April 18-19, 2013
Academiegebouw – Domplein 29, Utrecht
POSTcolonial TRANSITIONS IN EUROPE
CONFLICT, TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND COSMOPOLITANISM
PEN, Postcolonial Europe Network

Registration: S.Ponzanesi@uu.nl
More info: www.postcolonialeurope.eu
Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Gurminder K. Bhambra  
*Postcolonial Cosmopolitanism in an Austere Europe*  
(Warwick University, UK)

Rosemarie Buikema  
*Transitional Justice, Dialogical Truth and the Arts*  
(Utrecht University, NL)

Kate Mackintosh  
*Development of International Criminal Justice, the example of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia*  
(ICTY, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, NL)

Neil Lazarus  
*Combined and Uneven Development: Towards a New Theory of World-Literature*  
(Warwick University, UK)

Bruce Robbins  
*Cosmopolitanism in Deep Time*  
(Columbia University, USA)

Robert Young  
*Late Postcolonialism*  
(New York University, USA)

Convener: Sandra Ponzanesi

Rationale

This conference focuses on the relevance of postcolonial theories for the understanding of world-systemic transformations and the shifts in geopolitics in terms of conflict, transitional justice and cosmopolitanism. New crises such as conflicts, terrorism, trafficking, and human rights violation go beyond the boundaries of the nation state and European frontiers and require new analytical tools for the understanding of these rapid transformations.

By investigating culture with the innovative, interdisciplinary and transcultural tools of postcolonial critique Europe emerges as a complex space, which is often imagined and oblivious of its politics of inclusion and exclusion towards migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, as well as of its take on internal conflicts, political transitions and cosmopolitan imaginary. In order to tackle the new crises that plague Europe and beyond, this conference will bring together the complementary and synergizing expertise of postcolonial scholars who work across different disciplinary fields such as conflict studies, law, ethics, memory studies, human rights and international relations as well as the arts, visual culture, music and digital platforms. The goal is to inform a new wave of young scholars and academics on how to assess the emergencies and transitions of the present through an ability to acknowledge the working of the past and rethink Europe as a new possible cosmopolitan space.

The conference will focus on conflict, transitional justice and cosmopolitanism examining the narrative that walks the line between, before and after, memory and truth, compensation and reconciliation, justice and peace. Some of the participants will examine communities ravaged by colonialism and the harm that colonial and postcolonial economic and social disparities cause. The comparative and interdisciplinary exchanges will generate a better understanding of difficult pasts to present communities, questioning the many possible trajectories from disruption to truth, reconciliation and healing, with particular focus on Europe.

The conference is free of charge, but for registration and information please mail: s.ponzanesi@uu.nl

The PEN conference is organized back to back with the Edward Said Memorial Conference “In Time of Not Yet” April 15-17, 2013, Utrecht Organized by the Centre for Humanities in Utrecht in collaboration with the Treaty of Utrecht 2013 commemoration.
Preliminary Programme

Day 1 (April 18)
Location:
Academic Building (Domplein 29): Kanunnikenzaal (entrance Achter de dom 7)

9.00-9.30 Coffee

9.30-9.45 Opening
Sandra Ponzanesi (Utrecht University, NL)
Postcolonial Transitions in Europe

9.45-10.45 Keynote 1
Bruce Robbins (Columbia University, USA)
Cosmopolitanism in Deep Time

10.45-12.00 Panel 1
Chair: Graham Huggan
Paulo de Medeiros (Utrecht University, NL)
Postimperial Nostalgia
Lars Jensen (Roskilde University, Denmark)
A Greenlandic Cosmopolitanism for an Emerging Postcolonial Moment
Max Silverman (University of Leeds, UK)
The Palimpsest and Cosmopolitical Memory

12.00-13.15 Panel 2
Chair: John McLeod
Sabrina Marchetti (European University Institute, Italy)
The Colonial Legacy in the Memories of Migrant Women: Eritrean and Afro-Surinamese Domestic and Care Workers in Postcolonial Europe
Koen Leurs (Utrecht University, NL)
Technology as a Refuge? Opportunities and Constraints in Migrant’s Use of Digital Media.
Jess Bier (University of Maastricht, NL)
The Colonizer in the Computer: The British and Israeli Influence in Palestinian Authority Cartography

13.15-14.00 Lunch break

Day 1 (April 18, continued)

Location:
Academic Building (Domplein 29): Kanunnikenzaal (entrance Achter de dom 7)

14.00-15.00 Keynote 2
Neil Lazarus (Warwick University)
Combined and Uneven Development: Towards a New Theory of World-Literature

15.10-16.15 Panel 3
Chair: Paulo de Medeiros
John McLeod (University of Leeds, UK)
Transculturation and Adoptive Being
Dirk Göttche (University of Nottingham, UK)
Cosmopolitanism, Emplacement and Identity in Recent Postcolonial Literature in German
Birgit Kaiser (Utrecht University, NL)
The Subject of Transnational Literature: Diffraction in the Mirror in E.S Özdamar’s ‘Der Hof im Spiegel’

16.15-16.30 Coffee Break

16.30-17.30 Keynote 3
Robert Young (New York University)
Title: Late Postcolonialism

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Day 2 (April 19, continued)

14.00-15.00  Keynote 6
**Gurminder K. Bhambra** (Warwick University, UK):
*Postcolonial Cosmopolitanism in an Austere Europe*

15.00-16.15  Panel 5
Chair: Lars Jensen
**Lene Bull Christiansen** (Roskilde University, Denmark)
*Public Intellectuals and Affective Icons: The Afropolitanism of Danish Aid Celebrities*

**Sara Fekadu** (University of Munich, Germany)
*Re-Mapping Uneven Geographies: Globalized Labour, Neo-Imperialism and the Body in the Cinematic Art of Steve McQueen*

**Brigitte Hipfl** (University of Klagenfurt, Austria)
*Exploring Migratory Culture in Contemporary Austrian Films*

16.15-17.30  Panel 6
Chair: Kristín Loftsdóttir
**Gianmaria Colpani** (Utrecht University, NL)
*‘The Sexual Fortress’: Sexual Nationalisms and the European Assemblage*

**Peter Maurits** (Munich University, Germany)
*From Member to Migrant: On the Future of the European Union’s Exclusion Policy*

**Emanuelle Santos** (Utrecht University, NL)
*Postcolonial Thought on the Postcolony: the Same European Dance with its Other?*

17.30-17.45  Closing Remarks

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Postcolonial Europe Network PEN is funded by NWO (Dutch National Endowment for the Humanities).

The project, conducted by Sandra Ponzanesi and Paulo de Medeiros (Utrecht University, the Netherlands) in collaboration with European partners, aims to establish an international platform for developing research into new forms of conceptualizing Europe from a multidisciplinary perspective engaging several disciplines (literary, media, gender studies) in the Humanities and the Social Sciences (sociology, political theory). PEN aspires to develop theoretical and methodological tools for representing and imagining Europe in a postcolonial and postimperial perspective.

**PEN International partners are:** Utrecht University, University of Leeds, University of Munich, London School of Economics, University of Naples, University of Roskilde and University of Iceland.

Link to the PEN website: [http://www.postcolonialeurope.eu](http://www.postcolonialeurope.eu)