

# Public History and the Media

## Workshop, HEC Department,

### 11-12-13 February 2015

In recent decades, public enthusiasm for history and popular engagement with the past has grown dramatically. The popularity of history is manifested most visibly in the proliferation of television documentaries and historical dramas but it is also discernible in the rebirth of the historical novel; the organization of large-scale commemorations of historical anniversaries; the development of new historical museums and exhibitions, re-enactment and living history activities and most importantly, the emergence of public history as a separate field of academic study. Digitization has also brought history and historical research to the broader public in hitherto unconceivable ways. Yet, for the most part, and with only some notable exceptions, academic historians have remained extraneous to, or ignorant of, these developments and are not working in public and with communities like trained public historians do.

Is this difference between academic and public historians only about different professional ambitions, separate audiences and a different use of communication media? While it is not possible to become a public historian without an academic background, it is possible to be an academic historian without engaging in public history. Both are trained professional historians working with the past: their roles and their audiences are complementary although their practices are different in terms of methodology and forms of communication. Moreover, the development of public history raises questions about historical interpretation and political use of the past that concern all historians, and should provoke a debate about ownership of the past in which both academic historians and public historians have much to contribute.

This workshop brings together a number of leading practitioners in the field of public history and the media to discuss the current state of the field and in order to explore the relationship between public history and academic history.

The first day of the workshop will be given over to exploring the relationship between history and media culture, with panels on oral history, publishing and teaching, films and the phenomenon of so-called 'media dons'. The second day will focus on digital public history tools, practices and narratives. The third day will deal with the history of Public History in North America, discuss Public History as alternative job market, look at public history in museums and exhibitions and offer practical ateliers in digital humanities.

## **Day 1 – Wednesday 11 February 2015 – Villa Schifanoia, Sala Europa**

8.30-9.00 Registration (Sala Bandiere, next to Sala Europa)

9.00-9.30 Welcome by Head of History Department, Conference Organizers, Director of Max Weber Programme

### **1. Oral History and Film in Italy, 9.30-11.00**

Chair: Luisa Passerini (EUI)

- Chiara Ottaviano (Cliomedia Officina, Turin): *‘L’Archivio degli Iblei’ and ‘Terramatta’: Sharing Memories Publically*
- Giovanni Contini Bonacossi (Associazione Italiana Storia Orale): *Oral History and Video Performance*
- TBA

Coffee Break, 11.00-11.30

### **2. Publishing, 11.30-13.00**

Chair: Lucy Riall (EUI)

- Simon Winder (Penguin): *Big History: Making New History Books into Major Events*
- Giuseppe Laterza (Laterza Editore)

Lunch, 13.00-15.00

### **3. TV and Radio, 15-16.30**

Chair: Youssef Cassis (EUI)

- Luca Molà (EUI) and Lucy Riall (EUI) in conversation with Amanda Vickery (Queen Mary University of London)
- TBA

Coffee Break, 16.30-17.00

### **4. Teaching Public History and the Use of Textbooks, 17-18.30**

Chair: Rebecca Conard (Middle Tennessee State University)

- Suzanne Lommers (Eindhoven University of Technology): *Inventing Europe: Teaching Europe Through the Lens of Technology*
- Mario Carretero (EUI & Universidad Autonoma Madrid): *History Education and the Construction of National Identities*
- Enrica Salvatori (Università degli Studi di Pisa): *Teaching Digital Public History*

**Day 2 – Thursday 12 February 2015 – Historical Archives of the European Union, Villa Salviati**

**Keynote lecture, 9.00-9.45: Mark Tebeau (Arizona State University): *What is Digital Public History?***

**5.Digital Public History Narratives , 9.45-11.15**

[Chair: Marcello Verga (Università degli Studi di Firenze), TBC]

- Bohdan Shumylovych (EUI, Ph.D. researcher): *The Lviv City Digital Archive and the Local Community*
- Andrea Buchner (University of Birmingham): *CENDARI: The Collaborative European Digital Archive Infrastructure for the Study of WW1 and Medieval Culture*
- Ad Pollé (Europeana): *Europeana 14-18: Crowdsourcing WW1*

Coffee Break, 11.15-11.45

**6.Digital archives, 11.45-13.15**

Chair: Dieter Schlenker (EUI-Historical Archives of the European Union)

- Alessio Assonitis (The Medici Archive Project): *The Medici Archive Project between Academic and Public Use*
- Stefano Vitali (Soprintendente, Archivi per l'Emilia-Romagna): *The City of Archives in Bologna*
- Frédéric Kaplan (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne): *Venice Time Machine Project*

Lunch, 13.15-15.00

**7.Mobile and time-based history, 15.00-16.30**

Chair: Mark Tebeau (Arizona State University)

- Alyson Price (British Institute Florence): *Susan Horner Florence*

- Valeria Galimi (Università La Sapienza, Rome): *Memory Sharing and the New Media in Exhibiting Florence 1940-1944*
- Luca Novarino (Memoro Project): *Oral History Contents in the Web: the Memoro Archive*

Coffee Break, 16.30-17.00

### **8. European Narratives, 17.00-18.30**

Chair: Federico Romero (EUI)

- Dieter Schlenker (EUI-Historical Archives of the European Union): *Using EU Websites for the History of European Integration*
- Frédéric Clavert & Léonard Laborie (Labex EHNE, Paris): *New Digital Encyclopaedia for the History of Europe*
- Lars Wienneke (CVCE Luxembourg & DARIAH-EU): *CUBRIK Project: Facial Recognition in Archives*, <http://www.cubrikproject.eu/>

## **Day 3 – Friday 13 February 2015 – Badia Fiesolana, Refectory**

### **9. North American Public History, 9.00-10.30**

Chair: Serge Noiret (EUI)

- Rebecca Conard (Middle Tennessee State University): *The Pragmatic Turn in American Historical Thought and Public History Education in the United States*
- Patricia Mooney-Melvin (Loyola University Chicago ): *Reflective Practice: Public History's Signature Pedagogy*
- Patrick Moore (President National Council on Public History & University of West Florida Pensacola): *Public History as a Discipline: Training Needs, Employment Opportunities, and Entrepreneurialism*

Coffee Break, 10.30-11.00

### **10. EUI HEC Alumni Public History and Job Market Roundtable, 11.00-13.00: *Which kind of public historians are we? Public History as alternative job market for EUI Alumni***

Chair: Thomas Cauvin (Louisiana State University)

- Dan H. Andersen (Freelance Historian, Reenactor, and Writer, Copenhagen)
- Jozefien De Bock (Curator project migration, STAM -city museum Ghent)

- Christine Dupont (European Parliament-House of History)
- Torsten Feys (Public History Programme Ghent University)
- Ciaran O'Scea (Curator, Irish and the Spanish Monarchy exhibition, Archivo General de Simancas)
- Sven Mesinovic (Museumspädagoge (freelance) Stiftung Deutsches Technikmuseum Berlin)
- Markus J. Prutsch (European Parliament)
- Aurora Savelli (Portale per la Storia di Firenze)
- Sandra Toffolo (EUI-European History Primary Sources)
- Gerben Zaagsma (Project Anne Frank, Lichtenberg-Kolleg - the Göttingen Institute of Advanced Study)

Lunch, 13.00-14.30

## **11. Museums and Exhibitions, 14.30-16.30**

Chair: Luca Molà (EUI)

- Bill Sherman (Head of Research, Victoria & Albert Museum) & Marta Ajmar (Victoria & Albert Museum): *Museum-Based Research: the View from the Victoria & Albert*
- Etienne Deschamps (European Parliament) *La Maison de l'histoire européenne - The House of European History*
- TBA

Coffee Break, 16.30-17.00

## **12. Ateliers, 17.00-19.00 – Parallel Sessions**

Pierre Mounier (OpenEditions): *Creating a personal history blog using hypotheses.org*  
 Refectory, Badia Fiesolana

Maurizio Lana (Università del Piemonte Orientale): *Semantic text annotation with Geolat*  
 Emeroteca, Badia Fiesolana

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