

Date

September 16, 2010

Time

2pm - 4:30pm

Venue

Gallery
Female Orphan School
Building EZ
Parramatta Campus
([view map](#))

RSVP

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Apologies

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[View 2010 Seminar
schedule](#)

CCR seminar series 2010

Gabriela Coronado

(CCR, University of Western Sydney)

Tensions Between Postcolonialist Ideologies and Indigenous Cultural Control in Alternative Tourism

The relevance of Indigenous peoples participation in tourism is out of question but how they are involved is still defined by the expropriation of their culture represented by postcolonialist ideologies and their limited access to the economic benefits. Against this tendency an increasing number of indigenous organisations (cooperatives, social enterprises or micro business) are beginning to participate in the tourist industry offering alternative forms of tourism. These initiatives involve indigenous organisations and or communities as direct agents in the commoditisation of their culture (representations as cultural products) and their natural resources (habitat). For these initiatives to be successful indigenous organisations need to manage the tensions between their own culture and identity and the culture the tourists demand.

Through a semiotic discursive analysis of their web pages in this presentation I will evaluate how some alternative tourist projects in Mexico and Peru deal with this tension. As hypertexts of meaning their web pages contain implicitly and explicitly models of cultural representation, organisational patterns and indication of contradictions and paradoxes they have to manage as tourist agents. Through a critical reading of their Web-stories my analysis focuses on the simultaneity of the neo-colonial representations and their struggle for cultural and political control.

Dr. Gabriela Coronado is a Mexican anthropologist with a PhD on Social Ecology from the University of Western Sydney. In Mexico (CIESAS) she researched for 28 years on different aspects of Mexican culture, language and identity, focusing on issues of intercultural communication and politics between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Her current research interests focus on intercultural communication and the politics of culture and ideology in organisation and the complexities emerging on the interface between business and society. Gabriela is currently Senior Lecturer in the School of Management, Organisational Studies, at the University of Western Sydney and member of the Centre for Cultural Research.

Cameron McAuliffe

(CCR, University of Western Sydney)

Writing on the Wall: Graffiti in the Creative City

The drive to eradicate the 'scourge of graffiti' from the urban environment is a common theme in the contemporary city. In cities such as Sydney, a succession of wars on graffiti has produced a moral geography of artistic practice in public and private spaces. State legislators produce bespoke anti-graffiti laws; local governments invest in increasingly sophisticated graffiti management plans; and police and other security agencies mobilise direct resources in the fight against graffiti. Graffiti crime data is collected and collated by state agencies and the burgeoning industry in graffiti removal sub-contractors fuelled by spiralling anti-graffiti budgets. At the same time, the rise to prominence of creative cities discourses and the subsequent revaluation of creativity as a post-industrial salve unsettles the dominance of the normative criminalisation of graffiti. The profusion of cultural plans and public art policies, along with metropolitan initiatives promoting the creative city, provide opportunities to resignify graffiti as productive creative practice. The first half of this paper looks specifically at contemporary state responses to graffiti in Sydney and the ways graffiti writers and street artists work within and beyond the various attempts to capture, enclose and engage graffiti and graffiti writers. Following this the paper considers the wider implications of the tension between processes of criminalisation and co-option, including discussion of the potential of legal graffiti sites as places of agonistic engagement and their contribution to better understanding the moral geographies of the creative city.

Dr. Cameron McAuliffe is a social and cultural geographer researching a range of topics concerned with issues of inclusion, recognition and difference. His research has primarily concerned the lives of young people, with a focus on identity, cultural diversity and **transnationalism**. Cameron is currently the UWS Children's Futures Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Cultural Research where his research has focused on the lives of creative young people in Western Sydney.