

Migration, Memory and Place

University of Copenhagen / Ishøj (Denmark), Dec 6–07, 2012

Deadline: May 1, 2012

Frauke Wiegand, University of Copenhagen, Arts&Cultural Studies

MIGRATION MEMORY AND PLACE

International Conference organized by

Danish Network for Cultural Memory Studies & Network for Migration and Culture

6 – 7 December 2012

Venues:

University of Copenhagen (6 December)

Arken Museum of Modern Art, Ishøj (7 December)

The increasingly complex relationship between the local and the global, 'the near' and 'the far away', has emerged as one of the defining characteristics of contemporary societies. With globalization's increased mobility of people and speed of information exchange, and the cultural encounters resulting from it, traditional essentializing and stabilizing definitions of terms such as 'home', 'belonging', 'place', 'identity' and 'memory' have long become problematic and more adequate understandings of these conceptions are much sought after.

This conference centers on the recognition that place and space are of fundamental importance to all questions of migration, and that cultural migrations may involve a fundamental transformation of the experience of spaces and places and their close links to the social and cultural meanings of home, belonging and memory. Through the movement of people, cities, homes, landscapes and other localities become re-configured and reinterpreted through migrants' stories, photographs, music, artwork, films and websites. Most urban spaces, for instance, are already described as inseparably diasporic, migratory spaces. At the same time, places are palimpsests that hold many layers of memory whose significance is negotiated in contemporary cultural life.

The conference invites considerations of how artistic and cultural representations of memory, migration and migrant experiences (in literature, cinema, theatre, media, the visual arts and other areas of culture and cultural practices) provide fruitful points of departure for the development of new theoretical concepts of place and belonging, and, vice versa, how multiple approaches to the perspective of place and memory can enrich the study of cultural migration.

The conference invites papers from scholars working with art, literature, film, media, cultural representations or cultural performance and cutting across fields such as studies in culture, media and the arts, migration studies, cross-cultural studies, post-colonial studies, cultural geography, place

theory, cultural anthropology, urban studies, cultural sociology and philosophy.

Confirmed keynotes

Edward S. Casey

Andreas Huyssen

Nikos Papastergiadis

Alistair Thomson

Sigrid Weigel

The conference invites papers on the following topics of reflection and discussion:

- Critical reflections on narrations and hi/stories of rootedness versus migratory hi/stories of place (including migration and the relation to national constructions of place, identity and intersubjective recognition).
- Migration and diasporas as influencing collective memories, cultural memory and memory cultures, e.g. as challenging or being challenged by collective memories of place; and how places may be "re-membered" through migration/ immigration.
- Critical reflections on existing theoretical discourses of, for instance, transient places, transcultural places, borders, contact zones, transit spaces, non-places and third spaces as produced or intensified by migration, the movement through places, hybridizations and cultural translations of places.
- Migration as throwing new light on place and belonging as dynamic phenomena shaped by trans-cultural connections and processes of "getting back into place".
- The interfaces of place, locality and belonging as discursive, politicized phenomena and/ or as sensed, emotionally experienced or recollected phenomena.
- The relations between global migration and local places at international and sub-national levels, including the role of collective memory between nation and globe, and the new forms of identity constructions that arise from this.
- The urban space as contact zone or lived diversity: questions of diversity, intersubjective relations, ghettoization, gentrification.
- Representations of displacement, rootlessness, homelessness or re-integration in new places as throwing new light on human relations to place and notions of home and belonging (including migrant domesticity: the role of domestic spaces in migrant's experience of belonging).

Applicants should send an abstract of 200-300 words clearly outlining the focus of the paper, alongside a short biography, to nmc@hum.ku.dk.

Paper presentations will be scheduled to 30 minutes (including discussion).

Deadline for proposals: 1 May 2012

You will be notified of the organisers' decision by early June 2012.

For further information on the conference and the networks, see our websites:

<http://migrationandculture.ku.dk>

<http://memory.au.dk/>

Conference contacts:

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Mads Rosendahl Thomsen, Associate Professsor, Dept of Aesthetics and Communication, Aarhus University (memory@au.dk)

Reference:

CFP: Migration, Memory and Place. In: Arthist.net, Feb 23, 2012 (accessed Jul 16, 2025),

<<https://arthist.net/archive/2767>>.