

The Place of Memory in diasporic cultures

Le Colloque international «The Place of Memory in the literature and cultural productions of Anglophone diasporas » porte sur les productions culturelles des diasporas du domaine anglophone (Inde, Caraïbes, Afrique) vers les pays anglophones (Canada, Etats-Unis, Royaume-Uni) dans la période contemporaine. Organisé en partenariat avec l'Université d'Edimbourg et co-organisé par Françoise Kral, Professeur de Littérature britannique et d'études post-coloniales à l'UCBN, Sam Coombes (University of Edinburgh) et Corinne Bigot, Université de Paris X Nanterre La Défense, le colloque se tiendra à la MRSH les 3 et 4 octobre 2013 dans la salle des Thèses et la salle des Actes de la Maison de la Recherche et des Sciences Humaines et rassemblera une quarantaine de participants venus du monde entier, dont deux conférenciers de renommée internationale, le Professeur Robert Young, Silver Professor à NYU (New-York) et Jean-Jacques Lecercle, Professeur émérite à l'université de Nanterre La Défense.

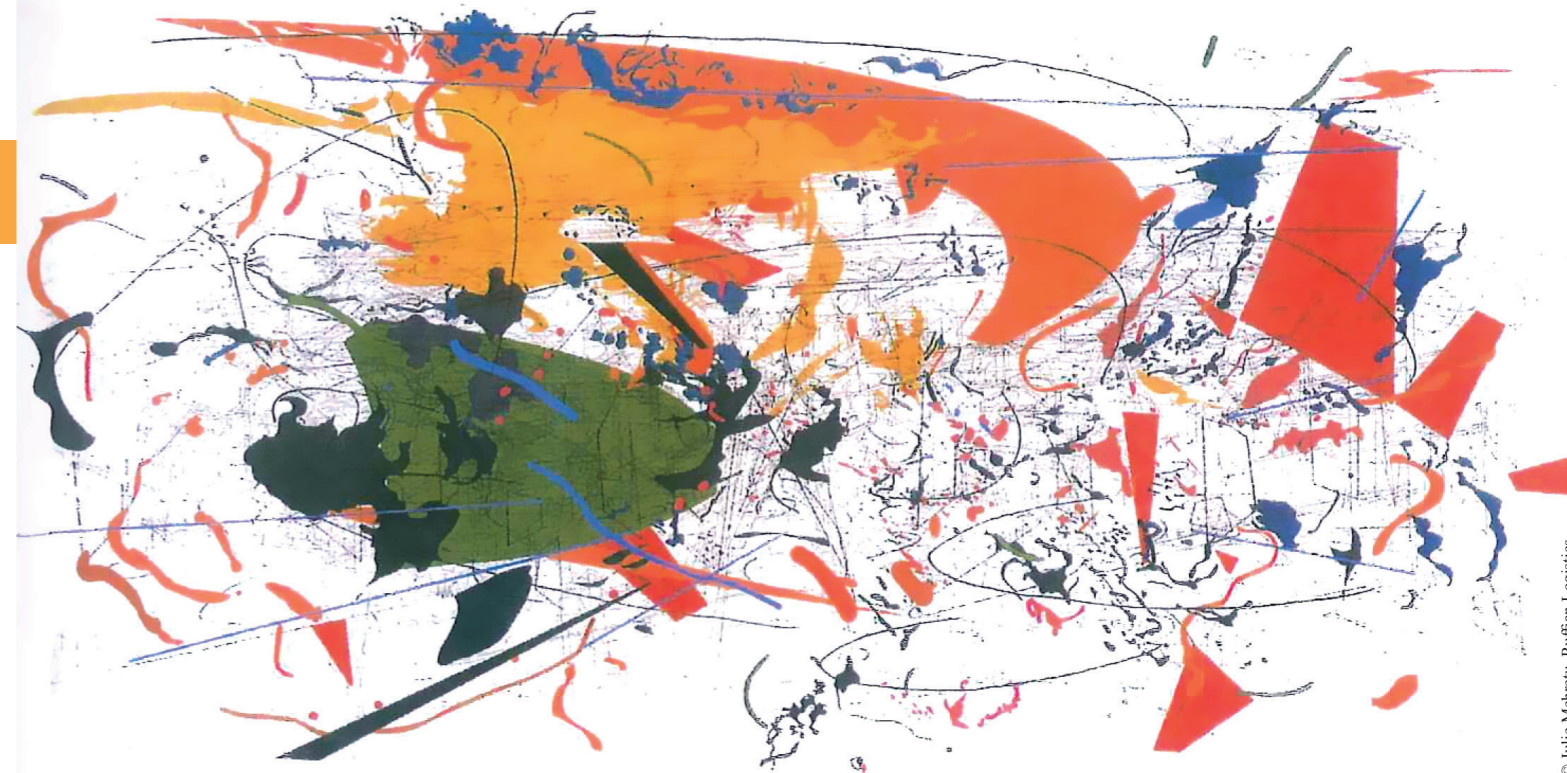
Le thème du colloque est la mémoire. Le titre anglais « The place of Memory » interroge la place prépondérante de cette question, qui a souvent été étudiée dans sa dimension mélancolique et nostalgique. Le colloque suggère une autre approche portant sur les modalités de construction et de survie d'une identité d'origine qui entre en tension avec la définition identitaire du pays d'accueil. Cette problématique invite à une réflexion plus large sur les enjeux économiques et politiques des constructions identitaires nationales et de la façon dont elles s'appuient sur une mémoire collective. Cette confection d'une mémoire collective devient problématique à l'heure actuelle en raison du développement sans cesse croissant de « marges » et de populations qui se chiffrent en millions de personnes vivant en marge des nations. Parmi ces questions, celles de la citoyenneté et de l'appartenance nationale dans un contexte de transnationalisme, mais aussi la façon dont le cas de ces populations et leur rapport à la sphère du politique est susceptible de devenir un paramètre clé de la compréhension du contexte politique international à l'heure actuelle.

3-4 October 2013, Université de Caen Basse-Normandie

(Françoise Kral UCBN, Sam Coombes University of Edinburgh and Corinne Bigot, Université Paris 10 Nanterre La Défense)

Diasporic studies have often made diaspora rhyme with nostalgia, focusing on the ways in which the loss of the homeland coincides with a dynamics of reminiscence inevitably triggered by that moment of loss. In this perspective, the diasporic subject is, to paraphrase Emmanuel Nelson, a «fossilized fragment that seeks refossilization.»

A large number of literary works but also of visual artistic creations and films undeniably deal with the difficulties inherent in adjusting to a new land, a fact which often makes it tempting for diasporians to seek to revive the homeland and keep it alive through an active process of re-remembering. But there is a lot more to the dynamics of diasporization and remembrance than this rather obvious starting point. In recent years diasporic studies have opened up new areas of investigation which have either confirmed or put into question this link between nostalgia and diaspora. Trauma studies have evidenced the haunting presence of past events and their lingering presence in the lives of diasporians through trauma, and the nature of memory -- its making, remaking and sometimes its packaging and «marketing» (Huggan) -- has also constituted an area of investigation. Indeed, in the wake of geographer David Harvey's concept of heritage culture, many critics have interrogated the validation and instrumentalisation of the margins, sometimes through a re-/creation of collective memories.



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3-4 octobre 2013

UNIVERSITÉ DE CAEN – CAMPUS 1
MAISON DE LA RECHERCHE EN SCIENCES HUMAINES
SALLE DES ACTES – SALLE DES THÈSES

ÉQUIPE ERIBIA

CONFÉRENCIERS INVITÉS :
Jean-Jacques Lecercle (Paris Ouest)
et Robert Young (NYU)

ORGANISATEURS :
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THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER

FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER

9h00-9h30: Registration at the MRSH (Maison de la Recherche et des Sciences humaines),
Université de Caen, Campus 1

9h30-10h00: Room 027 Salle des Actes :

Opening of the conference by Professor **Anca Cristofovici**, Director of the ERIBIA, University of Caen.

10h00-11h00: WORKSHOP 1.1. Room 027 Salle des Actes
Shaping collective identity through memory (India, Bangladesh).
Chair: **Françoise Král**

Jennifer Randall, Université Paris 8
'Imagined communalisms : disseminating India's 'other' post-colonial history through the diaspora.'

Florence Cabaret, Université de Rouen
'Memories of the partition of India in Earth, 1947 by Deepa Mehta (1998)'

10h00-11h00: WORKSHOP.1.2. Room 028 Salle des thèses
Poetics of oblivion, politics of remembrance.
Chair: **Corinne Bigot**

Lena Englund, Abo Akademi University
'".....whether I like it or not, I am home" – Memory and trans-nationalism in Peter Godwin's memoirs Mukiwa and When a Crocodile Eats the Sun'

Joanna Pasternak, Gdansk University
'Anita Desai's art of oblivion.'

11h00-11h30: coffee break

11h30-12h30: WORKSHOP 2.1. Room 027 Salle des actes
Diasporic Memory (India, Sri Lanka).
Chair: **Delphine Munos**

Sreekanth Kopuri, SriVenkateswara University
'The diasporic home in the literary map of Agha Sahid Ali's poetry.'

Sabine Lauret, Université de Versailles
'Consuming memory : the oneiric past in Romesh Gunesequera's The Sandglass and Heaven's Edge'

11h30-12h30: WORKSHOP 2.2. Room 028 Salle des thèses
Cooking up a History: official History, folk stories and culinary memories.
Chair: **Janet Wilson**

Virginia Sherman, Université de Grenoble
'In search of lost identity : re-discovering self and identity through culinary memoirs'

Sarah Knor, University of Northampton
'Kala pani poetics : Indo-Caribbean memories'

12h30-14h45: Lunch Restaurant Universitaire B

Room 027 Salle des actes

15h-16h: Keynote address by **Jean-Jacques Lecercle**, Emeritus Professor, Université Paris Ouest

Chair: **Françoise Král**

'The present is a foreign country : memory and nostalgia in Sam Selvon, The Lonely Londoners.'

16h-16h30: Coffee Break

16h30-18h00: WORKSHOP 3.1. Room 027 Salle des actes
Re-imagining the past, visual arts panel.
Chair: **Héliane Ventura**

Claudine Armand, English Department, Université de Lorraine, Nancy.
'Re/membering, mis/membering : memory and diasporic experience in the multi-media practices of some contemporary Native-American and African-American artists.'

Anca Cristofovici, Université de Caen Basse-Normandie
'Pictures that make a difference : displacing photographic memory'

Hania A.M. Nashef, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.
'Remembering and retelling the Palestinian story through film.'

16h30-18h00: WORKSHOP 3.2. Room 028 Salle des thèses
Reterritorializing/Re-gendering Memory.
Chair : **Florence Cabaret**

Letizia Alterno, Manchester University
'Waves of histories and memories: Commonwealth pasts and futures in Amitav Ghosh's Sea of Poppies and Raja Rao's The Serpent and the Rope and The Cat and Shakespeare.'

Egle Kackute, University of Vilnius
'Memory, gender and linguistic amnesia.'

Delphine Munos, University of Liège.
'Holocaust postmemory and the legacy of un-death in Nicole Krauss's Great House.'

18h00- 19h15: Drinks party at the MRSH

19h30: Conference dinner Café MANCEL (inside the Château de Caen, next to front entrance)

9h-10h30: WORKSHOP 4.1. Room 027 Salle des actes
Individual and collective transgenerational memory.
Chair: **Armelle Parey**

Pascale Guibert, Université de Caen Basse-Normandie
'Displacement : memory and creation in Eamonn Wall's poetry.'

Laura Singeot, Université de Caen Basse-Normandie
'The reterritorialisation of memory in David Malouf's Remembering Babylon'

Antara Chatterjee, Calcutta, India
'Remembering Bangladesh : Tahmima Anam and the Construction of a Bangladeshi national narrative.'

9h-10h30: WORKSHOP 4.2. Room 028 : Salle des thèses
Francophone diasporas.
Chair: **Sam Coombes**

Isabella Archer, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
'Fighting for a Frenchness denied : North African identity and memory in Rachid Bouchareb's Indigènes.'

Pamela Carralero, University of Edinburgh
'Jean-Luc Raharimanana and the re-construction of memory through a poetics of bricolage.'

Mohar Daschchadhuri, Visiting Fellow at the Department of French, University of Sheffield.
'Reconstructing memory : creation of a fantastic 'third space' in the writings of Ying Chen and Linda Le.'

10h30-11h: Coffee break

11h-12h: WORKSHOP 5.1. Room 027 Salle des actes
Black Atlantic diasporized memory.
Chair : **Anca Cristofovici**

Gwennaëlle Cariou, Université Paris Diderot
'Memorializing the diaspora : the example of African museums'

Elaine Rocha, University of the West Indies, Barbados
'Undesirable immigrants in the Brazilian racial democracy'

11h-12h: WORKSHOP 5.2. Room 028 Salle des thèses
Recycling, rewriting, retelling memory.
Chair : **Janet Wilson**

Rocco de Leo, *'The Place one had been years ago.'* : memories of space in Michael Ondaatje's *Running in the Family.*

Marcia Carlson, University of Antwerp.
'Conflicting memories of the parentland : Danticat's The Dew Breaker and Chancy's Spirit of Haiti.'

12-14h: lunch Restaurant Universitaire B

14h-15h: WORKSHOP 6.1. Room 027 Salle des actes
Scottish-Canadian Atlantic in the work of Alice Munro.
Chair: **Corinne Bigot**

Christine Lorre-Johnston, Université Paris 3 Sorbonne Nouvelle
'Alice Munro as writer of the Scottish diaspora in Canada.'

Héliane Ventura, Université Toulouse Le Mirail
'Bardic memory : recycling Norse sagas and celtic minstrelsy in Alice Munro's stories.'

14h-15h: WORKSHOP 6.2. Room 028 Salle des thèses
'Refiliating memory in the Caribbean'.
Chair: **Delphine Munos**

Kathie Birat, Université de Lorraine
'Making sense of memory in the writings of the Caribbean Diaspora.' (Andrea Levy and Caryl Phillips).

Myriam Moïse, Université des Antilles Guyane
'The wombs of memory in the narratives of E. Danticat and N. Hopkinson : reproducing subaltern histories, reasserting folk memory.'

15h-15h20: Coffee break

AMPHITHÉÂTRE ROUELLE - BÂTIMENT M

15 h20-16h15: Robert Young, Julius Silver Professor of English and Comparative Literature at New York University.

«Migration & the Power Structures of Cultural Memory».

followed by

16h15-17h15: Concluding round table ; **Héliane Ventura** and **Janet Wilson** will be joined by the guest speakers
Chair : **Françoise Král**