



Newsletter July 2023

Dear NAOH members

It is nearly a year since we had our first roundtable and planning meeting at the EASA Belfast conference in July 2022. For those who missed the roundtable we are included in [Sarah Howard's](#) conference review.

What a great year! We would like to share our successes and plans! We have been so happy to meet new colleagues and organise some inspiring events. More are planned for 2023/24 – and we hope to meet you again in person at EASA2024 in Barcelona. It has been great to be part of the EASA network conversations.

Our regular informal meetings have been fantastic. We've had some invigorating discussions. Thank you so much for sharing work in progress and projects, and we look forward to more in the autumn. Our next meetings are October 13 2023 and December 8 2023 – save the dates in your diaries! If you are interested in sharing – let us know!

January-May 2023

We had a wonderful launch for the network in May which was combined with a launch for Diana Espirito Santos's book [Spirited Histories: Technologies, Media, and Trauma in Paranormal Chile](#), published in the Routledge Anthropology of History series. We thank Charles Stewart for hosting, and for bringing together Stephan Palmie, Marjorie Murray and Matan Shapiro as discussants and for their great conversation.

A second book in May launch Galina Oustinova-Stjepanovic's book, also part of the Routledge series, [Monumental Names: Archival Aesthetics and the Conjuraton of History in Moscow](#), we are really grateful to Yael Navaro, and Zahira Araguete-Toribio for their stimulating contributions.

During May we organised the first of three workshops with network members Carol Balthazar and Dom Bryant to consider the intersections between an anthropology of history, public anthropologists and public histories. Carol and Dom shared their perspectives along with Julia Binter, Galina Oustinova-Stjepanovic, and Elaine McIlwraith – great ethnographic perspectives about different perspectives on the past. In our final comments we reflected that the next step would be to have these discussions (part 2) in a more interdisciplinary, even more public, arena, in order to understand better how history is approached in multivariant ways. We discussed putting together a research directory on the EASA website – More news soon!

Looking forward

In the autumn Nikolai Ssorin-Chaikov will host an online workshop on new [Soviet] social histories alongside a special edition journal launch – details to be confirmed – watch this space!

November will see an online roundtable discussion for Magdalena Buchczyk [Weaving Europe, Crafting the Museum: Textiles, history and ethnography at the Museum of European Cultures, Berlin](#) – watch out for this one too!

For 2024 we are organising a roundtable and seminar series with Jelena Toscliv to consider themes around methodologies, paradigms, and ethnographies. More soon. Hopefully we can organise some in person events as well as online.

It's EASA2024 in Barcelona – we'll have a Network meeting, and we'll propose a panel or lab for further discussions. A heads up: we will need to elect two new convenors for the 2024-26 period, starting in December 2024. We'll remind you nearer the time!

In other news

- On 17-18 April 2023, historian Monika Dommann and anthropologist Lena Kaufman organised the interdisciplinary workshop "Between the Archive and the Field" at the University of Zurich. The workshop brought together scholars from contemporary history, social and cultural anthropology, and empirical cultural studies. Covering various geographical regions in Africa, Asia and Europe, the aim was to discuss drafts for a special issue of *Studies in Contemporary History*. Each paper is co-authored by a historian and an anthropologist. The SI will be published open access in 2024. It will foster a closer methodological dialogue between contemporary history and anthropology with a focus on technologies, infrastructures and materialities.
- Katarzyna Puzon published '[Goodbye Mshatta: Connections and Disconnections on Berlin's Museum Island](#)', *Review of Middle East Studies* 56(1), 2023 which considers a contemporary art intervention in Berlin's Museum of Islamic Art.
- TRACTS network, [Unearthing Traces of European Conflicts: Materiality, Memory, & Technology](#) will hold a multimodal training school in September – we shared the application link earlier in the year – but look forward to hearing more about it in the autumn.

You can email the network at naoh@lists.easaonline.org to share information, calls for contributions, and new publications. Let us know if you want us to add anything to the [NAoH website](#). We have a social media presence on twitter @NAoH_EASA and [Facebook](#) group: please join/follow!

Please note – we are enthusiastic about the collaborative process – do get in touch if you want to host an event under the NAoH umbrella!

With best wishes, Helen and Giovanna (co-founders, convenors 2022-2024)

18 July 2023

Dr Helen Cornish
(Goldsmiths)
h.cornish@gold.ac.uk

Giovanna Parmigiani PhD
(Harvard Divinity School)
gparmigiani@hds.harvard.edu