



BritCult Conference Bielefeld, 17-19 November, 2016
– Call for Papers –

The Times of Culture and the Cultures of Time: British Temporalities

Just like space, time is not a given, or some neutral dimension that simply provides our lives with an objective structure. Rather, the way that societies and groups in societies think about, utilise and regulate time is as much subject to interpretation, negotiation and contestation as other cultural structures. As such, time is both embedded in the cultural order of a given society, and a factor that shapes the very cultural setup of that society. The relationship between time measurement and navigation in the period of early exploration and colonisation, and the contested rule of measured time over the lives of workers during industrialisation are prominent examples of such time-culture relationships, but temporality has been important in a great variety of ways throughout cultural history.

For the BritCult conference in 2016, we invite papers that inquire diachronically, synchronically or systematically into the way that cultural practices and artefacts have engaged with or commented on conceptions of time in Britain. Of particular interest are papers that address issues within the following framework of questions:

- How did cultural practices and artefacts interact with changes in dominant conceptions of time?
- Which different conceptions of time coexist in particular cultural spheres and historical moments?
- How do the broader cultures of knowledge of a society influence people's perception of, and thinking about, time, and how does that affect cultural production?
- Which cultural practices and artefacts create their own regimes of temporality and how do they relate to dominant conceptions of time?
- How do temporal discourses of the economy and the state shape individual notions of phases of life, work, reproduction, retirement etc.?
- How do factors like class, income, and employment status influence people's experiences and notions of time?
- How do current public discourses around cultural and national identity reference and create notions of pasts, presents and future?
- ... [Potential contributions are of course not limited to this catalogue]!

Please send an **abstract** of ca. 250-300 words to britcult2016@uni-bielefeld.de no later than **April 1st, 2016**.

We look forward to receiving your abstracts and to seeing you in Bielefeld later this year!

Ralf Schneider

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