

CfP ISCH Conference University of Mainz

16. – 19. September 2020

“Cultures of Participation and Belonging.”

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Panikos Panayi (School of Humanities, De Montfort University Leicester)

Nicholas Terpstra (Department of Italian Studies, University of Toronto)

The International Society for Cultural History invites paper and panel proposals for its 2020 annual conference on Cultures of Participation and Belonging.

At the latest since 2015, the self-image of the European states as open societies - open for all - is under massive pressure. Not only the so called “refugee crises”, but also the discussion about core values of the European culture have shown that the culture of participation and belonging – once regarded as backbone of the “new” Europe after 1990 – are questioned and under attack from different actors.

Therefore, the terms of 'participation' and 'belonging' vs. 'exclusion' have formed public and political debates as hardly any other terms had in the last years. While 'participation' is primarily a viral topic in educational politics and institutions, the term 'belonging' is central to the discussion of practices of enclosure and expulsion foremost in domestically and security-political contexts. The perceived current significance and the highly emotional discourse have disguised the fact that inclusion and belonging are phenomena of human societies, which overlap time, space and different media. These phenomena are also an important issue for the understanding and interpretation of one's world.

Furthermore, cultures of participation and belonging are a crucial factor for the stability of given societies. However, today we experience some of the possible consequences for the social and political system if these cultures are under pressure. Therefore, the ISCH will analyse the historical development, the forms and consequences of such cultures at our next conference in 2020. The objective of the conference is to shine a spotlight on the question regarding the forms and narratives of phenomena of belonging and its opposite in specific historical constellations and/or contemporary literature, art etc.

Topics may include (but are by no means limited to):

Locations of belonging

Intentions of (self)exclusion

Socio-economic reasons for exclusion

Forms of affiliation and membership

Discrimination (positive and negative)

Shaping identities

Narratives of exclusion and/or belonging

Knowledge and Belonging

Relationship between scientific discourse and common knowledge on exclusion or belonging,

Methods of enclosure, expulsion and sorting

Representations of belonging in art and literature

In addition, we also warmly welcome papers or panels discussing:

Theory and methodology of cultural history,

New approaches to cultural history

History of cultural history

This year the society also welcomes poster presentations by PhD-Students, who like to showcase their projects by the presentation of a poster.

Presentations should be no more than 20 minutes in length and delivered in English:

Individual paper proposals should consist of an abstract (not exceeding 300 words) and a 1-2 page CV.

Panel proposals should consist of the name of the organizer, an overview of the panel (not exceeding 500 words), abstracts for each paper (not to exceed 300 words), and 1-2 page CVs for each presenter.

DEADLINE: 15. December 2019

Proposals and inquiries should be sent to: ISCHMAINZ2020@gmail.com

More information can be found on the official website of the conference: [tba](#)

Those whose abstracts are accepted for presentation will be expected to become members of the ISCH. Further details can be found on the society's website:

<http://www.culthist.net/membership/>

Presenters are invited to consider submitting articles to the ISCH's official peer-reviewed journal, *Cultural History* (published by Edinburgh University Press), and monographs to the book series it publishes with Routledge. Links to each respective publication opportunity follow: <http://www.euppublishing.com/loi/cult> and <https://www.routledge.com/Studies-forthe-International-Society-for-Cultural-History/book-series/SISCH>

Conference chair: Prof. Dr. Jörg Rogge (Mainz University)