



CENTRE FOR CRITICAL HERITAGE STUDIES

newsletter

For further information and updates, visit CCHS/Gothenburg website at <http://www.criticalheritagestudies.gu.se> and CCHS/UCL website at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/critical-heritage-studies>

CCHS NEWS

Mats Malm new Permanent Secretary in the Swedish Academy

Mats Malm, Professor in Comparative Literature at the University of Gothenburg, and cluster coordinator for CCHS/Embracing the Archives cluster, is appointed new Permanent Secretary in the Swedish Academy.

– The effort to change the Academy has come a long way, and that effort will continue, says Mats Malm.

The voting took place at the Academy's Thursday meeting at the Börshuset in Stockholm, and was announced Friday morning.

– It's really important what's happening now. The effort to change the Academy has come a long way. It's an important task, and if the Academy think it suits me, I'm up for the challenge, says Mats Malm.

Read more at: <https://lir.gu.se/english>



Jonathan Westin new cluster coordinator at CCHS

Jonathan Westin is new cluster coordinator for Embracing the Archives, one of the research clusters within the CCHS.

Westin is an associate professor of cultural conservation at the University of Gothenburg and a member of the Getty Ancient Itineraries Institute.

Jonathan Westin has had a significant role in the Arosenius project, for which he has developed apps and made visualizations around the artist Ivar Arosenius' home and artistry. He has also participated in three parallel projects on medieval church buildings and Etruscan chamber tombs, in which he has

researched the particular with the digital; how something is translated or reformulated to become digital, and what happens to values in this process, what is lost and what is changed.

– The archives have been central in this work, as they have always been constructed contexts and translations of reality. Digitization of archives is therefore a translation of a translation, a new construction for a construction. What fascinates me is the opportunity this offers to think about these contexts and whether there are new ways to stage them on, which gives the archives a new meaning, says Westin.

For most of his life, he has worked with digital representations of human environments and artefacts in various ways.

– The fact that these representations were digital was in itself no fascination or objective, but the tools through which I could stage and position things so that they made sense resulted in digital manifestations. My thesis work touched on the digital, but only as a means of communication among others and with the same opportunities and problems, says Westin.

Research on dance archives creates new relationships



Astrid von Rosen, researcher and coordinator within the Center for Critical Heritage Studies' (CCHS) Archives cluster, has together with eight other researchers participated in the VR-funded ([Swedish Research Council](#)) research project "Turning Points and Continuity: the changing roles of performance in society 1880-1925". Highlighting the interplay between renewal and a living tradition and knowledge transfer in performing arts history the project shows that popular and high culture have not been as separated as previous historiography claimed but mixed in different ways. Theater actors could, for example, continue to develop their star quality by working on completely different

scenes, recording movies, and use the mass media in their career building. Dancers, trained in classical ballet, could successfully perform at variety theatres. Singers switched during their careers between opera and operetta. With this starting point, the archive material from time needs to be examined in new ways and previously unused source material has been used. The results of the project can now be read in the recently published "I avantgardets skugga. Brytpunkter och kontinuitet i svensk teater kring 1900" (LIR skrifter 2019, open access: <https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/59808>). In her chapter, Astrid von Rosen uses archives in different countries to investigate a migration history where a Russian dancer, due to the Russian revolution, came to work in Finland, Norway, Sweden, the United States and in different countries in Europe.

– It is great that the CCHS archive cluster was involved and could contribute to the previously excluded or downplayed scenic expressions and to artists being highlighted. Digital material and digital methods had a crucial importance for the result being so critically interesting when it comes to migration and dance history, says Astrid von Rosen. For me it was especially important to highlight, acknowledge and problematize the various relationships that the work with the dance archives generated. This, in turn, has contributed to continuing research on relationships - which includes the creation of new relationships - in dance archives. Right now, Astrid and two co-researchers are in the middle of a concrete collaboration between Russian and Swedish stakeholders. The archive research is activist in that it specifically wants to open Gothenburg's

locally oriented dance archive for transnational connections.

The work within the project also laid a good foundation for what became "Expansion and Diversity: Digitally mapping and exploring independent performance in Gothenburg 1965-2000" a research project which in the autumn of 2018 was granted SEK 13 million from the Swedish Research Council. In the Expansion and Diversity project, humanistic research is combined with digital epistemology, and digital methods, to solve questions about how a very varied and mobile cultural heritage, which has involved a great many different people and groupings, can be acknowledged, studied and become more accessible.

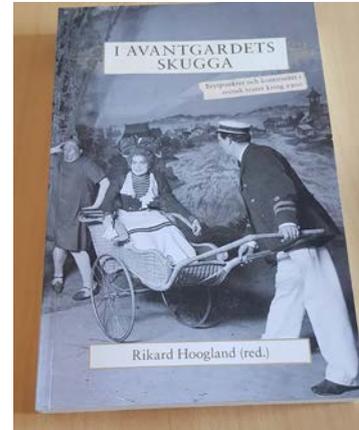
Links:

[Expansion and Diversity](#)

[Turning Points and Continuity](#)

[Special issue from the research project Turning Points and Continuity](#)

[CCHS Archives Cluster](#)



Art project reinvigorates forgotten hospital

Once an epidemic hospital and psychiatric clinic for children, Konstepidemin is now home to more than one hundred artists. A newly initiated project aims to tell the stories of the former residents of the hospital.

The epidemic hospital was founded back in 1886, and operated for more than one hundred years, until it was transformed into a psychiatric clinic in the 70's. The building stood empty for years until the late 80's when a group of artists took over. Today, the building houses approximately 130 artists, musicians, dancers, writers and film makers.

– Konstepidemin is a fantastic spot with all its activities. But when I first came here, I was struck by the notion that the epidemic hospital had left a huge void. After all, it's been one hundred years – the epidemic hospital has been here for a lot longer than the studios, says Tomas Fern, the initiator of the project.



Elisabeth Punzi, a psychologist and researcher who also takes part in the project, agrees:

– Nothing reminds me of the hospital. Together with the artists – who are the leaders of the project – we are going to make a permanent exhibition out of this, she says.

The project started in March with an inauguration and the next step is a public excavation set to take place on May 4th.

– We want people to join, we want to tell the stories of those who were patients and have memories from the hospital, Elisabeth Punzi says.

– I respect the past. Especially when human experiences and impressions are at risk. Artists, poets, film makers and musicians are going to create pieces for this project and convey the stories of the hospital. Their unique interpretations will activate the architecture and the historical area in unexpected ways, says Tomas Ferm.

The project is a collaboration between Konstepidemin, Centre for Critical Heritage Studies (Heritage Academy & Heritage and Wellbeing), the Medical History Museum, Folkuniversitetet and the association Spotcity. The opening of the exhibition is set to 2021.



Photo of Konstepidemin

Can culture save the world? Conference at Backa Theatre, Gothenburg

Astrid von Rosen, from the CCHS Archives cluster, researchers and students from the Department of cultural sciences are part of a conference at Backa Theatre within the EU project "Atlas of Transitions – New geographies for a cross-cultural Europe".

All talks and workshops will take part Friday May 10, (no fees). Program here: <http://www.stadsteatern.goteborg.se/backa-teater/atlas-of-transitions/konferensprogram/>.

In the afternoon Finn Chung will conduct a workshop on "Make your own passport" (in English). Astrid von Rosen will talk about "Body as Archive – Dancing Hierarchy of Needs" (in Swedish). Students from Culture and Democracy will arrange a seminar on "Can culture save the world?" (in Swedish).



Photo credit: Backa teatern

CCHS LECTURES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIUMS, CONFERENCES University of Gothenburg

Public Archaeological Dig at Konstepidemin

Welcome to the public archaeological dig at Konstepidemin on May 4th!



The dig is part of the newly launched collaborative project "KOM" and arranged by CCHS Heritage Academy. The project is a collaboration between CCHS (Heritage Academy and the cluster Heritage and Wellbeing), Konstepidemin, Medicinhistoriska museet and Folkuniversitetet in Gothenburg.

Date: 4 May 2019, Time: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM



Organizer: CCHS HA & HW, Konstepidemin and Folkuniversitetet
Location: Konstepidemin väg 6, 413 14 Göteborg
Event URL: [Read more about Public Archaeological Dig at Konstepidemin](#)
Contact person: [Anita Synnestvedt](#)

Bortom det cirkulära - om vår relation till saker

Lecture in Swedish by Staffan Appelgren, CCHS/MGHF on: "Bortom det cirkulära - om vår relation till saker" in the Higab series on "Circular times 2019"

Date: 4 May 2019, Time: 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Organizer: Higab
Location: Scen 2 - foajé Karl XI, andra våningen i Kronhuset Göteborg

Event URL: [Read more about Bortom det cirkulära - om vår relation till saker](#)

Open lecture with Gunnel Bergstrand

Open lecture with Gunnel Bergstrand who was under treatment at the mental hospital Restad outside Vänersborg in 1956. The experience traumatized her and came to characterize her life. Today she is an activist for patients' rights.

The lecture will be introduced by CCHS/Heritage and wellbeing coordinator Elisabeth Punzi, researcher and psychiatrist, and the film "Pat. är frisk och pigg för övrigt" will be shown.

Welcome!

Lecturer: Gunnel Bergstrand, Elisabeth Punzi
Date: 15 May 2019, Time: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Organizer: CCHS/ Heritage and wellbeing in collaboration with "Nätverket för litteratur och psykologi"

Location: Department of Psychology, Haraldsgatan 1, Föreläsningssal 1
Last day of registration: 13 May 2019 at 12:00 PM.
Contact person: [Elisabeth Punzi](#)

[Sign up for this event](#)

Choosing the Past: Whose stories do we tell?

The workshop is a collaboration between the Department of Historical Studies and the Centre for Critical Heritage Studies at the University of Gothenburg and the Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History and the Museum of Cultural History at the University of Oslo. The deadline for registration is Monday 1 April.

To register for the workshop please e-mail Frida Espolin Norstein



(frida.espolin.norstein@gu.se) with your name, institution, and title of your project. NB: registration is free.

Humanities and social sciences help form the narratives about our past, present and future. These stories are used actively to shape and preserve memories and identities on both an individual and group level, operating on different scales: They are personal, local, regional, national and global. Although they facilitate the creation of communities, a sense of belonging, and shared interests and values, they can also be excluding: Traditional origin stories of nation states often exclude indigenous people or more recent immigrants and refugees. Narratives are also constructed for political purposes, appropriating the past in order to justify political ideologies and actions. The purpose of the workshop is to critically evaluate our roles within the production of these narratives. It aims to ensure early communication and thus cooperation between neighbouring fields that make use of different methods and materials, but nonetheless have similar and overlapping ambitions.

Preliminary program:

Monday, May 20 Arrival in Gothenburg

Lunch 13.30-14:00 Introduction and welcome to workshop

14:00-15:00 **Keynote by Michael Rowlands** "Revisiting 'Whose Heritage': Stuart Hall's work on re-imagining the post-nation"

15:00-15.30 Coffee break

15.30-17:00 Discussion

Common dinner

Tuesday, May 21 9:00-10:00 **Keynote by Peter Bjerregaard** "Embracing the fiction of the past"

10:00-11:00 Discussion

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-12:30 **Keynote by Malin Thor Tureby** "Oral history and Narratives as Cultural Heritage"

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.30 Discussion

14.30-15:30 **Keynote by Kristian Kristiansen** "The popular DNA revolution: the role of genetic genealogies versus cultural genealogies" 15:30-15:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:00 Discussion

Wednesday, May 22

9:00-11:30 Discussion and evaluation

11.30-12-30 Lunch Departure from Gothenburg

For any further information please contact any of the organizers.: Irmelin Axelsen (irmelin.axelsen@khm.uio.no); Aija Macane (aija.macane@gu.se); Frida Espolin Norstein (frida.espolin.norstein@gu.se); Mncedisi Jabulani Siteleki (m.j.siteleki@iakh.uio.no)

Date & hour: 20 May 2019 at 1:30 PM till 22 May 2019 at 12:30 PM

Contact person: [Frida Espolin Norstein](mailto:frida.espolin.norstein@gu.se)

Conference: The Material and Immaterial Heritage of Psychiatry

An interdisciplinary conference on the heritage of psychiatry

Psychiatry has been imbued with controversies since its birth as a discipline. Over the past

decades, biomedical perspectives have become domineering, framing psychiatry as a science disconnected from contextual and cultural values and practices. The mainstream narrative represents the idea of constant progress, with previous psychiatric care being depicted as inhumane and unscientific, while current practices are considered to be humane, effective, and scientific. Emphasizing oppressive historical practices serves to justify current practices and might contribute to the occlusion of ongoing injustice. Throughout history, there have certainly been oppressive and inhumane interventions; there have, however, also been empathic and holistic perspectives and approaches, underlining the importance of wellbeing, meaning making and belonging, but these tend to be excluded from the dominant narrative.

Conference website:

<https://criticalheritagestudies.gu.se/clusters+and+heritage+academy/heritage-and-wellbeing/conference--the-material-and-immaterial-heritage-of-psychiatry>

Keynote speakers: Hans-Peter Söder (University of Munich, Germany) and China Mills (University of Sheffield, UK)

The conference *The Material and Immaterial Heritage of Psychiatry. An Interdisciplinary Conference* takes place at the Department of Historical Studies, Eklandagatan 86, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden, 11-12 June 2019.

Contact person: [Elisabeth Punzi](#)

Organizer: CCHS/Heritage and Wellbeing in collaboration with Dept of Historical studies, Dept of Psychiatry and Dept of Social work, UGOT, Paderborn, Department of English and Bochum, Department of English

CCHS LECTURES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIUMS, CONFERENCES University College London

CCHS Seminar series with James Baker



Curatorial labour, voice, and legacy: Mary Dorothy George, descriptions of art objects, and the making of the 'Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires'

Between 1930 and 1954 the social historian Mary Dorothy George created a monumental piece of scholarship covering seven published volumes of more than 7,000 pages, 12,500 catalogue entries, 1.5 million words. Working at the British Museum before, during, and in the aftermath of war, her deep entanglement with satirical prints during this time changed

the course of her career. It also created a profound legacy. For the extent and depth of her work has made George's descriptions a constant interlocutor between the historian and this remarkable era of graphic reproduction. This talk describes the making of the Catalogue of Political and Personal Satires Preserved in the Department of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum from the perspective of curatorial labour. It uses this lens to consider the curatorial 'voice' of Mary Dorothy George - the structure of her prose, its absences and emphases - that emerges



from corpus linguistic analysis of her descriptions of art objects.

This talk is based on the project 'Curatorial Voice: legacy descriptions of art objects and their contemporary uses', funded under the British Academy Digital Research in the Humanities Grants scheme.

Open to all and refreshments will be served, courtesy of UCL Centre for Critical Heritage Studies. Date & Time: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, 15 May 2019

Location: Room 101, 16-18 Gordon square, London, WC1H 0AG, United Kingdom

Links: [Digital Research in the Humanities Grants](#)

[Curatorial Voice: legacy descriptions of art objects and their contemporary uses](#)

Photo: 2017 © James Baker, by Ahmed Koyes, University of Sussex

EXTERNAL NEWS AND EVENTS

CfP: This year's National Programmes Conference at the British Museum, London, 4 November 2019

The conference seeks to explore equality and diversity in museum practice across the UK. The conference will highlight issues of representation, authority and power with particular focus on disability, class, gender, race and sexuality. Generously supported by the Vivmar Foundation, the day will include a lively programme of workshops, discussion and debate, which we hope will be shaped by contributions from colleagues across the UK.

The organizers are open to ideas and suggestions for the annual conference. For more information contact Georgia Mallin, UK Partnerships Coordinator: GMallin@britishmuseum.org
https://www.britishmuseum.org/about-us/tours-and-loans/uk-loans-and-tours/conference.aspx?fbclid=IwAR3DaQSYa_elxkFl2D8niW6giPKubjVPQEH2ICpD82o1AUk8fPpkf_3zJ3k

CFA BA\Leverhulme Small Research Grants for postdoctoral scholars (or equivalent) based in the UK.

Deadline: 5 June 2019, 5 pm

The BA / Leverhulme Small Research Grants are available to support primary research in the humanities and social sciences. Awards are up to £10,000 in value, tenable for up to 24 months, and are provided to cover the cost of the expenses arising from a defined research project.

<https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/ba-leverhulme-small-research-grants>

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