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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

New Approaches to Heritage Ethics: Interdisciplinary conversations on heritage, crime, conflicts and rights

Sophia Labadi organised, with the assistance of Sophie Vigneron and Petronela Spiridon, the conference New Approaches to Heritage Ethics: Interdisciplinary conversations on heritage, crime, conflicts and rights, held at the University of Kent on June 23-24, 2014. The conference benefited from the generous sponsorship of English Heritage. The aim of this conference was to consider the three topics of crime, conflicts and rights in relation to heritage in an interrelated and holistic manner. Such a comprehensive framework resulted in novel approaches to understanding and conceptualizing each of these issues, as well as laid the groundwork for new practical approaches to protecting various rights while mitigating heritage crime and conflicts.

Twenty-five international experts from Algeria, Cambodia, Egypt, France, Japan, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the USA gave papers. The first keynote speaker was Anne Lemaistre, Head of the UNESCO office in Cambodia, who spoke about the illicit trade in antiquity in that country. The second keynote speaker was Professor Helaine Silverman, from the Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, who discussed the topic of 'Instrumentalities and Realities in Heritage Ethics'.

The rich contributions and discussions have been summarised in a blog: http://blogs.kent.ac.uk/heritage-ethics/summaries-of-the-conference-24-june/
David Nightingale introducing Anne Lemaistre, Head, UNESCO office in Cambodia
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Heritage & Healthy Societies: Exploring the Links among Heritage, Environment, and Resilience

The Centre for Heritage at Kent (Sophia Labadi) co-organised, with the Center for Heritage and Society at UMass Amherst (Elizabeth Chilton and Matthew Hill), an international conference entitled Heritage and Healthy Societies: Exploring the Links among Heritage, Environment, and Resilience. The conference took place on May 14-16, 2014. The conference brought together around eighty heritage scholars from a wide range of sectors to examine the potential of cultural heritage to contribute to a more sustainable future.

Professor Michael Herzfeld from Harvard University delivered a keynote speech on 'Heritage and the Right to the City'; Dr. Rodney Harrison from UCL delivered a keynote speech entitled 'Towards an Ontological Politics of Heritage in the Age of Anthropocene', and Jane Grenville delivered a plenary on 'Ontological Security Re-visited'.
Keynote Speech by Professor Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University
INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

The identification and appropriation of Cultural World Heritage Sites

The workshop *The identification and appropriation of Cultural World Heritage Sites* (led by Sophie Vigneron), held at the University of Kent (Canterbury), on October 16, 2013 was funded by the AHRC, and aimed to evaluate the implementation of the 1972 UNESCO Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in ten countries (Australia, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, Spain, the UK and the USA). It assessed its impact on national laws and its effectiveness in protecting cultural World Heritage Sites.

The workshop brought together members of the network and key stakeholders involved in Cultural Heritage Management locally, nationally and internationally in order to develop closer cooperation between academics and heritage providers.
PROJECT

Reconstructing the Early Modern Domestic Interior

CH@K has supported a project linked to Catherine Richardson’s ‘AHRC Ways of Seeing the English Domestic Interior 1500-1700’ network. The network explored how people engaged with domestic interiors in early modern England, and how we might use this information to enhance our experience of visiting historic properties today. The CH@K funding has made it possible to document the way this work on understanding historic interiors has influenced the Weald and Downland Museum’s reinterpretation of one of their key houses: the late-medieval yeoman’s house Bayleaf. A short film has been produced to record the production of a new painted cloth for the property, in what they call a ‘once in a generation event’, by Melissa White, a designer who specialises in the re-interpretation of Elizabethan interiors, and works between the heritage and commercial interior decoration industries.

The film explores how research into surviving documents relating to houses can be brought together with extant buildings and objects and modern craft skills to help us to understand how the early modern domestic interior functioned. Understanding what it was like to live in these houses can then help to change the way they are displayed in the present, enhancing current visitors’ experience.

The new cloth on display for the first time.
PROJECT

'See Why'

In 2013, Canterbury for Culture and the Centre for Heritage were awarded an Artswork grant for the ‘See Why’ project. The first aim of this project was to understand the range, depth and reach of the current cultural offer for children and young people in Canterbury District. This was achieved through a research report, coordinated by Sophia Labadi. The second aim was to support a more engaged and active cultural sector in helping to improve the cultural offer for children and young people in the local area. This took the form of a play written by and performed by young people. This play was performed on campus as part of the Gulbenkian ART31 Take-Over.
'Memory Matters: Material Culture, heritage and identities in the UK African Diaspora' is a project funded by the HLF and coordinated by Dr David Garbin (School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent) and Dr WG Pambu (CORECOG, Congolese refugee organization in London) in partnership with the British Museum and CH@K. It explores the link between identities, heritage, material culture and diasporic memory among the Congolese community in the UK. As part of this project, Sophia Labadi and Petronela Spiridon from CH@K prepared a school pack.
PUBLICATION

CH@K’S REF enhancement funding was allocated to Dr. Steve Willis, who needed specialist reports on the querns and Roman mortar at Nettleton and Rothwell, for his monograph on 'The Roman Roadside Settlement and Multi-period Ritual Complex at Nettleton and Rothwell, Lincolnshire' (Volume 1), released in 2013. CH@K was particularly interested in this project as the gathered information would assist in the management, stewardship and preservation of similar sites that are regularly subject to ploughing.
Felicia Fricke has been awarded the Centre for Heritage Scholarship. Felicia has a background in both research and commercial archaeology, having been employed by the University of Reading and Oxford Archaeology South over the past three years. She graduated from the University of Bradford with an MSc in Human Osteology and Palaeopathology in 2012 and from Durham University with a BSc in Archaeology in 2010. Her PhD will address the archaeology and legacy of slavery in the Dutch Caribbean in a multidisciplinary manner, using data from human osteology, oral history, and material culture. It is an area in which little research has been carried out and Felicia hopes the project will have a lasting positive impact upon the Dutch Caribbean community.
Petronela Spiridon was the beneficiary of an Erasmus LLP scholarship, to be a trainee at the Centre for Heritage (May – August 2014).

Petronela is a PhD candidate in Environmental Science at Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania, on the Interdisciplinary Platform ARHEOINVEST, the Laboratory of Scientific Investigation and Conservation of Cultural Heritage. Her PhD research aims to investigate the potential of integrated scientific conservation of cultural and natural heritage. Part of her research focuses on analyzing how the public (in general) and community members (in particular) may contribute to the conservation of heritage.

Graduate of the Faculty of Philosophy (2005) and of Faculty of Theology, specializing in Sacred Art (2012), with a Master in European Studies (2009), she also benefited from an Erasmus LLP scholarship to study art history and cultural heritage at the University of Udine, Italy (September 2010 - July 2011).
SOCIAL MEDIA

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https://www.facebook.com/centreforheritage?ref=hl&ref_type=bookmark

Join THINK discussions on LinkedIn
https://www.linkedin.com/groups/THINK-Heritage-Innovation-Network-Kent-5082583

FORTHCOMING EVENTS


UNESCO Workshop on World Heritage and Sustainable Development. 13-15 October 2014

Dan Simpson’s residence at Canterbury Roman Museum and Roman Walk: 29 September – 03 October. For more information: http://canterburyromanresident.wordpress.com/
WHO’s WHO

**Director**
Dr. Sophia Labadi

**Advisory Board**
- Professor Ray Laurence
- Dr. Nikolaos Karydis
- Dr. Alixe Bovey
- Dr. David Garbin
- Dr. Catherine Richardson
- Dr. Ben Thomas
- Dr. Sophie Vigneron