

Working Group on
'Cultural Heritage and Property'

2nd Meeting

16 – 17 September 2010
Lisbon & Porto - Portugal

Call for Papers

After the 1st and successful meeting of the WG in Tartu, Estonia, in August 2009, we are pleased to announce the first call for papers for the 2nd meeting of the SIEF's Working Group on 'Cultural Heritage and Property', to be held in Portugal from 16 to 17 September 2010.

Meeting Theme:
Heritage and Power

Short abstract

This meeting addresses the relationships between heritage and power. It aims to discuss in a comprehensive way and with ethnographic grounds the discourses and practices associated with the contemporary production and consumption of localized heritage in the current context of the global capitalist ideology.

Abstract submission deadline:

30 April, 2010

Note: the adopted work language will be English

Organization:

Luís Silva
Paula Mota Santos

Partnerships:

Centre for Research in Anthropology (CIA / FCSH-UNL, Lisbon);

Fernando Pessoa University (Porto)



Heritage and Power

Long Abstract

As anthropological literature produced in the last decades show, power is a central matter within the realm of heritage. Heritage products and places are shaped by different kinds of power relations. The current capitalist ideology is the driving force of the contemporary processes of conversion of different types of cultural goods into heritage commodities, which are exchanged in the global tourist market. It also informs a set of global and local discourses and practices about heritage in a wide range of geographical contexts. In these processes, individuals and collectivities make up and participate in several 'fields of power' (Wolf 1999) in order to achieve their own political, social, and economic purposes. Politicians, specialists, tourist entrepreneurs, and local populations are the forces implicated in it. They all produce discourses and daily practices which are inscribed in particular contexts and which produce and transform power structures.

This meeting aims to discuss in a comprehensive way the concepts, ideas, and practices that inform the entwining of heritage and power. Proposals should deal with the following questions: What kind of power relations are woven into heritage and how? How are they recombined in specific contexts? How are they objectified within contemporary 'globalizing dynamics' (Sassen 2006)? Papers with ethnographic grounds are especially welcome, but inquiries into theory are also expected.

Main topics: heritage policies and local practices; heritage guardianship and proprietorship; heritage preservation and interpretation; heritage tourism promotion and consumption; social agents and processes related to heritage construction and management.

P.S. The event will have guest speakers to be confirmed and includes a visit to the Old City of Porto, which is a UNESCO's World Heritage Site.

Location: Lisbon and Porto (Portugal)

Fees: There is no enrollment fee for this meeting.

But participants carry their own cost of travel and accommodation.

Application:

To apply for participation in the meeting, please send an abstract (250 – 300 words) to:

Luís Silva (luis.silva98@gmail.com)

and

Paula Mota Santos (pmsantos@ufp.edu.pt)

LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOME YOU IN PORTUGAL
(Additional information on travel and accommodation arrangements to be sent;
For any other further information, please contact the organizers)