

Powerful Migrations (Riverside, 27-28 Apr 17)

University of California, Riverside, Apr 27-28, 2017

Jeanette Kohl, University of California Riverside

Powerful Migrations. Identity / Security / Fluidity

Organizers:

Jeanette Kohl, University of California, Riverside, Art History /

Kelechi Kalu, Vice Provost for International Affairs, University of California, Riverside

Over the past years, terrorism, wars, ecological disasters, and the clash of opposed cultural and religious value-systems have caused unprecedented mass migrations in the modern world. While political and military discourse has thus far monopolized debates, this conference sets discussion on a broader intellectual footing, tackling migration as a cultural phenomenon across the boundaries of time periods, geographies, and academic disciplines. For millennia, migration has expanded our knowledge of other cultures, from 'migrating' artifacts and ideas in the early modern 'contact zone' of the Mediterranean, to the economic arteries of the trade roads between Europe and China. Cultural and economical exchange and the movement of goods and artworks often counteract official politics, as do the resulting shifts in taste, lifestyle and beliefs. "Powerful Migrations" focuses on the complex cultural fabric created by displacement, the stories of migrants' fluid identities, and the frictional yet empowering potential of cultures open to diversity and inclusion.

PROGRAM

Day 1, April 27

UCR, Interdisciplinary Building, INTS 1113

09:00 AM Opening remarks: Kelechi Kalu (Vice Provost for International Affairs, UCR)

09:15 AM Introduction: Jeanette Kohl (Chair of Art History, UCR)

09:30 AM Conference keynote

Nina Glick Schiller (Director, Cosmopolitan Cultures Institute, University of Manchester, UK):
Estranged Belongings, Dispossessed Futures, and Aspirations for Social Justice

Panel 1 - Identity: Dreams and Formations

10:15 AM Min Zhou (Sociology, UCLA): Hyper-Selectivity and the Remaking of Culture: Understanding Asian American Achievement

11:00 AM Coffee break

11:15 AM Leisy Abrego (Chicano/a Studies, UCLA): Liberation, Not Integration: Immigrants Making Claims and Making Home in Los Angeles

12:00 PM Worku Nida (Anthropology, UCR): Powerful Migrations in Africa: Entrepreneurs and Identity Formation in Ethiopia

12:45 PM Lunch break

Panel 2 - Fluidity: Places and Spaces

02:00 PM Avinoam Shalem (History of Art and Archaeology, Columbia University NYC): The Commoditization of Nature: Palestinian Landscape Zionized

02:45 PM Erith Jaffe-Berg (Theatre, Film, and Digital Production, UCR): Cross-Cultural Currents in Early Modern Italian Theatre

03:30 PM Coffee break

03:45 PM Louis Massiah (Director, Scribe Video Center, Philadelphia): Great Migration: A City Transformed (1916-1929)

04:30 PM Wrap up discussion

06:00 PM Evening lecture, INTS 1113: Jack Dangermond, CEO of ESRI: Creating our Future: Sustainable Solutions for Our World

Day 2, April 28

Culver Arts Center, 3834 Main Street, Hammond Dance Studio

Panel 3 - Security: Fears and Expectations

09:30 AM Miroslava Chavez-Garcia (History, UCSB): 'A Toda Madre (ATM)': Migrant Dreams and Nightmares in El Norte

10:15 AM Johannes Endres (Comparative Literature/Art History, UCR): Rethinking Security

11:00 AM Coffee break

11:15 AM Saloni Mathur (Art History, UCLA): Islamophobia and the Security State: Lessons from the Visual Arts

12:00 PM Unveiling of Stereo Viewers on Main Street, Susan Laxton (Art History, UCR)

12:30 PM Lunch Break

Panel 4 - Geopolitics: Past and Present (Moderation: Jody Benjamin, UCR)

02:00 PM Michael Gomez (History, NYU): A Different Kind of Migration: The African's Journey into

Liminalit

02:45 PM Jonathan Eacott (History, UCR): Elephant Sized Murders: Indian Elephants in British and Early American Political Culture

03:30 PM Tom Wong (Political Science, UCSD): U.S. Immigration Policy under Trump

04:15 PM Break

04:30 PM Film Screening (Culver Center for the Arts, Screening Room)

Louis Massiah (Director, Scribe Video Center, Philadelphia): Place and Displacement. Screening of three documentaries from Scribe Video Center's "Precious Places Community History" project (10 minutes each), and The Bombing of Osage Avenue (60 minutes)

Reference:

CONF: Powerful Migrations (Riverside, 27-28 Apr 17). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 16, 2017 (accessed May 3, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/14976>>.