

## Translating Class, Altering Hospitality (UK) (12/15/01;6/21/02-6/23/02)

Peter Nix

(12/15/01;6/21/02-6/23/02)

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Apologies for cross-posting and multiple deliveries!

AHRB CentreCATH (Director: Prof G Pollock)

CALL FOR PAPERS

CongressCATH 2002: Translating Class, Altering Hospitality

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/cath/congress/2002/>

AHRB CentreCATH

University of Leeds, UK

June 21st - 23rd 2002

Our first conference addresses a crisis created by the continuing fractures of sociality expressed either as internal estrangement or as hostility to those perceived as the resident stranger. This first annual Congress of the newly instituted AHRB Centre for Cultural Analysis, Theory and History aims to incite new debates around the interrelated aspects of both the political and philosophical theories of class and hospitality and their current translations to cultural practices, analyses and performance.

Class is lived in/as acts of translation both violent and reparative. We want to explore in new ways how class is thought, assumed, known; how class assumes, thinks, knows. In reconfigured social and cultural worlds fissured by cultural and sexual difference and by global relocations of economic and politic refugees, to what has class been translated; how does it translate such movements and relocations? Hospitality, an ethical and unconditional responsibility towards the uninvited other, has entered current debates both through concrete issues of democracy and citizenship created by real movements of peoples and social translations, and through recent philosophical reflections. Translation serves as metaphor for both transposition and encounter. Alteration involves both change and the mediation of otherness. Is one contingency of disciplinary, academic intellectual activity the erasure of class, a

self-erasure, a re-invention? If class as a structure of feeling functions as a mode of internal estrangement and differencing, how can we rethink difference on/in the terrain of social hostility or of hospitality to another, marked as external, who poses the question of, and an interrogation from, the place of the stranger? The conference will explore issues of conceptualisation and classification, the economies of hospitality and estrangement, migration and transformation, ethics and alterity, participation and realignment.

The conference aims to enliven a transdisciplinary space, projecting debate between intellectual divisions, between disciplines and modes of analysis from art to philosophy, from Jewish Studies, Cultural Studies, Postcolonial Studies to architecture and film, from feminist theory to post-modern philosophy.

We invite abstracts of not more than 200 words for papers to be submitted by 15 December 2001.

Keynote Speaker: Gayatri Spivak (Columbia University)

Plenary Speakers: Paul Gilroy (Yale University), Tahar Ben Jelloun, Cora Kaplan (University of Southampton), Abdelkébir Khatibi (University Mohammed v-souissi), Martha Rosler (Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University).

Special Panel Speakers: Rachel Bowlby (University of York), Assia Djebar (Louisiana State University), Aritha van Herk (University of Calgary), Saskia Sassen (London School of Economics/University of Chicago), Carolyn Steedman (University of Warwick).

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