

LBS Newsletter October 2021



The Centre for the study of the
Legacies of British Slavery

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Haiti Now and Then



Haiti Now and Then

Zoom event, Friday 22 October, 6pm - 7.30pm

Jointly hosted by the Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slavery and the [Haiti Support Group](#), this zoom meeting considers recent events in and related to Haiti in the context of the country's long history. The moderators will be Matthew J. Smith and Shodona Kettle and the speakers are Mario Gousse, Patrick Sylvian and Tamlynn Torchon. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion in what promises to be an unmissable evening. Sign up for a ticket on our [eventbrite page](#).

Latest news

Conversations about the legacies of slavery in the UK

Sharone Lifschitz is a London based artist and researcher currently collaborating with the LBS centre. She is looking to have a conversation with people who have used the LBS database to research their personal or community history. Sharone is interested in the reasons for your research and your

thoughts about the ways in which slavery and the slave trade has affected and shaped life in the UK. She is looking to meet people from all walks of life and of all political/social inclinations. All information communicated is to remain totally anonymous. Please get in touch with Sharone on lifschitzsharone@gmail.com or get in touch with LBS for more information on lbs@ucl.ac.uk

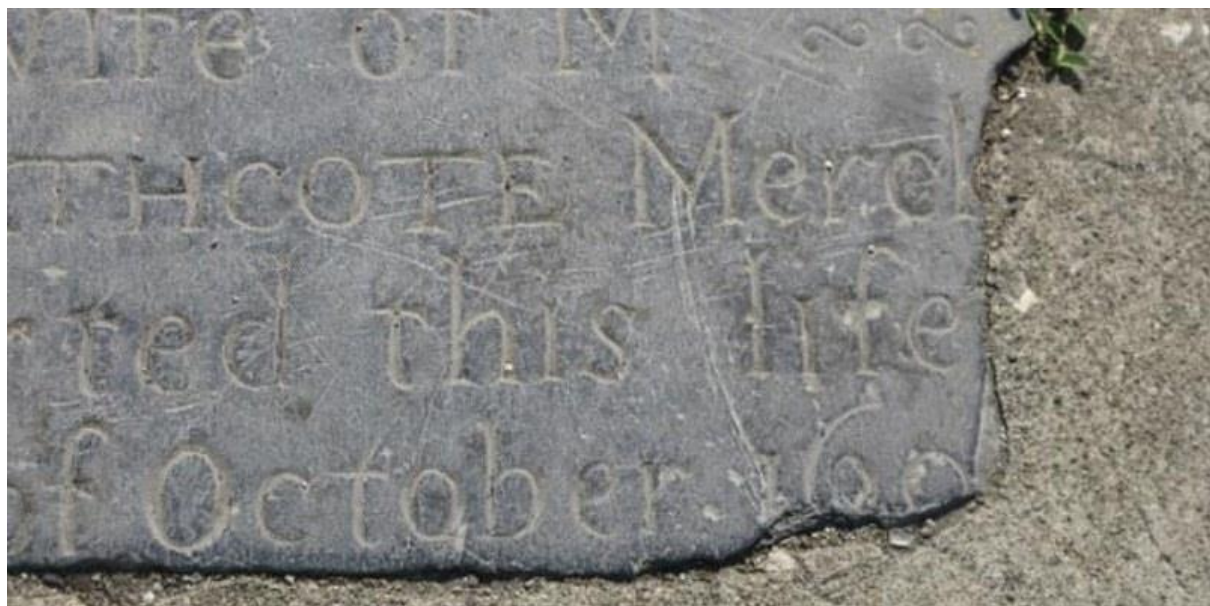
Leverhulme Medal and Prize

Catherine Hall, Chair of LBS, has been awarded the highly prestigious Leverhulme Medal and Prize 2021 by the British Academy. The prize has been awarded in recognition of the impact of her work across modern and contemporary British history. Catherine comments, "My work on class, race, and gender over the past decades has been driven by a conviction that historical understanding of the relation between past and present can contribute to the task of tackling contemporary social, cultural, political and economic inequalities." Read more on the [British Academy website](#).

New PhD studentship

We are very pleased to welcome Isaac Crichlow to the LBS team. Isaac began working on his PhD this month. Isaac says: "I am really excited to be joining the LBS team as a PhD student. Having been awarded the LBS studentship, I am going to be researching the West India Regiments, which were units of enslaved soldiers active in the Caribbean from 1795. This research will reveal the direct involvement of the British state in the enslavement of African peoples, given that they owned over 13,000 soldiers and pioneers. I am interested in the impact of African martial traditions and African culture on the British West Indies. I will be conducting my research under the supervision of the Director of LBS Professor Matthew Smith, and I am hoping to plan and carry out a research trip to the Caribbean over the course of my degree. I feel it is important to balance our understanding of slavery; to include not only the suffering endured by the enslaved, but also their means of survival- the tools they used to resist oppression and create a rich vibrant culture which all of us benefit from and enjoy today."

Upcoming events



Spring Path: A symbolic way station in Olaudah Equiano's Jamaica

Online event, Thursday 21 October, 6pm - 7.30pm

The [Friends of the Georgian Society of Jamaica](#) is hosting a talk by Prof Linda Sturtz exploring the "Spring Path", a sacred burial site described by Equiano where African Americans gathered to honour their heritage. The "Spring Path" site was deliberately erased in the nineteenth century but Prof Sturtz will take listeners on a journey to find its location in present day Jamaica. You can book tickets [here](#).

Sensing the Planet

Dartington Trust, South Devon, 29-31 October

Sensing the Planet is a three-day symposium on the intersections of race, art, ecology and climate justice, organised by [UCL Sarah Parker Remond Centre](#), [Serpentine Galleries](#), [Royal Court Theatre](#) and [Dartington Trust](#).

Timed to take place just before the intergovernmental climate conference COP26, Sensing the Planet will highlight issues of race and environmental harm as well as the role played by the UK, most prominently the south-west of England, in histories of slavery, empire and climate breakdown. It will also champion the role of interdisciplinary artists in imagining new futures built on principles of sustainability and justice.

The symposium programme consists of four sessions. Attendees can book tickets for the full symposium or individual sessions, with each session including:

- An Earth Talk, by leading decolonial thinkers & activists [Ruth Wilson Gilmore](#), [Paul Gilroy](#), [Alexis Pauline Gumbs](#) and [Philippe Sands](#).
- Facilitated sessions exploring antiracist cultural strategies through key themes including 'Ecologies of Empire', 'Sensing the Planet' and 'Futurism as Organising/Organising as Futurism'.
- Plus live performance, film, art installations and more

See [here](#) for the full programme.