

24TH MAY | 9.00AM-6PM | THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, NEWCASTLE, NE1 5XU

WHOSE HERITAGE?

A (MULTI)CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE



A SYMPOSIUM ORGANISED BY AHRC
FELLOWSHIP (MULTI)CULTURAL HERITAGE:
NEW PERSPECTIVES ON PUBLIC CULTURE,
IDENTITY AND CITIZENSHIP
NORTHUMBRIA UNIVERSITY





Stuart Hall (1932-2014) was a foundational British cultural studies theorist. His speeches, articles and books engaged critically with culture as site of power and social action. Our **Whose Heritage?** Symposium recognises Hall's interest in *"the different ways we are positioned by, and position ourselves within, the narratives of the past."* We revisit his keynote speech at the Arts Council of England and North West Arts Board conference *Whose Heritage? The Impact of Cultural Diversity on Britain's Living Heritage* held 1st November 1999 in Manchester, UK.

“It will take the massive leverage of a state and government committed to producing, in reality rather than in name, a more cultural diverse, socially just, equal and inclusive society and culture, and holding its cultural institutions to account.”

“... continuing to misrepresent Britain as a closed, embattled self-sufficient, defensive, ‘tight little island’ would be fatally to disable them.”

“[The ‘multi’ in multicultural] represents one of the most important cultural developments of our time: the stakes which ‘the margins’ have in modernity, the local-in-the-global, the pioneering of a new cosmopolitan, vernacular, post-national, global sensibility.”

Stuart Hall (1999)

*“Whose Heritage? Un-Settling ‘the Heritage’
Re-Imagining the Post-Nation.”*

Third Text, 49(13), 3-13.

Welcome

I am pleased to welcome you to Whose Heritage?, a symposium honouring the 20th anniversary of Stuart Hall's landmark address: *Whose Heritage? Un-settling 'the Heritage', Re-imagining the post-nation*. We have brought together scholars, culture practitioners, and members of Black and minority ethnic organisations to reflect on and challenge inequalities in the culture and heritage fields.

Whose Heritage? aims to raise awareness, challenge and expand society's attitudes about heritage, and to incorporate ideas of difference and change into how this country thinks about the past. Stuart Hall's speech asked that we look critically at this idea of 'British Heritage' from the reality of multicultural Britain and the Black British presence. We believe that this must again be examined in today's political climate, and that 'going public' with cultural difference will make a claim on how culture, the arts and heritage is envisioned and practiced in the North East.

The conference is a part of the fellowship *(Multi)Cultural Heritage*, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and hosted by Northumbria University along with several Black and minority ethnic cultural organisations in the North East. Its aim is to understand the activities of and issues facing minority-led organisations and how they choose to define and express 'heritage'.

Many thanks to the symposium planning team Nikolas Barrera of ¡VAMOS! Festival, Padma Rao of Sangini, Degna Stone of Eclipse Theatre, Beverley Prevatt Goldstein of NEEACA and Rosie Lewis of The Angelou Centre, as well as Hengameh Ashraf Emami and Kathleen Boodhai of Northumbria University, for the exceptional programme line-up. We all hope you will be stimulated by the wide-ranging contributions of artists, curators and researchers who are all active in seeking equality within arts, culture and heritage in the UK.

Susan Ashley, PhD

Whose Heritage? Symposium Chair
Northumbria University
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
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WHOSE HERITAGE? SYMPOSIUM

Friday 24 May, The Assembly Rooms, Newcastle

- 9:30am Welcome – Umme Imam, Director, The Angelou Centre
- 9:45am Introduction – Susan Ashley, AHRC (Multi)Cultural Heritage Project Northumbria University
- 10:00am Whose Heritage 20th anniversary Matt Martin (Stuart Hall Foundation Scholar)
- 10:15am **Keynote #1 (Stuart Hall, Public History and Whose Heritage?): David Olusoga, Broadcaster**
Chair, Beverley Prevatt Goldstein
NEECA (North East of England African Community Association)
- 11:15am Break
- 11:30am Roundtable #1 - (Stuart Hall, Public History and Whose Heritage?)
Chair Rosie Lewis, The Angelou Centre
Panelists: Clara Arokiasamy (ICOMOS-UK)
Miranda Lowe (Natural History Museum)
Meleisa Ono George (Warwick)
Anandi Ramamurthy (Sheffield-Hallam)
- 12:30pm Spoken Word - Host, Degna Stone, poet, Eclipse Theatre
Performers: Radikal Queen; Jo Clement;
Rowan McCabe; Amani Nashih
- 1:00pm Lunch – by Investing in People, Newcastle
- 2:00pm Whose Heritage? Performances
Host, Nikolas Barrera, ¡VAMOS! Festival
Performers: Ladies of Midnight Blue
and Juliette and Georgia Lance
- 2:30pm **Keynote #2 (Arts and Heritage): Dawn Walton, Eclipse Theatre**
Chair Degna Stone, Eclipse Theatre
- 3:30pm Roundtable #2 (Arts and Heritage in the Northeast)
Chair Tina Gharavi, Newcastle University
Panelists: Hannabiell Sanders (Harambee Pasadia)
Martin Hylton (Gateway Studio)
Padma Rao, (ArtsConnect and Sangini)
David Faulkner (Newcastles of the World / Waka Waka Africa North East)
- 4:30pm Concluding Remarks - Dr Susan Ashley and Partners
- 5:00pm Reception

Keynote



Professor David Olusoga OBE, is a British-Nigerian historian, author, film-maker and presenter. He is the author of *Black & British: A Forgotten History* which was awarded both the Longman-History Today Trustees Award and the PEN Hessell-Tiltman Prize, *The World's War*, which won First World War Book of the Year, *Civilizations: Encounters and the Cult of Progress* and *The Kaiser's Holocaust: Germany's Forgotten Genocide and the Colonial Roots of Nazism*.

David's credits as a television presenter include *Civilizations* (BBC 2), *Black and British: A Forgotten History* (BBC 2), *The World's War* (BBC 2), *A House Through Time* (BBC 2) and the BAFTA winning *Britain's Forgotten Slave Owners* (BBC 2). David is also Co-Creative Director at Uplands Television Ltd and works as an Executive Producer on television projects for the BBC and Channel 4. He is Professor of Public History at Manchester University, a member of the Scott Trust, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, a Trustee of English Heritage, a Trustee of Migration Museum Project and a member of the Advisory Panel Imperial War Museum Second World War Galleries.

Keynote



Dawn Walton is Artistic Director and Chief Executive of Eclipse, the UK's principal Black-led theatre production company. With more than 20 years in the industry Dawn began her directing career at the Royal Court Theatre.

Recent productions for Eclipse include: *Princess & The Hustler*, *Black Men Walking*, *A Raisin in the Sun* (UK Theatre Best Touring Production nomination), *One Monkey Don't Stop No Show*, and *The Hounding of David Oluwale* (TMA: Best Director nomination). Dawn has also directed for Young Vic Theatre, Sadlers Wells, and she directed the award-winning *Salt* for Selina Thompson Productions.

For Eclipse, Dawn developed *Revolution Mix*, the largest ever delivery of new Black British production for stage, screen and radio; and *Slate – Black · Arts · World?*, a ground-breaking development programme for Black artists in the North to work regionally, nationally and internationally.

Speakers



Umme Imam is Executive Director of The Angelou Centre, a black led feminist organisation promoting inclusion, empowerment and independence for black and minority women in the North East. Umme has extensive experience in community development work, over the last thirty years, and is committed to amplifying the voices of black and minority women through strategic representation, locally and nationally. Umme was part of a collective which set up the Centre and joined it following her retirement from Durham University as lecturer in Community and Youth Work (1993-2005). She has jointly authored *Children's Perspectives on Domestic Violence*.



Matt Martin is Stuart Hall Research Scholar at Birkbeck, University of London. He previously worked for the Museum of London, helping visitors learn about the city's role in the transatlantic slave trade. A poet, he is currently researching poetic connections between the Caribbean and the English regions, particularly the North East.



Clara Arokiasamy OBE, MSc is the Chair of the ICOMOS-UK'S Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee which she founded in 2012. Her senior management and non-executive experience in the planning and delivery of arts and heritage services in the UK spans local government, community sector, and non-government departments, over a period of 25 years. She chaired the London Mayor's Heritage and Diversity Task Force, the Open University's research board on Cultural Rights and Kenya's new Constitution. Clara has consulted internationally for academic, community and arts and heritage sectors.



Miranda Lowe FRSB FLS is a principal curator at the Natural History Museum, London responsible for many historically important oceanographic collections, such as Charles Darwin's barnacles and corals. She has a deep interest in the politics of natural history display, the role that art, science and museums play in our understanding of the natural world and communicating her science through appearances on TV and radio. As a co-founding member of Museum Detox, an organisation supporting Black, Asian, and minority ethnic heritage sector and museum professionals, she works tirelessly on issues concerning representation and inclusion in museums and gallery spaces.



Dr Meleisa Ono-George is a historian of 'race' and sexuality in the Caribbean at the University of Warwick. She is Associate Professor of Caribbean History and Director of Student Experience in the Department of History. She also works with communities to produce historical research, and conducts pedagogical research on student engagement and anti-racist pedagogy. She is a member of the Global Warwickshire Collective, co-facilitating the community-engaged project, *Windrush Strikes Back: Decolonizing Global Warwickshire*.



Dr Anandi Ramamurthy is Reader in Post-Colonial Cultures at Sheffield Hallam University. She is the author of *Imperial Persuaders: Images of Africa and Asian in British Advertising* and *Black Star: Britain's Asian Youth Movements*. She began her career working in Museums and Galleries. She established the digital archive of the Asian Youth Movements. See www.tandana.org. Dr Ramamurthy is currently working on the Creative Interruptions project, a five-university AHRC funded research project that focuses on how marginalised communities use the arts, media and creativity to challenge exclusion. The Creative Interruptions Festival is being held in London at the British Film Institute 17-18 June. Please visit www.creativeinterruptions.com



Dr G Hannabiell Sanders is an African American Jamaican, originally from New Jersey-USA and holds a Masters and PhD in Music Performance at Newcastle University. Hannabiell is a charismatic musician and progressive music teacher who is committed to using music to break stereotypes and bring diverse communities together. With a musical career starting at the age of nine she has become an award-winning performer, bass trombonist, African and Latin hand percussionist, composer, and activist who has taught music and performed all over the world. She is Musical Director, *Hannabiell & Midnight Blue* and Director, *Harambee Pasadia Afro Fusion Arts Festival*, being held 30 May to 2 June 2019. See www.harambeepasadia.com.



Martin Hylton is Artistic Director, Gateway Studio in Gateshead. He began dancing at the age of 9 and successfully auditioned for the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in 1987 and in 1998 won the *C&A Cosmopolitan Young Dancer of the Year* award. He has worked for many companies across Scandinavia. Martin has taught contemporary dance throughout his professional career all over the world in professional, educational, custodial and community settings. Martin holds a Master's Degree in Arts, Business and Creativity from Newcastle University and was a Clore Leadership Fellow in 2012. He founded Gateway Studio Project in 2012.



Padma Rao is an artist, a project co-ordinator for Sangini, and Director of ArtsConnect UK, based in the North East. She has over 20 years' experience in the arts, heritage, community development, governance, equalities and women's issues. Padma also runs an art studio/ gallery Makaan in South Shields where she has shown works of art by artists based locally, nationally and internationally. A published poet, Padma has a background of working in radio both at the BBC Radio Newcastle, as well as in India. She holds a Masters degree in Cultural Management from Northumbria University. She has been an active participant and advisor in the (Multi)Cultural Heritage project.



David Faulkner is a former Newcastle councillor and Arts & Business regional director, David has long been involved in culture/heritage issues in the North East, including Tyneside CRC, North East Cultural Diversity Arts Forum chair, Shakers and Movers – which provided a platform for diverse cultures and operated a drama based training agency on equalities and diversity – and latterly *Waka Waka Africa North East* and *Newcastles of the World*.

Performers



Radikal Queen is a multi-talented artistic powerhouse who defies definition. She is a fusion of opposites in delicate tension, a living work of art that cannot help but infuse her spirit into everything she does.

Her love of poetry melts effortlessly into the arms of rhythm and blues, and the funk tradition is a huge focal point of her work. She commands a stage with royal expertise and will have you under her spell in no time. www.radikalqueen.com



Dr Jo Clement is Managing Editor of Butcher's Dog poetry magazine and a New Writing North award-winner. Her poems have been shortlisted for the *Bridport*, *Melita Hume* and *Troubadour International* prizes. Jo's Ph.D. thesis '*Moveable Type*' explores her Gypsy ethnicity through the visual art of eighteenth-century engraver Thomas Bewick. The practice-led study was awarded an inaugural AHRC Northern Bridge scholarship. It includes a new critical study and collection of poems.



Rowan McCabe is a poet and performer from Newcastle upon Tyne. Aware that poetry isn't a proper job, he decided to create his own and is now the world's first Door-to-Door Poet. Knocking on strangers' doors, he asks what is important to them. He then goes away and writes a poem about this, free of charge, before bringing it back and performing it on their doorstep. Rowan also performs on stages and has appeared at Glastonbury Festival and the Royal Albert Hall. He is a *Great Northern Slam* winner, was longlisted for a *Saboteur Award* and has been featured in the Guardian, on BBC Breakfast and was commissioned by Radio 3's *The Verb*.



Amani Nashih

I am Amani, I am 17 years old. I am studying maths, media and business in sixth form. I aim to study business management and marketing in university and then further pursue a career in management or accountancy. Apart from my studies, I really enjoy performing poems and songs. I find that I am able to express myself in ways that help describe me the most. Music and poetry help keep me calm and bring me so much happiness. In three words, I would describe myself as open minded, kind and hardworking.

Many thanks to the MA students in Northumbria's Creative & Cultural Industries Management for their tireless help with this symposium, and their lecturer Dr Martyn Hudson for his guidance.



Ladies of Midnight Blue are an Afro-Latin percussion and brass duet comprised of Hannabiell Sanders (Bass Trombone, African and Latin Percussion, Mbira) and Yilis del Carmen Suriel (African and Latin Percussion, Mbira). They create a powerful and upbeat fusion of trance drum rhythms that produce a melodic percussive sound by weaving combinations of percussion, brass, vocal chants and mbira.

The Ladies of Midnight Blue have performed all over the world and in the last 10 years they have been workshop facilitators and guest artists for various projects and residencies. Their art and music workshops focus on community building and raising awareness concerning issues of inequality on all levels. Ladies of Midnight Blue most recent performance at the TEDx Newcastle event can viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/-BfScWQljwA>



Juliette and Georgia Lance are dancers trained in tap, ballet, modern, jazz and contemporary dance. They present an in development piece for the upcoming 'Commonality' project supported by National Lottery Heritage Fund, exploring their heritage experience - feeling out of place as they grew up, whilst welcomed into the Black Newcastle community.

Lunch is provided by **Investing in People CIC**, affiliated with Investing in People, Newcastle at **i-p-c.org**. I-P-C promotes the economic and social inclusion of Refugees, Asylum seekers and other minority communities in the North East.

Session Chairs



Dr Beverley Prevatt Goldstein, a Trinidadian born activist, has contributed to social work, academia and community development for 50 years. A consistent theme through her varied career has been her commitment to equalities, to quality child care and to the well-being of black people and communities. She has actively contributed to the (Multi)Cultural Heritage project as representative of the North East of England African Community Association.



Rosie Lewis is the Deputy Director of the Angelou Centre and manages the organisation's Violence Against Black Women and Girls (VABWG) services, which includes refuge provision for women without recourse to public funds. She has been involved in social justice, DIY organizing (arts and music) and feminist activism for over 25 years. Rosie is a qualified and trained IDVA and ISVA. She holds a Masters in Research and is currently working towards her PhD at Durham University. She led the Angelou Centre's two year HLF funded *BAM! Sistahood!* heritage project with immigrant, refugee and minority women in the North East.



Nikolas Barrera established ¡VAMOS! in 2006 as a way to promote Latin and Lusophone cultures and use a festival format to educate, inspire and entice communities into new learnings and understanding. ¡VAMOS! in that time has delivered 400 events to over 300,000 with 12 editions in North East England, 5 in Leeds and extra events in Liverpool. www.vamosfestival.com



Degna Stone is an Enabler for *Slate – Black · Arts · World?*, Eclipse's ground-breaking programme that supports thousands of Black Independent Artists in the North of England by increasing access to local, national and international networks. Before working for Eclipse, she spent 12 years working in the Literary Department at Live Theatre, Newcastle. Degna is a co-founder of *Butcher's Dog* poetry magazine and is a contributing editor at *The Rialto*. She received a Northern Writers Award for her poetry in 2015 and holds an MA in Creative Writing from Newcastle University. She is an Inscribe-supported writer, and is a fellow of The Complete Works III.



Dr Tina Gharavi is a BAFTA and Sundance nominated writer/director, focused on delivering authentic stories lensed with an impeccably wrought perspective. Having worked in war zones and in guerrilla filmmaking, Gharavi marries her indomitable spirit with a distinct talent to deliver performances and manage beautifully observed stories. Her feature, *I Am Nasrine*, was nominated for a BAFTA. She's a screenwriter and showrunner, now engaged developing several projects as well as her first TV series, *The Fox*, an Icelandic detective series. Dr Gharavi is a Senior Lecturer in Film and Digital Media at Newcastle University.

Sadiya Ahmed is Director and Founder of the Everyday Muslim Heritage and Archive Initiative, established in 2013 to archive the experiences and memories of Muslims in Britain. She initially began the community group Khizra Foundation in 2010 to tackle the lack of representation of the Muslim community across the heritage sector. Three collections are now held at five archive depositories across London and the South-East. Sadiya has been instrumental in fundraising, planning and managing projects on British Muslim history and heritage, as well as brokering collaborations and partnerships with museums and archives, academics, artists, media professionals and community groups across Britain.

Project Partners



NEEACA

North East of England African Community Association

was founded in 1997 to contribute to the wellbeing of those of African descent. Its initial focus on welfare and advocacy has been combined with social events maintaining and disseminating African culture and educating on African history and current affairs, always with wonderful food and music. This charitable, unfunded, volunteer-led organisation works closely with other statutory and voluntary organisations to disseminate information on employment, health, social and cultural opportunities and to offer educational and cultural workshops and visits to its members. All its events are inclusive, child-friendly and open to all.



Everyday Muslim Heritage & Archive Initiative

aims to create a central archive of Muslim lives, arts, education and cultures from across the UK. By collecting images, interviews and documents, the project provides a comprehensive portrayal of Muslim life in Britain. Projects for 2018 included the story of British Black Muslims in London and Archiving the Heritage of Britain's First Purpose Built Mosque. To date they have created three new archive collections. These are available at Bishopsgate Institute, Surrey History Centre, George Padmore Institute and Brent Museums and Archives. They also, work closely with teachers, educators and students to develop classroom resources and notes for teachers.



Sangini is led by BME women and reaches diverse women (including asylum seekers and refugees) and other excluded women in innovative and creative ways whilst providing opportunities for tackling inequalities. It has pioneered an arts-based practice targeting women from BME and socially excluded groups for 17 years. Fostering partnerships and sharing of knowledge are at the heart of its activities. Sangini aims to promote inclusion, integration and participation through the arts, culture and social activities as well as challenge inequalities and invisibility of women at grassroots and policy level. Sangini believes in creative interventions and works with artists from diverse backgrounds to create a variety of approaches to engage with marginalised groups, often addressing issues, such as mental health, domestic violence, gender equality.



The Centre for Chinese Contemporary Arts (CFCCA) in Manchester is a unique art gallery with a year-round programme of innovative exhibitions, talks, artist residencies and engagement projects that explores Chinese contemporary culture and art. The organisation works closely with academic partners to develop research projects and discursive events. CFCCA has over 30 years' experience of working with emerging and established artists to provide a space for conversation, debate and cross cultural exchange. Its first large-scale contemporary art exhibition was *Beyond the Chinese Takeaway* in 1992, which represented the experiences of second and third generation British Chinese artists.

The logo for Eclipse, featuring the word "eclipse" in a lowercase, sans-serif font.

Eclipse is the foremost Black-led national touring company in the UK, at the vanguard of delivering diverse programming in theatre, film and radio across the country. It is our mission to use the Black* British experience to create work to enrich the stories shared with theatre audiences nationwide and to diversify those audiences. From our home in Sheffield, we have developed two unique movements:

Slate - Black. Arts. World: Supporting Black artists in the North to work locally, nationally and internationally, building sustainable models for careers in the independent sector. Current tours: Same Same Different by Naomi Sumner Chan and Distorted Constellations by Nwando Ebizie.

Revolution Mix: Spearheading the largest ever national delivery of new Black British productions in theatre, film and radio.

***For Eclipse "Black" is inclusive of anyone marginalised for their race or ethnicity. Solidarity.**

The logo for The Angelou Centre, featuring a stylized graphic of three wavy lines above the text "The Angelou Centre".

The Angelou Centre is a black women-led organization set up in 1994 in Newcastle. It aims to empower black women through a wide range of classes, courses, activities and personal development. It provides holistic culture, social and creative activities in support of women. The recent BAM! Sistahood! heritage project is an example of the Centre's leadership role in the North East, researching the history and heritage of Black and minority women's migration.

The logo for iVAMOS! Latin American Festival, featuring a stylized graphic of a flower or sunburst above the text "iVAMOS!" and "LATIN AMERICAN FESTIVAL".

iVAMOS! is an annual festival promoting Latin and Lusophone cultures in North East of England. iVAMOS! is an internationally renowned event, bringing high profile acts to the region, as well as engaging with regional artists and aims to engage the Latin communities in the North East through cultural activities and education. It has also delivered editions in Leeds and Liverpool.

Northumbria University Team



Dr Susan L.T. Ashley is AHRC Leadership Fellow and project lead for *(Multi)Cultural Heritage*. She is a senior lecturer in the MA programme Creative and Cultural Industries Management at Northumbria University. Her research focuses on the democratisation of culture and heritage. Publications include *Diverse Spaces: Identity, Heritage and Community in Canadian Public Culture* and the Routledge monograph *A Museum in Public*. She also has twenty years of experience working for culture and heritage sites across Canada.



Hengameh Ashraf Emami

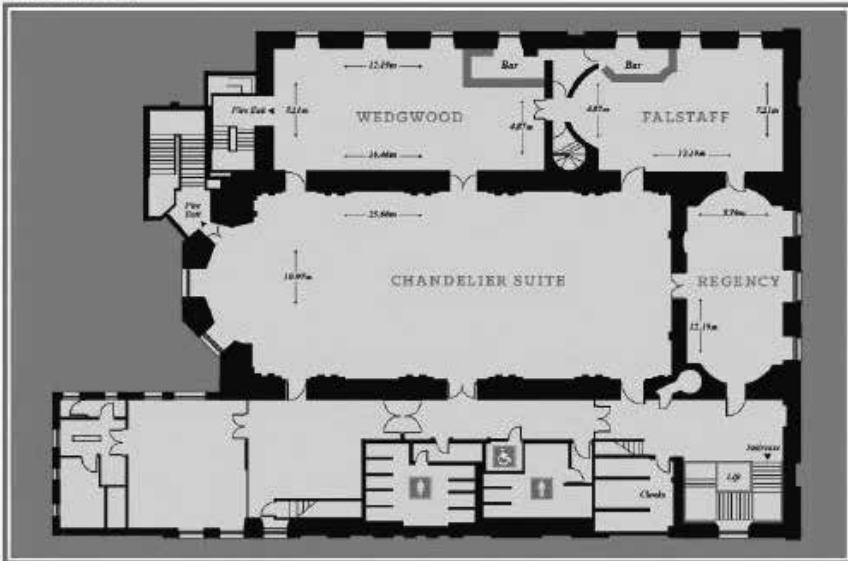
Hengameh Ashraf-Emami is a Senior Research Assistant (Multi) Cultural Heritage AHRC Project at the University of Northumbria Newcastle. Her doctoral research explores dynamics agency of British Muslim women in intergenerational context at University of Nottingham. Hengameh shared her research works in national and international conferences, i.e. BSA, ESA, and ISA.



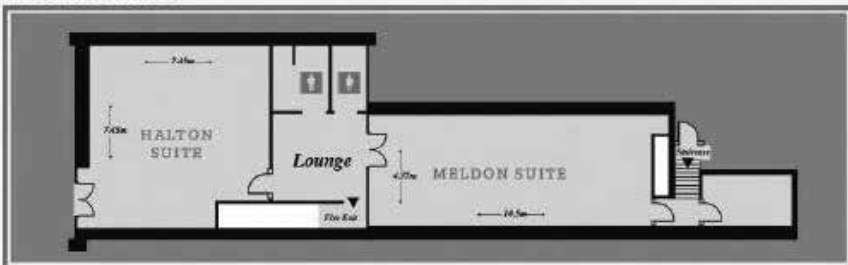
Kath Boodhai has worked in public engagement and as a cultural producer across the community, arts and cultural heritage sectors in the North East. She advocates with minority and marginalised communities including BAMER and LGBTQ+, for equality, diversity and representation. She is currently a PhD researcher at Northumbria University/Arts investigating transnational Indo-Trinidadian heritage in the diaspora across the UK, Canada and Trinidad.

Whose Heritage? Site map

First Floor



Second Floor



- Chandelier Suite** - Main session room and refreshments
- Regency Room** - Registration, lunch and reception
- Meldon Suite** - prayer room

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Evaluation Form

WHOSE HERITAGE? SYMPOSIUM

Friday 24 May, The Assembly Rooms, Newcastle

1 **What is your overall assessment of the event?**

(1 = insufficient - 5 = excellent)

1 2 3 4 5

2 **Which aspects of the symposium did you find most enjoyable, interesting or useful? Why?**

3 **What did you least like in this symposium and why?**

4 **Were there any ideas discussed that might change ways that you handle inequalities your organisation?
Can you elaborate?**

5 **Did the symposium stimulate any other ideas or suggestions you wish to contribute?**

6 **Would you be interested in joining a network or think-tank to continue discussion of the issues raised?**

Would you like to be on a mailing list for that?
Leave us your email please:

Further comments or suggestions:

THANK YOU!

Please tear out this page and leave it with the symposium organisers, or, email your responses to: Susan Ashley at susan.ashley@northumbria.ac.uk

