Zukunftspilologe Winter Academy

World Scripts: Concepts and Practices of Writing from a Comparative Perspective

4 - 14 September 2015, University of Cape Town

HUMA Seminar Room, 4th Floor, The Neville Alexander Building
University Avenue, Upper Campus, University of Cape Town

PUBLIC PROGRAMME

Saturday, September 5

11.30am-1pm Panel Discussion 1
Concepts of Writing and the Materiality of Language
Chair: Adrien Delmas (IFAS)
Michael Allan (Univ. of Oregon) “The Shape of the Word: Reflections on Language and Matter”;
Pascale Rabault-Feuerhahn (CNRS) “Comparative and Genealogical Perspectives on Script and Language in the 19th century”;
Bodhisattva Kar (UCT) “Reading Stones, Writing Skins: The Savage Naga and the Limits of Language”;
Barbaro Martinez-Ruiz (UCT) “Kongo Graphic Writing and the Other Narratives of the Sign”

4-5.30pm Lecture
Shamil Jeppie (UCT)
Notes on the Location of Philology in Africa
Chair: Umar Ryad (Univ. of Utrecht)
Sunday, September 6

11.30-1pm   **Panel Discussion 2**  
Arabic Script as World Script  
Chair: Islam Dayeh (Zukunftsphilologie / Freie Universität Berlin)  
Stefan Leder (German Orient Institute Beirut) "The Arabic Oral-Scriptural Continuum";  
Ronit Ricci (Australian National University) "Arabic Script in the Indonesian-Malay World";  
Meikal Mumin (Univ. of Cologne) “The Arabic Script in Africa”

Monday, September 7

11.30-1pm   **Panel Discussion 3**  
Critical Approaches to Manuscripts and the Archive  
Chair: Adrien Delmas (IFAS)  
Nir Shafir (Univ. of California) “Were Manuscripts Cheap and Writing Ubiquitous in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire?”;  
Susana Molins Lliteras (UCT) “Manuscript Research in Timbuktu: Challenges and Possibilities of African Archives”;  
Umar Ryad (Univ. of Utrecht) “Arab Family Archives and Trans-cultural Colonial History from Below”

4-5.30pm   **Lecture**  
Stefan Leder (German Orient Institute Beirut)  
Arabic Philology and the Conquest of Foreign Languages: Script, Language and Cognition (11th - 12th centuries)  
Chair: Islam Dayeh (Zukunftsphilologie / Freie Universität Berlin)

Thursday, September 10

9.30-11am   **Panel Discussion 4**  
Manuscripts and the Printed Book in Africa  
Chair: Shamil Jeppie (UCT)  
Andrea Brigaglia (UCT) “Market editions’ in Northern Nigeria”;  
Kurt Campbell (UCT) “Politics of the San Serif”;  
Fabian Saptouw (UCT) “De-constructing the Book”

Friday, September 11

11.30-1pm   **Panel Discussion 5**  
History, Archive and Language Politics in Africa  
Chair: Shamil Jeppie (UCT)  
Carolyn Hamilton (UCT) "Reading the James Stuart Archive of Recorded Oral Evidence and its Textual Offspring";  
Matthias Brenzinger (UCT) “Language archives: Prospects and Limitations in the Documentation of Oral Languages”

2-3.30pm   **Lecture**  
Abdulkader Tayob (UCT)  
Between Text and Culture in the Teaching of Religion in South Africa  
Chair: Georges Khalil (Forum Transregionale Studien)
Saturday, September 12

11.30-1am  Panel Discussion 6
The European Discovery of Writing
Chair: Pascale Rabault-Feuerhahn (CNRS)
Adrien Delmas (IFAS) “Portuguese Encounters with African Written Cultures in the 16th century”;
Elisabetta Benigni (Univ. of Turin) “Engraved Marble and Lost Scripts”: Discussing Arabic Epigraphs in 18th and 19th century Italy”;
Federico Navarrete Linares (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico) “There Are Many Ways to Read a Drawing’: the European Interpretation of Pictographical Writing”

2-3.30pm  Film and Lecture
Michael Allan (Univ. of Oregon)
Picturing Philology: Early Cinema and Worldly Scripts

Sunday, September 13

9.30-11am  Panel Discussion 7
Script Reform and Invention from a Global Comparative Perspective
Chair: Shamil Jeppie (UCT)
Erdem Aydin (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul) “Script Reform in Turkey”;
Thomas Mullaney (Stanford University) “Beyond "Romanization": The Case of the Chinese Transalphabet”;
Piers Kelly (Australian National University) “Why Some New Scripts Fail and Others Succeed”