

4th International
Conference

March 27-29, 2014

Centre for Mediterranean Studies,
Ruhr-University Bochum

The Mediterranean Other The other Mediterranean

Subaltern Perceptions,
Interpretations and Representations

While academic, political and public discourses on the Mediterranean are still dominated by hegemonic perspectives which eclipse other perceptions, interpretations and representations, the focus of this conference will be on minorities and diaspora communities in the Mediterranean. For (even positively connoted) persistent images and narratives of the Mediterranean ("the cradle of religion", "the cradle of civilisation") often neglect that it was the coexistence of such various communities within heterogeneous societies which enabled (and carried) these developments. The conference thus seeks both to analyse and question current political developments, which label the Mediterranean in various ways as "the other", as well as to devote particular attention to non-nation-state and migrant communities' perspectives on the Mediterranean.

■ What pictures of the sea and the surrounding lands do we get when we leave aside mainstream perspectives and look for subaltern and counter-hegemonic perceptions, interpretations and representations? How are conceptions of space structured in such perceptions, how are its boundaries defined?

■ How did migratory societies, trans-national groups and diaspora communities imagine, form and change the Mediterranean? What (narrations and perceptions of) rupture and transformations can be identified and how do these relate to established conceptions?

■ How did slaves and refugees, merchants and those who crossed the cultural, economic and religious boundaries contribute to the historical development of the region? We and how can we still find traces of their traditions?

■ How are subaltern perspectives portrayed in film, art and literature? What role do the internet and social networks play?

The conference aims to bring together experts of migration and diaspora research, Mediterranean studies as well as researchers from religious studies, history, and the political and social sciences. We wish to cast a critical view on the Mediterranean in the past and present with particular emphasis on alternative visions.

Conference venue
Veranstaltungszentrum – Floor 04 - Room 3

Getting there By public transport

From Bochum main station take the underground (U-Bahn) U35 "Hustadt" to "Ruhr-Universität". Turn right, walk across the bridge and straight ahead, leaving behind the "UB" (*Universitätsbibliothek*). After the "Audimax" keep left, enter the "Mensa" building and take the elevator down to floor 04.
You will find us in room no. 3.

By car

You reach the Ruhr-Universität via the motorway junction Bochum/Witten, where the motorways A43 and A44 meet. Take the exit for Bochum-Querenburg, follow the signs for "Ruhr-Universität" and there, please look for the (electronic) information boards.



Please register with: mittelmeerstudien@rub.de

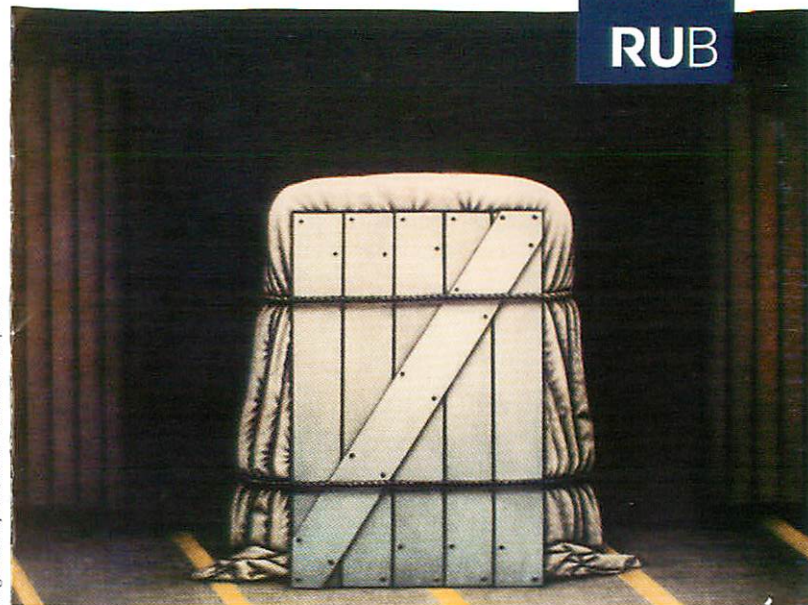
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RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

RUB

Magar Balakjian: „For an Uncertain Departure“



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Ebene 04 - Saal 3

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GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung



Thursday, March 27

- 13.00 Registration
- 14.00 - 14.15 Opening
- 14.15 - 15.00 Keynote
Paul A. Silverstein (Portland OR)
Thinking through Diaspora. Anthropologies of mobility across the Mediterranean
- 15.00 - 15.30 Coffee Break
- Panel 1** *Othring the Mediterranean - The Construction of the Mediterranean Other*
- Chairs **Pradeep Chakkarath** (Bochum) / **Dieter Haller** (Bochum)
- 15.30 - 16.15 **Christopher Schliephake** (Augsburg)
Ithaca Revisited. Othring and the imperialist imagination in Homer's *Odyssey*
- 16.15 - 17.00 **Felix Wiedemann** (Berlin)
Narrating the History of the Other(s). The Near East in European historiographical accounts of the 19th and 20th centuries
- 17.00 - 17.30 Coffee Break
- 17.30 - 18.15 **Anna G. Piotrowska** (Kraków)
Zingarella or How Mediterranean and Gypsy Merged. The story of a certain musical genre
- 18.15 - 19.00 **Paolo Giaccaria** (Turin)
Mediterraneanism(s) at Work
- 20.00 Dinner for invited speakers

Friday, March 28

- Panel 2** *Cross-Mediterranean Perspectives*
- Chairs **Nikolas Jaspert** (Heidelberg) / **Alexandra Cuffel** (Bochum)
- 09.15 - 10.00 **Julia Blandfort** (Regensburg)
Moving Stories. Roma and the oral tradition of a transnational people
- 10.00 - 10.45 **Anna Tozzi Di Marco** (Padua)
The Mediterranean Cult of the Seven Sleepers. A counter-narrative vs. official Islamic representation
- 10.45 - 11.15 Coffee Break
- 11.15 - 12.00 **Moti Benmelech** (Gush Etzion)
Image, Imagination, and Identity. The Jews and the Ten Lost tribes in early modern Mediterranean
- 12:00 - 12.45 **Cristina Balma-Tivola** (Turin)
Routes, Migrations, Stories. Counter-cultural discourses from multicultural theatre in Italy
- 12.45 - 14.00 Lunch Break
- Panel 3** *Mediterranean Models of Belonging and Integration*
- Chair **Volkhard Krech** (Bochum)
- 14.00 - 14.45 **Ferdaouss Adda** (Bochum)
A Never-Ending Struggle? Imazighen today: between acceptance and negation
- 14.45 - 15.30 **Christoph K. Neumann** (Munich)
An Ottoman Template for Non-Dominant Communities in the Eastern Mediterranean?
- 15.30 - 16.00 Coffee Break
- 16.00 - 17.45 **Hratch Tchilingirian** (Oxford)
Native and Diasporic. Armenians in the Mediterranean
- 17.00 Refreshment
- 19.30 **Public Discussion, Museum Bochum**
„Flüchtlinge in/und Europa: Grenzfragen des Mittelmeers als entgrenzende Fragen“

Saturday, March 29

- Panel 4** *Mediterranean Counter-Narratives*
- Chairs **Ilse Lenz** (Bochum) / **Markus Koller** (Bochum)
- 09.15 - 10.00 **Sebastian Elsässer** (Kiel)
Coptic Counter-Narratives to Muslim-Dominated Nationalism in Egypt
- 10.00 - 10.45 **Shlomo Lotan** (Ramat Gan)
Changing Attitudes toward the Muslims in the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. The Crusaders and their varying images of the local population in the eastern Mediterranean basin
- 10.45 - 11.15 Coffee Break
- 11.15 - 12.00 **Iain Chambers** (Naples)
Migrations, Modernities, Musics and a Minor Mediterranean
- 12.00 - 12.45 Refreshment
- 12.45 - 13.15 **Keynote**
Kristin Platt (Bochum)
Closing Preferences. The idea of „identity“ in the Mediterranean
- 13.15 - 14.00 **Final Discussion**

Freitag, 28. März

- 19.30 Uhr **Öffentliche Podiumsdiskussion**
Kunstmuseum Bochum, Kortumstr. 147
- „Flüchtlinge in/und Europa: Grenzfragen des Mittelmeers als entgrenzende Fragen“
- mit Micha Brumlik (Erziehungswissenschaftler), Volkmar Klein (MdB, CDU), Yvonne Rieker (Historikerin), Axel Schäfer (MdB, SPD), Tilman Zülch (GfBV)
Diskussionsleitung: Mihran Dabag (ZMS)