

The International Society for the Study of Time
Fifteenth Triennial Conference

Time and Trace

June 30 - July 6, 2013

Orthodox Academy of Crete

http://www.oac.gr/htm/main_en.html

Call for Papers

Proposals (300 words) due by June 30th, 2012

The International Society for the Study of Time (ISST) seeks proposals for presentations at its 2013 conference on the island of Crete, on the theme of Time and Trace. The ISST, renowned for its interdisciplinary scope, welcomes contributions from all scholarly, creative, or professional perspectives. Our format features plenary presentations delivered over several days, creating a sustained, interdisciplinary engagement among participants.

If time is a river, it etches its courses through many substrates: physical, biological, social, cognitive. Although we are sensible of the more obvious tracks in our histories, contexts and lives, many of the traces of these are subtle or brief, but no less profound in their making and influence.

Etymologically, Trace is tractus (L) (and perhaps tragen (G)), 'drawn', 'pulled' or 'carried', whence 'traction' and 'attraction'. It is also trait (F), 'line', 'outline', 'feature' and ri-tratto (I), 'por-trait'; Trace is what happens when a point becomes, in time, a line; and therefore is graphein (Gr.), to trace or draw. It is also traccia (I), 'spoor', 'trail' or 'track'. Tractare (L) is 'to treat' any subject narratively, as in a 'tract' or 'tractate'. Works of literature were also called "brush traces" (hiseki) in Japanese.

We invite scholars, artists and educators to contribute to and co-create an interdisciplinary exploration of 'Time and Trace,' a theme that may stimulate reflection from many fields of inquiry, including (but certainly not limited to): physics & cosmology, geology, chemistry, music, drawing & painting, literature & literary theory, the biological and cognitive sciences, archeology & paleontology, anthropology, engineering, philosophy.

Possible topics:

- The trace of social, political, demographic, economic, and historical trends
- Traces left by the causes of observed natural events
- Tracing the future: from mantic to futurology

- Temporal traces, trajectories and forms in narrative
- The trace in philosophy
- Imprints recorded/archived/reconstructed/anticipated
- Psychoanalysis and the temporal trace
- Trajectories and orbits in dynamical systems theory
- Traces of light, matter, and time in cosmology
- Archeological or paleontological traces of life
- Changing concepts of how time is measured and traced
- Evolution, extinction, and artifacts of change
- Chemical or biological traces that evolve over time
- Medical traces that are molecular, electrochemical, or topological
- Forensic traces in a documentary, financial, or biological sense
- *vestigia Dei* -medieval/early modern perception of the creator's 'footprints'
- The ideal of "not leaving traces" - from Buddhism to Environmentalism
- A trace or a blaze in its figurative sense as a symbol in ritual or sacrament
- The trace as a visible sign of spiritual grace
- Artistic and literary orchestrations of traces left or lost

Guidelines and Timeline for Proposals: Proposals will be for 20 – 30 minute presentations in diverse formats: scholarly paper, debate, performance, overview of creative work, installation, workshop. Proposals for interdisciplinary panels are especially welcome (each paper for a panel must be approved by the selection committee). In this latter case, three speakers might present divergent points of view around a central topic, and be responded to by a moderator. All work will be presented in English, and should strike a balance between expertise in an area of specialization and accessibility to a general intellectual audience.

Proposals, approximately 300 words in length, are submitted electronically. The author's name(s) should not appear in the proposal, as the ISST does blind reviewing in selecting papers for its conferences. **The deadline for submission is June 30th, 2012**, with acceptances communicated by November 1, 2012. The Society also seeks session chairs, whose names will be included on the printed conference program.

To submit proposals, go to the ISST website:

<http://www.studyoftime.org/forms/confsubmit.aspx>

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