

## Histories at Risk



## **Conservative Public History**

**Thu 20 Jun 2024 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM BST**

**Online, Zoom**

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### **Description**

Across the world right-wing popular political movements are harnessing the past as a means for attacking and challenging liberal consensus. From the infiltration work of Restore Trust in the UK to the legislative attacks of Florida republicans, work in this area is increasingly purposeful and well organised.

Whilst conservative popular history is hardly new, increasingly the 'weaponization' of the past has become programmatic and performative. As neoliberal think tanks and groups increasingly collaborate and share practice, method and funding in their resistance to progressive institutions and research, attacks on historical understanding are becoming organised. Historical knowledge production and distribution is becoming strategically addressed by various groups. Conservative approaches to history in public are becoming more performative and need to be understood to be countered.

What does this mean for an understanding of public history? How is the past in public becoming utilised by right-wing actors? What does this mean for an understanding of public

history's activist, liberal, progressive aspects? Does an understanding of public history as something innately conservative challenge our paradigms for work in this area? What is the theory and practice of right-wing public history?

This online workshop is organised by the Histories at Risk network.

### **10-11.15 Focus: Spain**

Gustavo Alares (Centro Universitario de la Defensa): Spectacles of Nostalgia: Public History and the extreme right in current Spain

Tony Bryan (Independent Scholar): Hispanophobia and Imperiphilia: Roca Barea's Conservative Public History

Malena Bedoya (University of Manchester): The Spanish right wing's re-actualised hispanism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Pablo Sanchez Leon (NOVA University Lisbon): Liberalism vs. democracy among Spanish conservatives: Long-term academic and public interplays

### **11.30-12.45 Focus: UK**

Maya Sharma (Ahmed Iqbal Ullah RACE Centre and Education Trust): If Nothing Changes, Nothing Changes

Subhadra Das (Independent Scholar): Francis Galton, Eugenics, and Why We Need New Science Stories

Corinne Fowler (University of Leicester): Beyond History Wars?

Matt Matthew Stallard (Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slavery, University College London): Black Country Culture Wars and How to Prevent Them

### **1-2.15 Theory**

Andrew Woods (): Genealogies of Darkness: How Conservatives use Intellectual History

Neville Buch (Independent Scholar): Buckley in Australia: Considering Local Social Discourses among the Australian States (1938-1987)

Luiza-Maria Filimon ('Ovidius' University of Constanta): Through a mirror darkly: the Anti-CRT panic and the conservative hijacking of the past

Joanna Wojdon (Uniwersytet Wrocławski): Value discourse in conservative public history: Case study of Poland

### **2.45-4 Conservative Public History**

David Dean (Carleton College): Problematic Philately: Collecting as Conservative Refuge?

Alan Lester (University of Sussex): Doing colonial history in a time of culture war backlash

Bram de Ridder (KU Leuven): Public success, academic meltdown. How a conservative government rebooted attention to national history in Flanders

Julia Håkansson (Malmö University): National narratives of Sweden and Denmark

#### **4-5 Focus on Colombia and Brazil**

Jimena Perry (Iona University): Savages and Brutes: Stigma and Stereotypes in Contemporary Colombia

Caroline Silveira Bauer (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul): Past on demand: commercial and political uses of the past by the Brazilian extreme right

#### **5.30-6.30 Focus on Nigeria**

Olukoya Ogen (Osun State University), The Canonisation of Yorùbá History, the Silencing of the Past and the Assaults on a Counter Hegemonic Historical Narrativism

Anthonia Adeleke (Redeemer's University), Public History and the Gender Equality Debate in the Yoruba Society

Tunde Decker (Osun State University), 'This good-for-nothing past!': The 'harmony' of defective memories among Nigerians

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