

Report Following the event Meeting Points: Migration and Displacement Across Arts and Humanities (8 May 2019)

Attendees:

Meeting Points: Migration and Displacement Across Arts and Humanities (8 May 2019) attracted a significant number of attendees – the event (fifty tickets for the general audience) was sold out two days after the Eventbrite webpage was set up and advertised via social networks and the UG's internal communication systems. Many attendees were College of Arts students and members of staff, but a significant number also came from non-academic sector. Paper presenters comprised of the SMLC members of staff and PhD students from both College of Arts and School of Social Sciences, but also participants from other universities (University of Gloucester, University of Lisbon) and non-academic organisations (Legal Aliens, London). Professor Susan Bassnett (University of Warwick/University of Glasgow) introduced the event and Professor Thomas Beebee (The Pennsylvania State University) delivered final comments and led the concluding roundtable discussion.

Comments - The main points arising from the event

The popularity and positive reactions to our event suggest that there is a potential for fostering research and teaching of migration and displacement across the College of Arts. The event also raised many points regarding methodological complexity of researching this topic and the lack of the updated theoretical framework which could enhance interdisciplinary links and provide effective analytical tools for migration in general. The event highlighted the trajectories of cultural memory, migration and translation, indicating the need for terminological shifts and more attention being paid to ideological and emotional aspects. It was pointed out that different approaches to analysing works of art, as well as significance of arts and humanities within interdisciplinary research of migrations are needed.

Susan Bassnett's introductory comments, as well as her thoughts exchanged during the event formally and informally, suggest that a possible direction in researching migration from the point of view of humanities is looking at migration in connection to creativity. Thomas Beebee's remarks about three key aspects in thinking about migration – cultural memory, scalability, and theory (or rather the lack of a novel theoretical framework within the humanities research) – are also extremely useful in exploring this topic further.

In the light of Susan Bassnett's and Thomas Beebee's statements, we plan to address various colleagues across the College of Arts in order to exchange ideas how to make this theme institutionally more visible, and how their research expertise could feed into the possible theme of migration and creativity. We also plan to continue collaboration with the event participants who expressed wish in exploring networking and research possibilities.

Mirna Solic, Elwira Grossman, Enza di Francisci



University of Glasgow | School of Modern Languages & Cultures

Arts Lab and SMLC

Meeting Points: Migration and Displacement across Arts and Humanities

University of Glasgow, 8 May 2019

University Avenue, Wolfson Medical Bldg, Gannochy Seminar Room 3



12.00-12.05 Welcome from the organisers

12:05 – 12.20 Introduction to the event by Professor Susan Bassnett

BLOCK 1: Chair person: Elwira Grossman

12.20 Senja Andrejevic-Bullock (University of Gloucester) Nowhere People: Practice-led research as inquiry into effects of hostile displacement on writers and their creative output

12.40 Greg Kerr (University of Glasgow) 'No man's language: the poetry of Ghérasim Luca' (1913-1994)

13.00 Mirna Solic (University of Glasgow) Borders as Meeting Points: Cinematic Representations of Encounters in *The Melon Route* (2006, Croatia) and *Morgen* (2010, Romania)

13.20 - 14.00 LUNCH

BLOCK 2: Chair person: Mirna Solic

14.00 Ernest Schonfield (University of Glasgow) "Two Refugees from Nazi Germany: Klaus Mann and Gabriele Tergit"

14.15 Anika Marschall (University of Glasgow) Between Ethics and Aesthetics – Artistic Interventions into European Asylum

14.35 Thapanee Tubnonghee (University of Glasgow) Temporary Migration as an Escape from Poverty in Kampon Boontawee's *A Child of the Northeast* (1976)

15.00 – 15.30 Tea/coffee break

BLOCK 3: Chair person: Enza De Francisci

15.30 Szabolcs Musca (University of Lisbon) Migrant Dramaturgies: Crossing Artistic and Cultural Borders

15.50 Lara Parmiani (Legal Aliens) Embodying migration - a practical approach

16.15 -17.00 FINAL ROUNDTABLE with summing up comments by Professor Thomas Beebe (Penn State University, USA) and Dr Elwira Grossman (University of Glasgow)

