



BIRTHA

BRISTOL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH
IN THE HUMANITIES AND ARTS

Creative Histories

Bristol, July 19th-21st 2017

What does it mean for history to be creative?

This two-day conference explores the ways that educators, researchers, writers, artists, students, practitioners, and curators have brought the past to life, made history compelling, and had fun.

This is particularly important today. While public enthusiasm for history is as strong as ever, academic historians face currents of anti-intellectualism from politicians convinced 'we' are sick of 'experts', and even senior university officials who think 'society' does not need historians. Some academics, on the other hand, have jealously guarded the title of 'historian', leading to debates about professional identities, independent research, and popular history. Now, more than ever, is the time to explore the creativity of the many different types of history being produced in (and across) many different places.

We invite proposals for contributions including performances, recitals, demonstrations, research papers, and exhibitions addressing one or more of the following broad themes:

History in Public

- History from and for below
- Community histories and co-production
 - Museums and galleries
- Interactive historical education
 - History publishing
- The economics of public history

Historical (Non)Fiction

- Novels
- Poetry
- Theatre
- Journalism
- Memoir and autobiography

Visual Histories

- Photography, film, television
 - Art history
 - Curation

History and Social Media

- Blogging
 - #twitterstorians
- Digital humanities
 - #storypast

Proposals of 250 words for a single contribution should include the name(s) of contributor(s), the AV and technical needs and length of the contribution, and explain how it relates to the theme of 'creative history' and the sub-themes above. Grouped proposals for sessions of two to five contributions are especially welcome. Deadline: 31st January 2017.

Please send proposals and questions to creative.histories.bristol@gmail.com.