



**Postcolonial Studies Association
Convention Programme
University of Leicester
7–9 September 2015**



7 September

11.45-12.45	Arrival, registration and lunch (Bennett Building, University of Leicester)
12.45-12.55	Welcome address (Anshuman Mondal, Chair of the PSA)
1.00-2.00	Contemporary South Asian Diasporas (7-1a) Chair: Ana Mendes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Françoise Král – Fractal gazing into the city: The postmodern metropolis in contemporary diasporic writing (Desai, Kunzru)• Shu-ching Chen – Diaspora in (post)coloniality: Migration and affect in <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>• Sourit Bhattacharya – The Naxalite movement and the diaspora: The historical in Jhumpa Lahiri's <i>The Lowland</i> and Neel Mukherjee's <i>The Lives of Others</i>
1.00-2.00	Neo/Post/Colonial London (7-1b) Chair: Sarah Illott <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ágnes Györke – London in Doris Lessing's writings• Ellen O'Donoghue Oddy – Rooted nowhere: The significance of reproduction in Zadie Smith's <i>NW</i>• Stephanie Polsky – Harbours diasporic wealth
1.00-2.00	Citizenship: Performance, Reception, Resistance (7-1c) Chair: Matthew Whittle <ul style="list-style-type: none">• James E. McClung – Angry, young: Class and colonial immigration in mid-century Britain• Richard Bramwell – 'Real Talk', 'Graffiti Scripture' and 'Hold Me Back': Prisoners' responses to the policing of the black body and black culture in two maximum security prisons through rap• Birgit Englert – Multiplying 'origin' - <i>Origines</i> (2013) by Franco-Comorian slam artist Ahamada Smis
2.00-3.00	Interrogating Postcolonial and Diaspora Theories (7-2a) Chair: Alberto Fernández Carbajal <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chung-Hsiung Lai – The Coming People: Contemporary Diaspora and Its Coming Problems• Edward Powell – 'Politics', 'the political', 'the postcolonial'
2.00-3.00	Terms & Conditions Apply: (Im)mobilisation & Project Austerity (7-2b) Chair: Agnes Woolley <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Victor Merriman – Interrogator and suspect: Austerity's tropes prefigured in the theatre of Samuel Beckett• David Peimer – Why colonise anything when you can colonise the mind? How the bird seeks the cage in Pinter, Kafka, and <i>A Pound of Flesh</i> (2015)• Tim Prentki – You kip if you want; sleeping-walking into fascism

2.00-3.00 **Migrant Textual Formations (7-2c)**

Chair: Jenni Ramone

- Rim Makni-Bejar — How postcolonial is the essay? The case of South African nonfiction
- Farzaneh Mayabadi — Iranians in Australian literature: David Foster, *Sons of the Rumor*
- Dave Gunning — Unpacking the metonymy of the postcolonial bildungsroman

2.00-3.00 **Identity, Revolt and Violence in Britain and South Asia (7-2d)**

Chair: Florian Stadler

- Ole Birk Laursen — ‘The youth are fighting it out with Babylon’: Riots and resistance in Dreda Say Mitchell’s *Killer Tune* and Alex Wheatle’s *The Dirty South*
- Roger McNamara — Crossing borders: Cedric Dover, colored cosmopolitanism, and interracial identity
- Juhász Tamás — Collective violence & devictimisation in Salman Rushdie’s *The Moor’s Last Sigh*

3.00-3.30 **Coffee break**

3.30-4.30 **New Locations in Black British Writing (7-3a)**

Chair: John McLeod

- David Ellis — ‘London is the place for me’: Location and new affiliations in contemporary black writing of Britain
- Samantha Reive Holland — Searching East: Imaginative trajectories in Bernardine Evaristo’s *Soul Tourists*
- Helen Cousins — English locations, belonging and black British writing

3.30-4.30 **Muslim Perspectives (7-3b)**

Chair: Alberto Fernández Carbajal

- Esra Mirze Santesso — Diasporic Islam: What does postsecularism mean for contemporary Muslim writing?
- Lucinda Newns — Romantic genre-bending: Shelina Janmohamed’s *Love in a Headscarf* and the rise of Muslim chick lit
- Peter Cherry — Masculinities on the move: Class, gender and transnationality in *In the Light of What We Know* (2014) by Zia Haider Rahman

3.30-4.30 **Translocations: Language and Vision (7-3c)**

Chair: Florian Stadler

- Mary Grace Albanese — “Nobody’s style”: Diaspora, difference, and the translating-narrator in Mérimée and Melville
- Karen D’Souza — Gendered silence in transnational narratives
- Sneha Kar Chaudhuri — Bollywood and diasporic representations: Exploring the Shah Rukh Khan Phenomenon

3.30-4.30 **Double Diasporas and Migrant Labour (7-3d)**

Chair: Anshuman Mondal

- Maya Parmar — Complicating the ‘diaspora’: The Indian Ocean rim
- Joseph Jackson — A Skarrisch Jeremiahd: Diasporic intersection and the Security State in *You Have to be Careful in the Land of the Free*

- 4.30-5.30 **The Work of Caryl Phillips** (7-4a)
Chair: Lucy Evans
- Daria Tunca — A stylistic analysis of Caryl Phillips’s “Made in Wales”
 - Giulia Mascoli — Diasporic experience and music in Caryl Phillips’ *Crossing the River*
 - Bénédicte Ledent — “Extreme consciousness”: Diaspora and mental states in the work of Jean Rhys and Caryl Phillips
- 4.30-5.30 **Fostering, Adopting, Adapting** (7-4b)
Chair: Jenni Ramone
- Deirdre Osborne — Mixed Messages
 - Kadija (George) Sesay — Fostering and adoption: ‘A Case To Be Read’
 - SuAndi — A Platform
- 4.30-5.30 **Turkish and Diasporic Art and Literature: Production and Reception** (7-4c)
Chair: Ipek Demir
- Norbert Bugeja — Melancholic agency and its post-imperial dialectic: the case of Orhan Pamuk’s *Istanbul* and *The Museum of Innocence*
 - Mariangela Orabona — The new barbarians as living archives
 - Selma Erdogdu — Reading from abroad: The American reception of Turkish-German literature
- 4.30-5.30 **Diaspora, Performance and Protest** (7-4d)
Chair: Sarah Lawson Welsh
- Jerome Branche — Linton Kwesi Johnson dub/wise: Power, poiesis, and the London (race) riots of 2011
 - Malcolm James — Diaspora and cultural performances in outer East London
 - Zoë Marriage — Travelling on the tide: capoeira’s fluid diasporic identity
- 5.30-5.45 **Coffee break**
- 5.45-7.00 **Keynote Lecture: John McLeod**
Against Biocentrism: Adoption, Writing, Diaspora
- 7.30-9.30 **Dinner (optional): College Court Restaurant**

8 September

- 8.30-9.00 **Arrival, registration and coffee (College Court)**
- 9.00-10.00 **Debating African Literature and Drama** (8-1a)
Chair: Robert Spencer
- Henry Obi Ajumeze — The Niger Delta Creeks as space for the performance of geo-power and theatricality
 - Alexander Fyfe — Displaced papers: The diasporic status of the Amos Tutuola Collection and the problematics of the African transnational archive
 - Madhu Krishnan — Diaspora, post-nationalism and the location of African literature

9.00-10.00	<p>States of Unsettlement (8-1b)</p> <p>Chair: Nicola Abram</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Holdridge — Convict immigration restriction to Britain’s settler colonies in the 1850s • Agnes Woolley — Diasporas of the sans papier in Brian Chikwava’s <i>Harare North</i> and Jon McGregor’s <i>Even the Dogs</i> • Pietro Deandrea — Forms of diaspora in contemporary British new slaveries
9.00-10.00	<p>Exploring Colonialism, Diaspora and Indigeneity (8-1c)</p> <p>Chair: Alberto Fernández Carbajal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sara M. Gray — Competing colonialisms: The paradoxical relationship between postcolonial and settler colonial studies • Noa Ha — Diaspora studies as site of reconnected knowledge production • Justine Seran — Ekphrasis and ahi ka in Kelly Ana Morey’s <i>Bloom</i>
10.00-11.00	<p>Reconsidering the African Diaspora in Contemporary Literature (8-2a)</p> <p>Chair: Amy Jackson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leila Kamali — Diaspora in contemporary fiction: The limits of theory? • Mark Mathuray —The new African American flaneur: Third generation Nigerian writing and the American city • Lucienne Loh — Slavery and a black diasporic consciousness in Caryl Phillips’s <i>Cambridge</i>
10.00-11.00	<p>South Asian Diasporas and Gender (I) (8-2b)</p> <p>Chair: Lucinda Newns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satyasikha Chakraborty — Travels and travails of the ‘faithful’ Indian ayah: labouring bodies, collectible objects and imperial nostalgia • Emily Rook-Koepsel — Pragmatically Asian: Solidarity and identity at the All Asia Women’s Conference, 1929 • Sibyl Adam —Narrating the everyday in Indian Muslim women’s travel writing to Britain in the Edwardian era
10.00-11.00	<p>Performing New Transcultural Diasporas (8-2c)</p> <p>Chair: Nicola Abram</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miki Flockemann — The pitfalls and potentials of transcultural performance aesthetics in exploring spectacles of otherness from and within South Africa • Rushay Booyesen —Transcultural Hip Hop in new diasporic connectivity • Cathy Covell Waegner — Performing street art: CityLeaks, affiliation, and transcultural diaspora
11.00-11.30	<p>Coffee break</p>

- 11.30-12.30 **New Diasporas, New Technologies (8-3a)**
 Chair: Kasia Mika
- Nicki Hitchcott — The Rwandan diaspora: an unimagined community?
 - William B. Noseworthy — On Vietnamese American literature and diaspora, 1980s – 2000s
 - Zdzisław Głębocki — The Polish diaspora (Polonia) in the virtual homeland
- 11.30-12.30 **Minority Experience, Postcolonial Cities, and Planetaryity (8-3b)**
 Chair: Karen D’Souza
- Sangeeta Ray — Rethinking diaspora: Towards planetary forms of reading
 - Kavita Daiya — Women, migration, and a transnational memoir of Indian-Jewish life
 - Judith Plotz — The Indian sanctuary: Aronfeld’s “Magic Mountain” vs. *Baumgartner’s Bombay*
- 11.30-12.30 **International Crime Fiction (8-3c)**
 Chair: Joseph Jackson
- Sam Naidu — Crime travel: Representations of transnational crime syndicates in South African crime fiction
 - Lucy Evans — ‘Dark networks’: Representing transnational organised crime in Marlon James’ *A Brief History of Seven Killings*
- 12.30-1.30 **Lunch**
- 1.30-2.30 **The Work of Teju Cole and Other Diasporic Writers (8-4a)**
 Chair: Leila Kamali
- Christiane Steckenbiller — Diasporic cityscapes: Getting to know Teju Cole’s *Open City*
 - Ankhi Mukherjee — The walking cure: Vagrants and migrants in Rawi Hage’s *Cockroach* and Teju Cole’s *Open City*
 - Elisabeth Bekers — Diasporic hetero-images of Belgium by authors of African descent
- 1.30-2.30 **Fashioning the Diasporic Self (8-4b)**
 Chair: Marc Scully
- Sarah Jilani — Diasporic memoirs: Eva Hoffman’s *Lost in Translation* and Edward Said’s *Out of Place*
 - Patrick Campbell — Portraits in black and white: Performativity and postmemory in a Jamaican family album
 - Mostafa Gamal — Internationalisation and its ‘others’
- 1.30-2.30 **South Asian Diasporas and Gender (II) (8-4c)**
 Chair: Ana Mendes
- Asma Sayed — Gendering diaspora: Reading Mira Kamdar’s Motiba’s *Tattoos*
 - Henda Ammar Guirat — Shuttling between new homes and origins: The diasporic journey in Sara Suleri’s *Meatless Days: A Memoir* and Bharati Mukherjee’s *Jasmine*
 - Marian Aguiar — “Forced marriage” in the British South Asian diaspora: The legal and literary subject of consent

2.30-3.30 **Africa, Power, Mobility (8-5a)**

Chair: Madhu Krishnan

- Rena Jackson — Africa & the enclosure of the metropole in Thomas Hardy's *Two on a Tower*
- Amy Rushton — Keep on moving: migration, privilege, and inequality in contemporary African fiction
- Robert Spencer — Late capitalism & the State: Representations of dictatorship in African fiction

2.30-3.30 **Migrant Death and Spectralities (8-5b)**

Chair: Sarah Illott

- Imani D. Owens — "Tropic Death": U.S. Empire and the perils of migration
- Janine Hauthal — Ghostly encounters – Diasporic negotiations of transcultural identities in contemporary Anglophone 'Fictions of Europe'

2.30-3.30 **Postcolonial Europe (8-5c)**

Chair: Edward Powell

- Cristina Şandru — Inchoate diasporas: A postcolonial reading of postcommunist fictions of immigration
- S. A. Smythe — *Meticcianto*: Mixed-race migrations in postcolonial Italy

3.30-4.00 **Coffee break**

4.00-5.30 **Journal of Postcolonial Writing 10th Anniversary Celebration**

Welcome address by Janet Wilson

PSA/JPW Postgraduate Essay Competition announcement by Lucienne Loh

Keynote Lecture: Paul Gilroy

Europe Otherwise: Mare Nostrum and the banality of good

Competition, lecture and reception sponsored by the *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, published by Taylor & Francis — brought to you as a celebration of the journal's 10th-year anniversary and of its ongoing partnership with the PSA



5.30-6.30 **Drinks reception (College Court Restaurant)**

6.30-8.30 **Convention dinner (College Court Restaurant)**

9 September

- 8.30-9.00 **Arrival, registration and coffee (College Court)**
- 9.00-10.00 **Literature of the New Polish Diaspora in the British Isles (9-1a)**
Chair: Kasia Mika
- Joanna Kosmalka — Polish transnational literature in the British Isles
 - Tomasz Dobrogoszcz — Mimicry vs. hybridity – Polish immigrants in the UK in post-2004 fiction
 - Dorota Kołodziejczyk — In search for the lost émigrés – Polish (post-)migration literature in the making
- 9.00-10.00 **Diaspora in the Malay World: Literary Engagements with Modernity & Cultural Difference (9-1b)**
Chair: Anshuman Mondal
- Fiona Lee — Diasporic cosmopolitanism and Indies nationalism in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Buru Quartet*
 - Nazry Bahrawi — Diasporic modernity in Indonesia: Island-hopping and Islamic reformism in Hamka's travel fiction
 - Jacquelyn Teoh — Between major and minor characters: The aesthetics of diaspora in Amitav Ghosh's *The Glass Palace*
- 9.00-10.00 **Indigeneity and Postcolonial Resistance (9-1c)**
Chair: Alexander Fyfe
- Maggie Ann Bowers — Indigenous alliances and trans-local narrative styles
 - Emily Kate Timms — 'The truth about stories': Assessing storytelling as a mode of healthcare in contemporary indigenous literature
 - Oliver Nyambi — Writing back to colonialism, again: The novel *The Chimurenga Protocol* and the 'new' resistance literary culture in post-2000 Zimbabwe
- 10.00-11.00 **Postcolonial Sci Fi and Speculative Fiction (9-2a)**
Chair: Sarah Ilott
- Agnieszka Podruczna — Mythology of the space frontier. Diaspora, liminality, and the practices of remembrance in Nalo Hopkinson's *Midnight Robber*
 - Rachel Rochester — Speculative migrations: Narrative inspiration for interplanetary colonization
 - Sinéad Murphy — A comparative analysis of Ahmed Tawfiq's novel *Utopia* & Larissa Sansour's short film *Nation Estate*
- 10.00-11.00 **Reading, Marketing and Consuming Blackness (9-2b)**
Chair: Nicola Abram
- Jenni Ramone — The reader and the local literary marketplace: Black consciousness bookshops in Britain
 - Sarah Ilott — 'Soul food': Female monstrosity, appetite and voice in Helen Oyeyemi's British fiction
 - Ornette D. Clennon — Urban dialectics, the market, the 'black' face of Eurocentrism

10.00-11.00	<p>Dislocations: Australasia and the Far East (9-2c)</p> <p>Chair: Maya Parmar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swetha Antony — The anxiety of exile: Journey as a myth and motif in David Malouf's <i>An Imaginary Life</i> • Hueichu Chu — Writing diaspora fishermen in East Asian literature • Michelle Keown — Of goldfields, markets and murder: Diasporic Chinese and sinophobia in <i>The Luminaries</i> and Chinese New Zealand literature
11.00-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-12.45	<p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Lecture: Gayatri Gopinath</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Aesthetic Practices of Queer Diaspora</p>
12.45-2.15	Lunch & PSA AGM (All members welcome)
2.30-3.30	<p>Caribbean Crossings (9-3a)</p> <p>Chair: Lucy Evans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dawn Sherratt-Bado — Reflection versus refraction: Erna Brodber's <i>Myal</i> and Édouard Glissant's 'Caribbean Discourse' of realism and the unreal • Lorna Burns — From national to world literatures: Édouard Glissant, Dany Laferriere and the global Caribbean • Sam Coombes — Re-thinking cosmopolitanism, creolisation and counternarratives of (hyper)modernity via the oeuvres of Paul Gilroy and Edouard Glissant
2.30-3.30	<p>African-American Debates (9-3b)</p> <p>Chair: Lucinda Newns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyrica Terry — African roots tourism and affective interferences in diasporic connections between African Americans and Afro-Brazilians • Justine Baillie — Diaspora, gender and agency in Toni Morrison's <i>Paradise</i> (1998) • John Masterson — Singular stories/shared destinies'? Debating 'diaspirancy' in the Obama era
2.30-3.30	<p>Definitions of Diaspora (9-3c)</p> <p>Chair: Alberto Fernández Carbajal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edmund Chapman — Jewishness and postcoloniality in theory • David Firth — Exodus of the rich: Understanding Capital Flight as Diaspora in <i>The Late Bourgeois World</i> • Sarah Newport — Queer diasporas: Whose voices against 377?
3.30-3.45	Coffee break
3.45-4.45	<p>Oppressed Communities (9-4a)</p> <p>Chair: Dave Gunning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobna Ben Salem — 'Palestine and away': In search of a homeland in Murid Barghouti's <i>I was Born There I was Born Here</i> • Ana Mendes — Spaces of exception: performing separation walls in <i>Omar</i> and <i>Amreeka</i> • Sarah T. Hamid — Conceptual biases within global Human Rights regimes: The post-colonial plight of State-ed-ness for Kurdish and Yazidi asylum seekers in Iraq

3.45-4.45	<p>Diasporas: Gender, Home and Identity (9-4b)</p> <p>Chair: Jenni Ramone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adele Lee — China’s ‘diasporic daughters’: Female bildungromans by Weihui Zhou (<i>Marrying Buddha</i>), Xiaolu Guo (<i>I am China</i>) and Yilin Zhong (<i>London Single Diary</i>) • Sandra R. G. Almeida — Cartographies of gender in narratives of diaspora • Alakija Oluwafunmilayo Bode — Mediating home in diaspora: Identity construction of first and second generation Nigerian migrants in Peckham, London
3.45-4.45	<p>Visualities: Orientalism and the Posthuman (9-4c)</p> <p>Chair: Alberto Fernández Carbajal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel Fox — Wealth, waste, and whores: The heterotopic world of Craig Thompson’s <i>Habibi</i> • Bidisha Banerjee — Kinship between ‘companion species’: A posthuman refiguration of the immigrant condition in Shaun Tan’s <i>The Arrival</i>
4.45-5.00	<p>Convention committee closing remarks</p>

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