Call for papers - Embodiments and Inhabitations

The 6th Asian Australian Identities (AAI6) conference of the Asian Australian Studies Research Network (AASRN)

25-26 October 2017, Immigration Museum, Melbourne, Victoria
http://aai6conference.wordpress.com

Closely linked to borders and bounds, boundaries are lines that mark the limits of an area. Taking as our foundational assumption that all boundaries involve processes and practices of embeddedness as well as transgressions of socio-cultural and eco-political spheres, this conference seeks to mark an inquiry into specific kinds of boundary-crossings that involve embodiment and inhabitation for Asian-Australian land/mind/body-scapes.

Theories of embodiment recognise the critical politics of emplacement associated with the body as well as such situatednesses as sites of performance. What happens when such locations shift due to boundary crossings in terms of family, bloodlines, gender, race, class, caste, nation, region, sexuality, religion, among others? How do embodiments that cross boundaries inhabit their place and being, both in the Bourdieusian sense of the habitus as well as that of phenomenologists like Merleau-Ponty?

The conference invites papers, presentations and performances on how Asian-Australian embodiments are made meaningful in changing contexts of communities and crossings, how inhabitations over space, time and history challenge our ideas of being and body.
Confirmed invited speakers:

- **Julie Koh** (Sydney)
- **Dr Helen Ngo** (School of Humanities & Social Science, Deakin Uni)
- **Dr Jane Park** (Department of Gender & Cultural Studies, Sydney Uni)
- **A/Prof Anoma Pieris** (Melbourne School of Design, Uni Melb)
- **Dr Indigo Willing OAM** (Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research, Griffith Uni).

Sub-themes include:

- Adoptee cultures
- Gender(ed) transformations
- Body-modification and enhancement
- Surrogacy and its embodied ethics
- Hyphenations of the self in society
- Appropriations and assimilations
- Linguistic impersonations
- Subaltern ventriloquisms
- Images and representations
- Entangled boundaries
- Affective performances and practices of boundary crossing
- Embodiments in and out of place
- Mapping/feeling the boundaries of settler colonialism
- Race and fan cultures

Please send 250 word abstracts and a 100 word bio with a recent photo to aai6conference@gmail.com by 6 MAY 2017 (EXTENDED DEADLINE!). Proposed theme panels or round-tables are welcome.


Please note that attendees and presenters will be required to register and pay a registration fee via the conference website. Early bird and concession fees will be available.

**Conference convenors:**

- Dr Mridula Nath Chakraborty, Monash Asia Institute, Monash University
- Dr Jessica Walton, Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University

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