

ariel

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a review of international english literature

**articles on rum, sidhwa, ishiguro,
roy, rhys, salih, and kipling**

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Diasporas, Migration and Identities: Crossing Boundaries, New Directions

University of Surrey, 11-12 June 2009

'Diasporas, migration and identities' has been the subject of a major national research programme funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in the UK since 2005. Its central concerns have also been at the heart of the work of the Centre for Research on Nationalism, Ethnicity and Multiculturalism (CRONEM). The aim of this collaborative and multi-disciplinary conference (CRONEM's 5th annual conference) is to examine the past and present impact of diasporas and migration on nation, community, identity and subjectivity, culture and the imagination, place and space, emotion, politics, law and values.

We invite abstracts that address the following themes:

1. Migration, settlement and diaspora; 2. Modes, stages and forms; 3. Representation, performance, discourse and language; 4. Subjectivity, emotion and identity; 5. Objects, practices and places; 6. Beliefs, values and laws; 7. The role of youth in relationship to diasporas, migration and identities; 8. Diasporic economics and labour markets; 9. The recognition of multiple origins and mixedness; 10. The politics of immigration and integration; 11. Public opinion and public policy; 12. Ethnic identity politics

Please send abstracts for papers and posters (not more than 200 words) and abstracts for convened symposia (in which the symposium abstract should consist of not more than 200 words, and the individual paper abstracts should consist of not more than 200 words each).

The closing date for abstracts is 2 February 2009.

If you have any further queries about the Call for Papers, please contact Katie Roche <K.A.Roche@leeds.ac.uk>

For registration queries, please contact Mirela Dumic <m.dumic@surrey.ac.uk>

Conference Site: <<http://www.surrey.ac.uk/Arts/CRONEM/cronem-ahrc-conference-09/cfp09.htm>>

AMERICAN TROPICS: TOWARDS A LITERARY GEOGRAPHY

International Conference, University of Essex, 4-7 July 2009

Confirmed speakers include Barbara Ladd, Richard Price, Sally Price, Susan Castillo, Elizabeth DeLoughrey, Sharon Monteith, Gordon Brotherston, Neil Whitehead, Selwyn Cudjoe, Bill Schwarz, Luciana Martins, William Rowe, Margarita Zamora, María Cristina Rodríguez, Lowell Fiet, Ineke Phaf-Reinberger, Shalini Puri, Leah Rosenberg, Wendy Gaudin, Sue Thomas, Susan Gillman.

By American Tropics we understand an extended Caribbean, or what Edouard Glissant calls “the estuary of the Americas,” or what earlier scholars sometimes called “Plantation America”: an area including the southern USA, the Caribbean littoral of Central America, the Caribbean islands, and northern South America.

The American Tropics project at Essex seeks to understand the writing associated with this area through a study of particular places within it: cities, borders, regions, natural features. Each place is a zone of encounter, bringing together sets of writing in different languages and styles, from different literary and cultural backgrounds, all of which have in common that attention to the same place. The project therefore approaches literary history via literary geography.

We call for papers that engage with this project in a number of different ways:

- through attention to particular places and the writing associated within them;
- through consideration of the cultural features of particular places or regions within the American Tropics;
- through engagement with ideas of tropicality more generally, in America or beyond;
- through theoretical engagement with the ideas of literary geography or area studies as they pertain to the American continent;
- through consideration of significant circuits (personal, commercial, cultural) within and beyond the area.

Colleagues are encouraged to look at the developing project at http://www.essex.ac.uk/literature/American_Tropics/index.htm

Informal enquiries to Peter Hulme at <phulme@essex.ac.uk>

**Reimagining Western Civilization:
On the 60th Anniversary
of the Writing of
C.L.R. James' *American Civilization***

March 20th, 2009

University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON Canada

The Conference will run from 8:30 to 17:00 on Friday the 20th of March 2009 with a reception to follow.

The co-conveners of the conference are Professor Malhotra and Professor St. Lewis of the English Common Law Section of the Faculty of Law.

TOPICS:

In 1949, the great Caribbean historian and intellectual, C.L.R. James, began to write what would become one of his most important if all too often ignored works, *American Civilization*. Published the following year, *American Civilization* boldly reframed the relationship between popular art and culture, through a discussion of the work of Walter Whitman and Herman Melville. James sought to explore the complex relationship between individual freedom and social life through what he saw as the dynamic struggle for happiness in modern American society. In this one-day conference scheduled for March 20th, 2009, we seek to explore all facets of James' complex life from anti-colonial struggles to racism and Black Nationalism to cricket and beyond.

Please contact Professor Ravi Malhotra at
<rmalhotr@uottawa.ca> for further information.

The Revisiting Modernization Conference **27–31 July 2009 at University of Ghana, Legon**

Conference Theme: *Revisiting Modernization* is an interdisciplinary array of activities that features an academic conference, art exhibition, creative writing competition, film screenings, and two keynote addresses to be held at the University of Ghana, Legon, from 27th - 31st July 2009. These activities, a collaboration between the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana, Legon and the African Studies Multi-Campus Research Group at the University of California, inaugurate an inclusive approach to thinking about the resonance of modernization in relation to the contemporary lexicon of globalization and the shifting parameters of development. This event is conceived as a forum with pre-circulated papers and contributions from a wide range of academics, policymakers, and artists from the African continent, North America, Europe, and beyond.

Current interactions on the African continent with the “Asian Miracle,” along with the Brazilian and Indian, among other modernities, and the vitality of an emerging decentered world economy—once relegated to the anonymity of the Third World—must be grounded in an examination of modernization, and the will towards a new political and social future. This emerging future not only engages with the past, through the evocation of ancestors and rites of passage, such as funerals, but also provides a discontinuous view of historical and social transformations. It is the reexamination of this developmental notion of modernization into a new future that we seek to open up through the activities organized around this conference.

This conference will be the first of three conferences to be held over a five-year period on the African continent (Ghana 2009, Senegal 2011, South Africa 2013) that include academic and public events, initiated by the African Studies Multi-Campus Research Group at the University of California.

Conference Conveners

Peter J. Bloom, UC-Santa Barbara

Takyiwaa Manuh, Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Legon

Stephan F. Miescher, UC-Santa Barbara

For further inquires, please contact:

<africanstudiesmrg@ihc.ucsb.edu>

**RE-IMAGINING IDENTITY:
NEW DIRECTIONS
IN POSTCOLONIAL STUDIES**

6–8 May 2009

Waterford Institute of Technology,
Waterford, Republic of Ireland

Keynote speakers:

**Bill Ashcroft
Declan Kiberd
Neil Lazarus**

This inaugural conference of the Postcolonial Studies Association will focus on a broad re-consideration of the cultural, political, theoretical and practical re-imaginings of the concept of 'identity' as it relates to the field of Postcolonialism and the wider Humanities and the Social Sciences.

The conference aims both to explore current understandings of 'identity' in a multicultural, globalised and conflicted world, and to encourage disciplinary self-reflexivity. We welcome papers that interrogate the conceptual category of identity itself, as well as those that relate to the ways specific identities are constructed, assigned or imagined. Questions to be asked will include: 'What is the future of Postcolonialism as a discipline?' and: 'What is the relationship between received understandings of "identity", specific formulations of key contemporary identities, and our understanding of "the postcolonial"?'

For more information please contact:

Dr Gerri Kimber - <gerri@thekimbers.co.uk> or

Dr Marta Vizcaya Echano - <martavizcaya@hotmail.com>

GLOCAL IMAGINARIES: Writing / Migration / Place

**Lancaster University
and Whitworth Gallery,
Manchester
9-12 September 2009**

Plenary speakers include:

- **Mieke Bal**
- **Roger Bromley**
- **Shirley Chew**
- **David L. Eng**
- **Gayatri Gopinath**
- **Ranjana Khanna**
- **Susheila Nasta**
- **James Procter**
- **John Thieme**
- **John Urry**
- **Robert J.C.Young**
- **Ruth Wodak**

GLOCAL IMAGINARIES is
the closing conference of the
AHRC-funded research project
Moving Manchester.

Please see our website for further details:

[<www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/projects/movingmanchester>](http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/projects/movingmanchester)