.de, i.hansen@ikgn.de and leiserowitz@dhi.waw.pl. Selected participants will be notified in late April 2019.

For invited participants, accommodation and travel costs will be covered. We aim to publish selected papers after the conference.

CONTACT US

CONTRIBUTE

We would be especially interested in hearing from you about events and opportunities. Contributions in the form of short reviews of conferences, exhibitions, publications or other events/material that you have attended/read are also welcome. Please note that advertisements for any non-HRG events, jobs, or programs do not imply endorsement of them.

SUBSCRIBE

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive our bulletin, or if you have a notice to post, please contact the editors (heritage-bulletin@arch.cam.ac.uk). For more information about the Heritage Research Group, visit the CHRC website: www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk

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