SIEF – THE PLACE WISDOM WORKING GROUP

The Group aims to establish a repository of multi-media, ethnographically-inflected records relating to understandings of place that contest conventional divisions between culture and nature. Members of ‘Place Wisdom’ have been working on three themes: “Waterscapes”, “Scales of Home in Today’s Europe”, and “Sacred Places/Routes”.

The research agenda of the working group is situated at the interface of human ecology, geography, anthropology, art, archaeology, performance studies, literature, linguistics, futures research and philosophy.

MEMBERS AND BACKGROUND

Currently the Place Wisdom Working Group has 48 members who comes from multiple universities from different parts of Europe.

The Place Wisdom Working Group was founded in 2008 by colleagues associated with the Academy for Irish Cultural Heritages (University of Ulster), the Ethnological Research Unit (UWE Bristol), and the Centre for Human Ecology (University of Strathclyde).

“WATERSCAPES”

A defining characteristic of a ‘waterscape’ – in contrast to a ‘landscape’ – perspective is the absence of any firm, stable vantage point for the narrative. The aim is better to understand fluctuating developments by looking at them quasi “from the inside” through a range of local lenses.

For current PhD projects, see for example:
http://irc.hw.ac.uk/research/jws2015.html
http://irc.hw.ac.uk/research/sgsah-arcs.html

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS (SELECTION)

• SIEF 2017: Panel “Temporalities of dwelling elsewhere: placing and displacing home” (Organisation: Vitalija Stepulaityte, Christos Kakalis)
• SIEF 2017: Panel “(Dis)Comforts of Home: Historical and Cultural Perspectives” (Organisation: Zuzanna Bulat-Silva, Stella Butter, and Nourit Melcer-Padon)
• International Workshop “Scales of Home: NSM Approach” at the University of Wroclaw/Poland, 27–28 March 2015. (Workshop organisation: Zuzanna Bulat-Silva)

Enquiries for current PhD projects, see for example:
http://irc.hw.ac.uk/research/jws2015.html
http://irc.hw.ac.uk/research/sgsah-arcs.html

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

We are very keen for this Working Group to develop an active research programme, and to engage with research users outside academia.

To this end we encourage collaborative international research projects with the potential to attract significant financial support, and have already initiated a number of bids to different research funding bodies.

PUBLICATIONS (SELECTION)