

## **SECOND and LAST CALL FOR PAPER**

### **Conference Announcement**

(for funding possibilities see below)

We have the pleasure to inform you about an interdisciplinary conference in memory studies that is organized by Nordic Network in Memory Studies and held at Lund University in Lund, Sweden **14-16 May 2012**

#### ***Towards a Common Past? Conflicting Memories in Contemporary Europe***

Since the 1980s Memory Studies have developed intensively as a creative, interdisciplinary and well-established field of research. Yet the field remains fragmented: national research environments tend to focus on representations of cultural memory within specific national contexts, and researchers coming from different disciplines are frequently holding on to their own theoretical and methodological approaches. We hope that the conference will generate discussions about the state of the art in Memory Studies as well as the future of the research in the field. How can we consolidate Memory Studies? What kind of new directions within the field we can identify today?

We would also like to involve you in the discussion on the idea of ‘European Memory’, what it is and how it relates to the memories of nations, regions, migrant communities and the world outside Europe. Drawing on recent theoretical insights pointing to the importance of memory migration and mediation, the influence of new media, changing cultural contexts, and memory as a source of transcultural ethics, the conference will explore how memory works as a transcultural and transnational force, mainly but not solely in Europe.

We welcome papers that aim to explore the tension between attempts by European cultural and political elites to create some form of common European memory or at least a unitary memory ethos on one hand and numerous ‘memory conflicts’, caused by divided and contested memories of oppression and violence on the other. Understanding the conflict-provoking potential of this memory legacy and exploring how it may be managed in a reconciliatory fashion constitute an acute challenge to interdisciplinary Memory Studies.

We are convinced that the future of Memory Studies lies in interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary cooperation, however difficult such an endeavor might be. Hence we warmly welcome to our conference scholars from different disciplines – the humanities, political and social sciences (including psychology and communication studies), history, etc.

Confirmed keynote speakers for this three-day conference are

Claus Leggewie – professor of political sciences, director of the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities Essen (KWI), Germany.

Daniel Levy, professor of sociology, Stony Brooks University, New York

Leyla Neyzi, professor of social anthropology, Sabanci University in Istanbul

Jeffrey Olick, professor of sociology and history at the University of Virginia

Louisa Passerini, professor of history at the University of Turin, Italy

Michael Rothberg, professor of English and Conrad Humanities Scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Director of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Memory Studies Initiative

James E. Young, professor of English and Judaic Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst

### **FUNDING**

The conference is able to offer funds covering flight ticket and accommodation for a very limited number of participants (only PhD students and post-docs). We will select grantees on the basis of the relevance and quality of the abstracts. Please indicate in your abstract if you would like to take part in the competition for this grant, and send it to conference coordinator niklas.bernsand@slav.lu.se, as well as the workshop leaders (see below).

### **WORKSHOPS**

The papers at the conference will be presented and discussed in thematic workshops. If you are interested in participating in one or more of the following workshops please contact the chair of the workshop directly (see the contact details below) with a copy to the coordinator niklas.bernsand@slav.lu.se. If you are not sure which workshop is most suitable for your paper please send a short abstract to the coordinator niklas.bernsand@slav.lu.se for suggestions. A selection of the papers presented at the conference will be subsequently published.

- 1)** Remembering forced migrations and ethnic cleansings in Europe (Chair: Barbara.Tornquist-Plewa@slav.lu.se)
- 2)** Memory and Place in European Cities (Chair: Bo.Larsson@cfe.lu.se)
- 3)** Memory, Emotions and Politics (Chair: Tea.Sindbaek@cfe.lu.se)
- 4)** Asymmetric memories in Europe (chair: Conny.Mithander@kau.se)
- 5)** Transnational cultural memory (chair: John.Sundholm@kau.se)
- 6)** Remediating memory (chair: Maria.Holmgren.Troy@kau.se)
- 7)** Memory and Literary Representation (Chair: Alexandre.dessingue@uis.no)
- 8)** Nordic realms of memory (Chair: Peter.Stadius@helsinki.fi)
- 9)** Memory in News Media (Chair: Niklas.Bernsand@slav.lu.se)

### **Deadline**

The deadline for submitting your abstract to a Workshop Chair (with a copy to the conference coordinator niklas.bernsand@slav.lu.se) is **March 1, 2012**.

We look forward to seeing you in Lund in 2012. Please notice that no conference fee is required.

Conference Chair: Barbara Törnquist-Plewa (e-mail: Barbara.Tornquist-Plewa@slav.lu.se)

Conference Coordinator: Niklas Bernsand (e-mail : Niklas.Bernsand@slav.lu.se)