

29 – 31
March 2017

Terror on Tour

Borders, Detours & Contingencies

An Interdisciplinary Colloquium @ University of Innsbruck, Austria

Call for Papers, Performances & Provocations

After successful interventions at the University of Roehampton (2015) and the University of Chichester (2016), the Terror on Tour colloquium crosses physical, conceptual, and disciplinary borders once again for a three-day symposium at the University of Innsbruck, Austria.

Continuing the critical conversation around the conjunctions of terrorism and tourism, Terror on Tour 2017 will specifically address the status of borders and (terrorist) border-crossings, terror/touring going 'off-piste'/going awry, and the contingencies of travelling at the present historical juncture.

While the fear of terror attacks may have contributed to the Brexit vote in June 2016, ISIS was instantly reported to be rejoicing at the UK's decision. As the mobile sections of British society are left wondering about the(ir) future of travel, far-right parties across Europe are pressing for closed borders. The 2017 Terror on Tour colloquium takes place in the capital of Tyrol: traditionally seen "as a symbol of Europe's peaceful cohesion" (*Guardian* 2016), the Austrian government has announced plans to tighten border controls in order to stop refugees coming through Italy from entering northern Europe. The Brenner pass has since been the site of fierce protests and clashes.

How do state terror and insurgency affect the current re-drawing and fortification of borders across Europe, and globally? What modes of alternative travel, radical tours, and detours can serve to counter the detrimental aspects of the technologies of security established around travelling (racial profiling, the hazards of 'flying while brown' etc.)? What are (the limits of) our roles as academics and artists in view of the current geopolitical conjunctions of terrorism and tourism?

Beyond these and related questions, the symposium seeks to explore cultural, artistic, literary, filmic, theatrical, and performative iterations and representations of escape routes and confinement surrounding the current migration 'crisis', the horrors and terrors of 19th-century travels (the Grand Tour, colonial endeavours etc.), counter-cultural tours (e.g. of Israel/Palestine), alternative mappings of urban spaces, the testimonies of returning ISIS fighters, the current dispute over border-free travel in the Schengen Area, dark tourism and 'black sites', (in)appropriate tourist behaviour surrounding *lieux de mémoire*.

Indicative panel themes include:

Conjunctions of Terrorism and Tourism
Challenging Borders
Terror Tours and Detours
Contingencies: Radical Routes and Risks

Terror on Tour seeks to both facilitate and generate exchanges across a diversity of fields and discourses situated within the arts, humanities, and social sciences. To this end, we look forward to receiving a broad range of proposals for performances, visual arts projects, film screenings, and academic papers. Ideally these should nominally address one of the four proposed panel themes.

Please address your proposals to all four co-organisers (see below). These should include the following information:

- Name & current status and/or institutional affiliation
- A brief bio (no more than 100 words)
- Contact e-mail address
- 250-300 word abstract including project title (in docx or pdf format)
- Indication of the panel theme for which the proposal is submitted

The deadline for submissions is 30 November 2016.

Paper and panel selection will be completed by 14 December 2016.

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Gargi Bhattacharyya (University of East London)
Gene Ray (Radical Culture Research Collective)

Co-organisers:

Ariane de Waal (English Studies, University of Innsbruck): Ariane.De-Waal@uibk.ac.at
Andrew Wilford (Theatre, University of Chichester): A.Wilford@chi.ac.uk
Paul Antick (Photography, University of Roehampton): P.Antick@roehampton.ac.uk
Jonathan Skinner (Anthropology, University of Roehampton): Jonathan.Skinner@roehampton.ac.uk

