

Zukunftsphilologie Winter Academy

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

4 - 14 September 2015, University of Cape Town



Illuminated Manuscript Walters Art Museum Ms W.554 fol.65a klein

## 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 México) "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 Aydın (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"

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