

WOMEN WARRIORS AND NATIONAL HEROES: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

September 27-28, 2018, York University

PROGRAM

All states, aspiring nations, and political movements create their own heroes, but do they do so in the same way? And who are these heroes? While much of the historical literature has focused on male heroes and the masculine foundations of the nation-state, this conference examines women warriors and the complex ways their heroism has been gendered.

A group of renowned international scholars of Africa, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North America explore themes of sexuality, violence, indigeneity, and commemoration in the local and global circulation of hero cults devoted to women warriors.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS:

BOYD COTHRAN: Department of History, York University

JOAN JUDGE: Department of History, York University

ADRIAN SHUBERT: Department of History, York University

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 27

Room / Salle Archives of Ontario / Archives publiques de l'Ontario

8:30-9: COFFEE

9-9:15: WELCOME

JANICE ORLANDO-SOTTILE, Director of Archives Management and Information Storage (AMIS), Archives of Ontario

MARCEL MARTEL, Avie Bennett Historica Professor, York University

9:15-10:45

CHAIR: JOAN JUDGE, York University

SEXUALITY: DEMONIZATION AND OCCLUSION

HARLEEN SINGH: Brandeis University

“India’s Greatest Heroine: The Many Lives of Rani Lakshmi Bai, Queen of Jhansi”

LOUISE EDWARDS: University of New South Wales, Australia

“Problems for Commemorating Women Wartime Spies—Case Studies from China”

KAREN TURNER: College of the Holy Cross

“Vietnam’s Martial Women: The Costs of Transgressing Boundaries”

10:45-11:00: COFFEE

11:00-12:45

CHAIR: PABLO IDAHOSA, York University

ERASURES: SOCIAL AND GENDER ATTRIBUTES

RURAMISAI CHARUMBIRA: University of Bern, Switzerland

“Nehanda of Zimbabwe in History and Memory”

GABRIELA CANO: El Colegio de México

“The Feminization of Amelio/A Robles in the Hero and Heroine Cults of the Mexican Revolution”

EMILIE PIGEON, University of Ottawa, CAROLYN PODRUCHNY: York University

“Brave and efficient during the fight”: Metis Women, Warfare, and Diplomacy on the Northern Plains of North America

NEREA ARESTI: Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea

“Women Warriors or Mothers of the Fatherland: Hero Cult and Gender in Basque Nationalism”

LUNCH 12:45-2:00

2:00-3:30

CHAIR: BOYD COTHRAN, York University

VIOLENCE: PROBLEMATIZED AND SANITIZED

MARILYN BOOTH: University of Oxford

“Jeanne d’Arc, Arab Hero? Warrior Women and the Articulation of Feminine Political Authority in the Age of High Colonialism”

Gabriel CID: Universidad Diego Portales, Chile

“The ‘Amazons’ to the Pantheon? Women Warriors, Nationalism and Hero Cult in Chile and Peru (19th And 20th Centuries)”

Marcia YONEMOTO: University of Colorado Boulder

“Murderous Daughters as ‘Exemplary Women’: Filial Piety, Revenge, and Heroism in Early Modern and Modern Japan”

5:00: RECEPTION

5:30: DINNER

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28

Room / Salle Archives of Ontario / Archives publiques de l’Ontario

9-9:30: COFFEE

9:30-11:00

CHAIR: ADRIAN SHUBERT, York University

MULTIMEDIA REFRACTIONS

SAKIS GEKAS: York University

“From the Nation to Emancipation: Women Warriors from the Greek Revolution (1820s) to the Civil War (1940s)”

GINA M. MARTINO: University of Akron

“Women Warriors and the Mobilization of Colonial Memory in the Nineteenth-Century United States”

COLIN M. COATES: Glendon College, York University

“Madeleine de Verchères (1678-1747): Woman Warrior of French Canada”

11-11:15: COFFEE

11:15-11:45: WRAP-UP

12:00: PUBLIC HISTORY LUNCH

Thank you for their support – Remerciements pour leur appui

Archives of Ontario

Avie Bennett Historica Canada Chair in Canadian History

Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLAC)

Department of History, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Department of Humanities, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Embassy of Spain in Canada

Founders College

Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies

Vice-President of Research & Innovation

York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR)

Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that many Indigenous nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron-Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.