

This conference aims to stimulate the use of notions of home and home making as ethnographic and theoretical lenses through which to view aspects of the relation between global migrations (of all kinds, including tourism) and trans-national identities.

Rapport and Overing (2007) identify home as a 'key concept' in social anthropology central to questions of identity. They further argue that, given a world shaped by migration, both concepts need defining in a way "that transcends traditional definitions of identity in terms of locality, ethnicity, religiosity, and/or nationality and is sensitive to allocations of identity which may be multiple, situational, individual, and paradoxical" (176).

Throughout the 1990s and 2000s there has been a consistent stream of writings on the theme of the relation between mobility and the idea of home which have moved beyond traditional anthropological boundaries: Mack (1991) and Bammer (1992) on the theoretical possibilities of the term home in a globally mobile world, Robertson's (1994) collection of travellers' tales about displacement and loss of home, Kain (1997) and Kheter (2001) on leaving home in South Asia and Lebanon respectively, Levitt and Waters (2002) on how migration has challenged traditional meanings of home, Long and Oxfeld (2004) on refugees and ideas of home, Walters (2005) on home and diasporas in black writing, and others. However, Aguilar's (2002:24) contention that "ubiquitous in the migration literature, 'home' and 'family' are words that appear self-evident but, on reflection, signal a domain of problematic assumptions, methodological complexities, and hegemonic discourses and ideologies .. magnified by processes of movement and displacement" still has considerable traction today.

This conference thus sets out to respond both to the considerable and growing general interest in the relation between mobilities and ideas of home but also to the uneven and arguably thin engagement with the field within the social sciences. We hope to generate a research framework capable of grasping the theoretical and analytical possibilities that the relation between home and mobility promises.

### **CENTRE FOR MIGRATION AND DIASPORA STUDIES**

The Centre aims to foster and promote a supportive research and teaching environment for scholars concerned with issues of migration and diaspora, drawing on the skills and expertise of academics situated in disciplines such as anthropology, history, development studies, politics, religion, music and art history. The Centre covers not only the traditional SOAS heartlands of Asia and Africa, but also issues of migration and diaspora in Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean.

#### **CONTACT:**

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7898 4699

E-mail: [pr1@soas.ac.uk](mailto:pr1@soas.ac.uk)

[www.soas.ac.uk/migrationdiaspora](http://www.soas.ac.uk/migrationdiaspora)



# TRAVELLING TOWARDS HOME: MOBILITIES AND HOME MAKING

*A conference organised by the SOAS Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies to launch the new MA in The Anthropology of Travel, Tourism and Pilgrimage*

**23 & 24 June 2011 / 10am -5pm / Khalili Lecture Theatre**  
**SOAS, University of London, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG**

# PROGRAMME

## DAY ONE ~ 23 JUNE 2011

9.30	Registration
10.00 - 11.00	Inaugural session (Parvathi Raman and Tom Selwyn)
11.00 - 11.30	Tea
11.30 - 1.00 <b>PANEL 1</b>	<p>1. David Crouch (University of Derby) A Reflexive Consideration of Space, Belonging, Disorientation and Identity</p> <p>2. Katie Walsh (University of Sussex) Expatriate Belongings: older people remember diasporic homes</p> <p>3. Susanne Wessendorf (Max Plank Institutte) 'Roots Migrants': the second generation 'returning' home</p> <p>4. Kanwal Mand (University of Brighton) Travel, Home and the Lifecourse</p> <p>Discussant</p>
1.00 - 2.00	Lunch
2.00 - 3.30 <b>PANEL 2</b>	<p>1. Nicola Frost (SOAS Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies) Remembering Maluku Manise: Moluccans in Australia and the violence of representation</p> <p>2. Philippa Chandler (Curtin University of Technology, Perth) Home and Away: Young Australians in London</p> <p>3. Fateme Etemaddar (University of Otago, New Zealand) Domestic Trips in Diaspora: a coping strategy for home making in another land</p> <p>4. Colin Murray (University of Manchester) Anecdotes of Movement and Belonging: the professional and the personal</p> <p>Discussant</p>
3.30 - 4.00	Tea
4.00 - 5.30 <b>PANEL 3</b>	<p>1. Aroosa Kanwal (University of Lancaster) Constructing Cyber-Identities: transnational diaspora linkages in Kamila Shamsie's Kartography</p> <p>2. Shantini Pillai and Sharenee Paramasivam (University of Kebangsaan, Malaysia) Transnationalism, Memory and New Malaysian Diasporic Writing</p> <p>4. Chand Basi and Kaveri Qureshi (University of Sussex) 'Is Jalandhar really a cruising ground?' Queer Diasporic Homes and Journeys</p> <p>Discussant</p>
7.00	Dinner for Speakers

## DAY TWO ~ 24 JUNE 2011

10.00 - 11.30 <b>PANEL 4</b>	<p>1. Anna de Santos (SOAS) Returning Home: what home? where is home? post-war return and re-settlement in northern Mozambique</p> <p>2. Madeleine Hatfield (Royal Holloway) Return Migration, Home and Family: theories, relationships and contributions.</p> <p>3. Anne Arnone (University of Sussex) Eritrean Diasporic Tourism</p> <p>4. Iride Azara (University of Derby) Mobilising identity and 'the sense of home' at the festival: an exploration of La Cavalcata Sarda, Sardinia</p> <p>Discussant</p>
11.30 - 11.45	Tea
11.45 - 1.15 <b>PANEL 5</b>	<p>1. Marina Sapritsky (LSE) Building a Home in the Diaspora? Jewish returnees and transmigrants in post Soviet Ukraine</p> <p>2. Narmala Halstead (University of East London) 'Outside Stigma' and the Local: 'chaste brides', multi-skilled experts and others</p> <p>2. Pratima Sambajee (University of Sunderland) 'Home'-making in Postcolonial Contexts: on the spatial reconstruction of 'home' among the Indian diaspora in Mauritius</p> <p>3. Saffron Karlsen (UCL) European Identities and Feeling at Home among Muslims living in England, Germany and Spain</p> <p>Discussant</p>
1.15 - 2.15	Lunch
2.15 - 3.45 <b>PANEL 6</b>	<p>3. Maja Korac (University of East London) Remaking Home in Exile: challenging notions of territorially bound places and identities</p> <p>2. Megha Amrith (University Of Cambridge) Home in the Transit City</p> <p>1. Alistair Hunter (University of Edinburgh) Home as Inclusion in Social Systems</p> <p>Discussant</p>
3.45 - 4.00	Tea
4.00 - 5.00	Closing session round table discussion with Avtar Brah, David Crouch, Parvathi Raman, and Tom Selwyn
	Drinks