



Embodied Encounters and the Senses in Modern Languages

Friday, 25th May 2018

Gordon Room, G34 (Ground Floor), Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU

Programme

- 14.15 Introduction
- 14.30 **Maria Roca Lizarazu** (IMLR/Warwick), 'Virtual Encounters, Tactility, and Community without Unity in Senthuran Varatharajah's *Vor der Zunahme der Zeichen* (2016)
- Linde Luijnenburg** (Warwick), 'Embodied Encounters through Research: *Africa is You* (2016) and the Impact of the Oral Tradition'
- 15.30 Coffee break
- 15.50 **Denise Kwan** (Westminster), 'The Talking of Objects: Using participatory art methods to explore migratory experiences of British Chinese women over two generations'
- Naomi Wells** (IMLR), 'Transcribing and Translating Emplaced and Embodied Encounters into Writing'

Speaker Biographies

Denise Kwan is a final year PhD candidate on the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures at University of Westminster. Having studied Fine Art Sculpture (University of Brighton) and Curating Contemporary Art MA (Royal College of Art, London) Denise is interested in the potential and agency of using creative research methods and experimental writing to explore the relationship between people and objects. Previously, Denise has worked on the curatorial department at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art (2009-2011) and has also written for Art Review and CCQ Magazine. Since 2011, she has lectured on the Fine Art Department at University of Wales Saint Davids and Marangoni, London and currently she teaches on the Fine Art Sculpture Department at the University of the Arts, Wimbledon.

Linde Luijnenburg has recently completed her PhD at the University of Warwick, in which she analyses references to the Italian colonial past in the 1960s-1970s *commedia all'italiana* through a focus on the character she describes as the Black Other. She has published peer-reviewed articles on postcolonial theory and Italian literature and cinema, and on Dutch-Somali literature. She is part of the board of editors of the Italian Studies journal *Incontri*, and is a freelance filmmaker. Her documentary *Africa is You* is a collaboration between English-Dutch filmmakers and Somali-Dutch artists, and she is currently working on a digital platform to integrate the Seventh Art into her research findings.

Maria Roca Lizarazu is a Sylvia Naish Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute of Modern Languages Research and co-organiser of the Warwick Memory Group. She is currently working on a monograph which examines representations of Holocaust trauma in contemporary German- and Austrian-Jewish literature (Maxim Biller, Eva Menasse, Benjamin Stein, Vladimir Vertlib). She has published on remediations of sadomasochism in the writing of Maxim Biller and on figures of postmemory in Katja Petrowskaja's *Vielleicht Esther*. Her research interests include contemporary German-language Holocaust fiction, the "Eastern European turn" in contemporary German-language literature, figurations of in-/hospitality in German culture and thought, memory studies and critical trauma studies.

Naomi Wells is a Postdoctoral Research Associate in Translingual Communities and Digital Humanities at the Institute of Modern Languages Research (School of Advanced Study, University of London) on the AHRC-funded Open World Research Initiative project 'Cross-Language Dynamics: Reshaping Community'. She was previously a Research Fellow on the AHRC 'Transnationalizing Modern Languages' project, where her work and forthcoming monograph focus on the linguistic and cultural practices of migrant and intercultural associations in the city of Bologna, Italy.