

1. Events

Event Details

Music, Mobility and Migration: exhibiting the life and movement of migrant musicians.

Workshop

Start date : 27 January 2023 09:00

Date de fin : 27 January 2023 17:00

Where : London

This workshop centres around the new Music, Migration and Mobility exhibition launching at the Royal College of Music from January 2023. The exhibition follows from an AHRC-funded project on the musical lives of mobile and migrant musicians who escaped Nazi occupied Europe to Britain in the 1930s and 1940s. These individuals navigated musical culture and institutions in Britain, and at times faced prejudice, exclusion and even detention. The workshop goes behind the scenes of the exhibition and explores its narrative, spatial and material construction. It will raise crucial ethical, political and social issues around how we tell stories of migration and mobility, especially how memory, objects, narrative and audience come together. We will discuss the tensions of design, intent and narrative authority, and we will examine how the materials and spatial organisation of museum and digital spaces can be used and experimented with in order to explore the tensions and politics of mobility, migration and music.

The workshop will be structured around talks, informal discussions, visiting and interpreting the museum, and a special panel with museum and collections curators on the topic of music and migration. Panellists include representatives from the Horniman Museum, the Imperial War Museum, the Museum of London, the Royal College of Music and the Museum of Geography at the University of Padua.

We invite academics in fields such as musicology, cultural geography, mobility and migration studies, and museum studies, as well as museum, collections and heritage practitioners to attend.

We will prioritise applications from early career, fixed term and postgraduate staff and researchers whose travel costs can be met by funding from a UKRI Connecting Mobilities research grant which has funded a programme of events and activities between the Royal Holloway Centre for the Geohumanities; the Centre for Mobilities Research at Lancaster University; the Centre for Transport and Mobility at Aberystwyth University, and the Academy of Mobility Humanities at Konkuk University, Seoul. For reasons of capacity and in order to be conducive to dialogue, the workshop will be small in scale and we expect to accept a maximum of 20 attendees. Funded places will be offered first to UK researchers. Lunch and refreshments will also be provided.

Applicants are asked to apply to Peter Adey (peter.adey@rhul.ac.uk) with a very short biography (no more than 150 words) or a link to their webpage, an indication as to how their interests align to the aims of the day (in a few sentences), and an estimation of travel costs. The deadline for applications is Monday 9th January.

This workshop also forms part of the AHRC-funded research project Music, Migration and Mobility, which is led by Norbert Meyn, and which forms a wider collaboration of researchers based at the Royal College of Music, Royal Holloway University of London and Salzburg University. The project team includes Prof. Nils Grosch, Prof. Peter Adey, Dr. Michael Holden, Helen Kuby, Dr. Sarah Whitfield, and Dr. Alison Garnham, with Dr. Giada Peterle from the University of Padua.

Mobility

For the Mobile Lives Forum, mobility is understood as the process of how individuals travel across distances in order to deploy through time and space the activities that make up their lifestyles. These travel practices are embedded in socio-technical systems, produced by transport and communication industries and techniques, and by normative discourses on these practices, with considerable social, environmental and spatial impacts.

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