



Speaker Biographies

Britain's Child Migrants: interpreting the past and remembering today

One Day Conference

Saturday 11 June 2016

Esther Lutman: Curator V&A Museum of Childhood

Esther Lutman, Assistant Curator at the V&A Museum of Childhood has worked with the Museum collections for over ten years and she specialises in the material culture of childhood. Her areas of expertise include toys, furniture and nursery. Esther has curated a number of high profile exhibitions including 'Space Age: Exploration, Design and Popular Culture' in 2007 and co-curated 'Cut it, Fold it, Build it with Paper' in 2010. She works with researchers, communities and schools to provide access to the Museum's collections and to support the Museum's programming. She has a deep interest in the history of childhood and in telling children's stories through their own voices, which this exhibition on child migration explores. She regularly appears in the media as a spokesperson for the museum.

Kim Tao: Curator Australian National Maritime Museum

Kim Tao is the Curator of Post-Federation Immigration at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney. She has a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Museum Studies, both from the University of Sydney. Her research interests include migration, memory and material culture in museums, transnational histories and histories of child migration. In 2008 Kim was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study strategies for building partnerships between museums and culturally diverse communities in the UK, Canada and the US. She has presented conference papers in Australia and overseas, and has published chapters for *Migrating Heritage:*

Experiences of Cultural Networks and Cultural Dialogue in Europe (2014) and *Migration by Boat: Discourses of Trauma, Exclusion and Survival* (2016).

Gordon Lynch: Michael Ramsey Professor of Modern Theology, University of Kent

Gordon Lynch is Michael Ramsey professor of modern theology at the University of Kent. His work focuses on the cultural sociology of the sacred, and the relationships between religion, media and contemporary culture. A central concern in his work is the exploration of how powerful moral motivations can lead to policies and actions that are socially harmful. He is the academic curator of [*'On Their Own: Britain's Child Migrants'*](#).

Stephen Constantine: Emeritus Professor of Modern British History at Lancaster University.

Stephen Constantine is Emeritus Professor of Modern British History at Lancaster University. His teaching and academic research on domestic British and overseas British Empire and Commonwealth history help explain his interest in the story of child migration – as does his awareness that less fortunate children born like him in 1947 became child migrants. His published works include aspects of the history of child migration, and he gave written and oral evidence to the Australian Senate Inquiry in 2000-1.

Eithne Nightingale: Researcher

Eithne Nightingale is researching child migration to East London from 1930 to the present day as part of a collaborative PhD between Queen Mary University of London and the V&A. As part of this she has travelled internationally to different museums, galleries and other venues to see how they have approached issues of migration. See her blog on www.eithnenightingale.wordpress.com. She was previously Head of Equality and Diversity at the V&A and is co-editor of *Museums, Equality and Social Justice*.

Jini Rawlings: Artist

Jini Rawlings makes multi-screen and mixed media installations using asynchronous video loops or glass and black / semi silvered mirrors to create fragmented 'stories' based on archival research and location filming. She makes pieces about journeys and have a particular interest in shorelines and liminal spaces/identities. Jini is a Winston Churchill Fellow, which enabled her to sail to Canada in 2005 and explore some of the key places related to child and other migrations.

As artist in residence at the National Maritime Museum in 2005-6 she sailed to Canada and made work about the Home children sent there from England in the 19th century and the boy sailors who worked alongside them. Her work has a strong maritime theme including WAVE/ING a series of installations inspired by journeys to Iceland and Shetland in the 19th and 20th century and shown at the Aberdeen Maritime Museum 2012 and Amy Emily Emma and the Four Times of Day (Vernet) inspired by Emma Lady Hamilton shown at Uppark House 2014.

Rosemary Harris: Writer and performer

Rosemary Harris is an Australian writer and performer, a NIDA graduate, and an MA (Distinction) in Creative and Life Writing, Goldsmiths. Her work has been widely published, including *Poetry London*, *Index on Censorship*, *Magma*, *Staple*, *Chroma*, and various anthologies. A former member of the Sydney Theatre Company, Rosemary has performed at Sydney Opera House, New York's Summerfare Festival, and her UK performances include the Southbank Centre, Bristol Poetry Festival, Soho Writers' Festival, Radio 3's The Verb, and the Australia and NZ Festival of Arts and Literature. Her spoken word company *Papertale* has produced the *Suitcase Trilogy* of shows for young people, including *A Roo In My Suitcase*, *One Way Ticket* (based on the experiences of British child migrants and performed at the V&A Museum of Childhood), and *Map of Me*, in association with Half Moon Theatre and Apples and Snakes, and funded by Arts Council England. rosemaryharris.org

John Leonard Managing Director of Smooth Operations (Productions) Ltd

John Leonard is Managing Director of independent radio and television production company Smooth Operations (Productions) Ltd. John was a professional folk musician

until he joined the BBC in 1976. In 1980 he moved to Manchester to produce programmes for Radio 1 and Radio 2.

John left the BBC in 1995 to form Smooth Operations who produce (amongst many other programmes) Mark Radcliffe & Stuart Maconie Show (6Music), the Radio Ballads, Count Arthur Strong's Radio Show (Radio 4), The Mark Radcliffe Folk Show (Radio 2) The BBC Folk Awards (Radio 2) the radio adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's WarHorse (Radio 2) as well as a stream of social history music documentaries, one-off music specials and radio series and the television coverage of the Cambridge Folk Festival.

John has been nominated for nine Sony awards, winning 6 golds including in 2007 the Radio Ballads and The Mark Radcliffe show both for BBC Radio 2. He was made a Fellow of The Radio Academy in 2007.

John produced the album The Ballads Of Child Migration and devised the stage show which was a direct result of the success of the album.

Chris While and Julie Matthews: Musicians

Chris While and Julie Matthews have been a duo for 22 years receiving 10 BBC Folk Award nominations and winning in the best duo category in 2009. As well as their extensive tours which take them around the world, they have released 10 studio albums and are members of the celebrated Christmas band, St Agnes Fountain. Since 2006, Julie has been a leading writer for the BBC Radio Ballads. Chris tours each year with her daughter Kellie www.whileandmatthews.co.uk