

MEDITERRANEAN VOICES FINAL CONFERENCE

*“Turning Back to the Mediterranean:
Oral History and Cultural Practice in Mediterranean Cities”*

Bibliotheca Alexandrina
Alexandria, Egypt
11-13th November 2005

Conference Programme

DAY ONE: Friday 11th November

- 0830-0900:** Coffee and Registration
- 0900-0930:** Keynote Presentation
Julie Scott - Welcome and Introduction
- 0930-1000:** Keynote Presentation
Gunther Dietz Dietz “Devolving, Diversifying or
Commodifying Intangible Cultural Heritage? Lessons
and Challenges for Mediterranean Cities”
- 1000-1015:** Coffee break
- 1015-1215:** Academic Presentations: Thematic Panels

Panel 1

Institutional/Public Agendas	
Convener: David Officer	
1. Vassiliki Yiakoumaki - <i>“On bureaucratic essentialism: constructing the Mediterranean in EUROPEAN-UNION institutions”</i>	
2. Marc Morell & Jaume Franquesa - <i>“Towering Heritage over the Margins”</i>	
3. Raoul Bianchi - <i>“Euro-Med Heritage: Culture, Capital and Trade Liberalisation in the Mediterranean”</i>	

1230-1330 LUNCH

1400-1600: Panel 2

Layered Pasts and Divided Spaces	
Convener:	Aynur Ilyasoglu
1.	Christiane Dabdoub Nasser - <i>“Reclaiming our Heritage...”</i>
2.	Rachel Radmilli - <i>“The Politics of Identity in a Fortified Mediterranean City”</i>
3.	F. Javier Rosón Lorente & Gunther Dietz - <i>“Ethnicizing Islam in Contexts of Religious Pluralism: the process of ethno-religious community formation in the Albayzin neighbourhood of Granada (Spain).”</i>
4.	Aynur Ilyasoglu, Gulay Kayacan & Ebru Soytemel - <i>“Fragmentation and Change in Space and Belonging in Districts of Istanbul: an oral history documentation study”</i>
5.	Elia A. Vardaki - <i>“The Making of “Home” Away from Home: the Multicultural Festival in Chania Greece”</i>

1600-1645: Coffee Break

1700 - 2000: Film and Multi-Media Presentations

Coordinator: Rachel Radmilli

1700: Introduction/Keynote

1700-1830: Oral Histories

- Istanbul *“Moda in our Memories”*
- Nicosia North *“The Transformation of Cultural Life in Northern Nicosia”*

1830-1845: Break

18:45- 1900: Photographic Presentation

- Chania- Photographic Presentation *“Studying the People of Chania through Photography”*

1900-2000: Nostalgia

- Valletta *“Ilhna Beltin” (Voices of Valletta)*
- Beirut *“Wish You Were Here”*

DAY TWO: Saturday 12th November

0900-0930: Keynote Presentation

Tom Selwyn

“An anthropological reflection on the seven themes of the Mediterranean Voices Database”

0945 - 1145: Panel 3

Memories and Dissonance
Convener: Christiane Dabdoub Nasser
1. Margaret Hart Robinson - <i>"Marginal Memory and Cultural Representation"</i>
2. Alia Al Zougbi & Susanne Aboughaida - <i>"Oral Histories of Ras Beirut: nostalgia, memory and the construction of history"</i>
3. Joseph Boulad <i>"Places and Memories in Cosmopolitan Alexandria"</i>
4. Costas Constantinidou - <i>"The Changing Forms of the 1st of October Commemoration through Newspapers."</i>

1145-1200: Coffee Break

1200 -1400: Panel 4

Disciplinary and Methodological Dialogues
Convener: Gunther Dietz
1. Abdelmajid Arrif - <i>"Le projet Med-Voices revisite ou l'archive du vivant"</i>
2. Julie Scott - <i>"The material practices of project implementation and the politics of Europeanization"</i>

1400-1530 : LUNCH

1600 - 2000: Film and Multi-Media Presentations

Coordinator: Rachel Radmilli

1600-1745: **Emerging Communities**
-Istanbul *"Memories about Taslitarla: Gaziosmanpasa in Past"*
-South Nicosia *"Tahtakallas - a non-community"*
-Chania *"Etz Hayyim-Tree of Life: Voices Surrounding a Synagogue"*

1745-1800: BREAK

1800-1900: **Home away from Home**
-London *"Fragments From the Past"*
-Nicosia South *"What shall I do?"*
-Nicosia South-Photographic Presentation
"Off the Map": The Uses of Domestic Space in Old Nicosia

DAY THREE: Sunday 13th November

Roundtable Discussions

This series of ‘roundtable’ discussions are intended to provoke critical debate regarding some of the wider applications of the Med-Voices project, both existing and in the future. Drawing their inspiration from the on-going activities and projects on the ground, the workshop participants will deliver a concise 10-15 minute presentation with a view to stimulating further discussion and debate from the floor. In particular, the participation of target groups in these roundtables, both as presenters and from the floor, is to be strongly encouraged.

Roundtable Discussion 1: Living in Cities

Convener: Julie Scott

This discussion will focus on the challenges faced by the residents sharing public spaces and overcoming divisions in divided cities, and neighbourhoods threatened by social, economic and political forces of upheaval (gentrification, regeneration, displacement etc). In particular it will focus on the role of ‘cultural’ and heritage’ policies in these processes.

Aimed at: town planners/policy-makers, neighbourhood associations

Discussants:

- Nicolas Torices (Inst. Munic. De Rehabilitacion–Granada)
- Liberto Santana & Joana Bardina (Universitat de les Illes Balears–Mallorca)
- Majid Arrif (Association d’Anthropologie Méditerranéenne–Marseille)
- Prof. Edward Zammit (University of Malta–Valletta)
- Ebru Soytemel & Gulay Kayacan (Mimar Sinan University & History Foundation of Turkey–Istanbul)
- Carmensa de la Hoz (House of Africa–Las Palmas)

Roundtable Discussion 2: Intangible Heritage in Education

Convener: Tom Selwyn

A discussion focussing on the various educational applications of the Med-Voices project. How can the materials produced by the project be developed to provide innovative educational material and approaches to teaching students of all ages. To which disciplines/areas of the curriculum can these contributions be made?

Discussants:

- Margaret Hart, Patricia de Carmago & Jose Ramon Diaz Morales (U LPGC & Peritia et Doctrina--Las Palmas)
- Constantinos Stylianou (Intercollege—South Nicosia)
- Susanne Aboughaida (Anna Lindh Foundation--Alexandria)
- Numan Karahan & Gulay Kayacan (Samiha Ayverdi Anadolu Lisesi & History Foundation of Turkey--Istanbul)
- Abdel Rahman Abbad (Bethlehem)
- Ahmet Billuroglu & Guven Uludag(Nicosia North)
- Rachel Radmilli (University of Malta—Valetta)
- Maral Boyadjian (Beirut)

Aimed at: teachers, youth group workers, museum out-reach workers etc

Roundtable Discussion 3: Exhibiting Intangible Heritage

Convener: Margaret Hart

A discussion on the relationship between ethnographic work, digital media and exhibitions. How can the Med-Voices project be used to create new types of collections and display and enhance the experience of visiting museums? Do exhibitions of Med-Voices media act as vehicles of political and public debate/critical commentary on intangible heritage and/or locally relevant themes (eg. The Occupation?). Can they mobilise public debate/action around issues often excluded from public debates on ‘culture’ and ‘heritage’?

Discussants:

- Mark Casha & Edward Said (University of Malta & Ballortta Films—Valetta)
- Burcak Madran (Yildiz Teknik University—Istanbul)
- Sebastian de al Obra (Casa de la Memoria de Al Andalus—Granada)
- Ramon Gil & Alicia Giron (Casa de Colón & ULPGC—Las Palmas)
- Huseyin Gursan (BRTK—Nicosia North)

Aimed at: museum curators and people from museums/galleries collaborating with local projects, artists, photographers/film-makers

Roundtable Discussion 4: Tourism and Festivals

Convener: Raoul Bianchi

What light can the Med-Voices project shed on the ‘intangible turn’ in cultural tourism? How can the Med-Voices project assist in the development of culturally-sensitive itineraries and training for tour

guides/entrepreneurs/planners working to celebrate those aspects of a city's heritage traditionally ignored by guide books and tour promoters? What is the relationship between intangible heritage, tangible heritage and (cultural) tourism in these cities? What are the ethical implications of incorporating intangible heritage into the cultural tourism offer of a city?

Discussants:

- Khoulood Daibes (Centre for Cult. Heritage Pres.–Bethlehem)
- Joan Pasqual (Associació per a la Revitalització de Centres Antics–Mallorca)
- Vasiliki Yiakoumaki & Manolis Gazis (University of Crete–Chania)
- Prof. Aynur Ilyasoglu (Marmara University–Istanbul)
- Margaret Hart (ULPGC–Las Palmas)

Aimed at: tour guides/professionals, local authorities involved in tourism, festival participants/organisers

Final Keynote Presentation / Plenary:

- Representatives of the European Commission / EuropeAid: **Claudio Cimino**
- **Jeremy Boissevain** (anthropologist, University of Amsterdam): commentary on the themes and database
- **June Taboroff** (GHK, cultural heritage consultant)

Final Thank You and Goodbye

London Med-Voices team

Alexandria team