

# The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21





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# Director's Welcome

The year 2020-21 was always going to be a transitional time for IASH since it would have marked the first full year after our fiftieth anniversary – a time for new starts and fresh commitments. But it turned out to be an experimental year in an unintentional way. During August 2020, the COVID-19 situation in Scotland looked very favourable; there were low case numbers and relatively few people were becoming seriously unwell. Following great work by Ben Fletcher-Watson in measuring offices and setting up socially-distanced work-stations, in signposting, in pressing our case within the University and in working out safe routes around the building, IASH was among the first University premises to re-open and we managed to welcome a good number of Fellows in the autumn. Things were not entirely normal: our seminar room – which on occasions has probably flexed to accept audiences of over 35 - could now only accommodate five people sitting two metres apart. But we felt we were underway.

However, owing to a variety of factors and complicated interactions between changes in people's conduct and in the virus's make-up, the UK and Scottish situations got rapidly worse through the autumn. People from some countries could no longer travel and many other Fellows were discouraged by their home universities from making unnecessary journeys. After Christmas 2020, nearly all of Scotland went back into a mild form of lockdown. Children's schools were closed for about three months and nearly everyone worked from home if they could. We managed to keep IASH open for Fellows who found themselves in Edinburgh and could not work from their temporary homes, but our only community activities were conducted online. We also said farewell to our long-serving Secretary, Donald Ferguson, who left IASH in January for new adventures.

Since April things have been improving slowly, greatly aided by the vaccination programme. The Scottish government has taken a more cautious line than the one adopted in England, but people have recently been able to visit Scotland, although travellers from many countries have had to self-isolate for up to ten days on arrival. This has effectively ruled out shorter visits, but it has allowed people on longer stays to think of beginning their Fellowships. Several Fellows sought to delay or postpone their visits from the autumn onwards; these visitors were then able to start conducting their work in person from June.

The overall consequence of the pandemic and changes in regulations is that our Fellow numbers for 2020-21 were slightly down on the recent 'normal', at 354 person-months (against 368 in the previous year). In part, we simply had to offer fewer places since we couldn't fill the building in the normal way. But some people also chose (or had) to delay their visits or undertake a virtual Fellowship. It has also meant that our summer attendance has been slightly bigger than usual, with people trying to fit in their 2020-21 visit near the close of the academic year.

I have written before about the European network of Institutes of Advanced Study known as NetIAS. During this difficult year, NetIAS became a valuable resource for IASH. Instead of sixmonthly in-person meetings, we met much more frequently on Zoom or Teams, exchanging ideas about how to cope with uncertainties in Fellow recruitment and travel. We got together to host a series of online NetIAS lecture events (to continue in the coming year) and we took the chance to look at new sources of funding for research partnerships.

Of course, nearly everyone in the Internet-enabled world experimented with moving parts of their life online: virtual departmental coffee meetings, endless Pilates classes nearly completed, and Zoom quizzes with the family. But IASH really did benefit from this strategy too. Firstly, we moved our weekly Work-in-Progress sessions fully online. These have run right through the year and – unusually – continued even through August this summer. We have had very good audiences, and speakers have done a great job in using their slides and video presentations to communicate their work. We even had our IASH/Traverse Creative Fellow, Julia Taudevin, present a live rehearsed reading of some of her new writing with the help of comedian Josie Long, which was both brilliant in its own right

and also a spectacular insight into how someone can use their voice, face and physicality (and some prosthetic teeth) over Zoom.

Each year we aim to give our early-career Fellows a chance to bid for funds to support workshops or symposia. Of course, these could not really be held in-person this year, but the move to online working provided a real opportunity for some researchers. For example, Dr Anamarija Horvat and Dr Alice Kelly collaborated on a symposium on queer representation which grew so much that it became a four-day international conference with hundreds of participants. This kind of opportunity is clearly here to stay and – very much encouraged by Professor Dorothy Miell, chair of our Advisory Board and also Head of College – we are aiming to make online outputs and events part of the culture and a routine expectation of all Fellows in future years.

Lastly, the move to digital activity has helped us in our aim of becoming more global: increasing applications and awards for Fellowships outside our customary geographical focus. We have, for example, been able to use funds flexibly to support Fellows from African countries in their field studies and archival work elsewhere in Africa as well as supporting them at home. We have also launched a new Fellowship scheme with the British Council to promote studies of archives and research material held by the Council itself.

In 2020-21 we also managed to develop some initiatives that dodged the impact of COVID. IASH has been working closely with the newly established Scottish Arts and Humanities Alliance (SAHA), which was founded to give a public and collective voice to the Arts and Humanities in the context of Higher Education. SAHA is a joint initiative of ten Scottish Higher Education institutions, as well as the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities. Overall, this alliance is designed to promote the value of the "SHAPE" disciplines (social sciences, humanities and the arts for people and the economy/environment). In the coming year IASH will be hosting a specific SAHA Postdoctoral Fellowship to address the

arts and humanities research dimensions of education policy as one of SAHA's areas of strategic priority within a Scottish context.

A second new partnership is in the environmental humanities. Near the end of May 2021, IASH was one of nearly 50 organisations worldwide represented at the Inaugural General Assembly of BRIDGES, an 'open-ended and inclusive voluntary coalition of intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organisations, institutes, formal projects and formal networks organised under the umbrella of UNESCO', in particular UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations Programme (MOST). It stands out as a UNESCO initiative on the environment that is rooted in the humanities and social sciences. It was very good for IASH to be present at the very start of this novel, global initiative, and BRIDGES has the scope to provide many new partners and collaborative opportunities for environmental humanities work at IASH in the coming years.

Finally, the major innovation of the year has been the development of plans for re-orienting more than half of IASH's research for the next three years into the Institute Project on Decoloniality (IPD '24). During the latter part of 2020, we worked with the RACE.ED network within the College to devise novel ways for IASH to support research and scholarship on decoloniality in the humanities and social sciences. Earlier in 2021 we had a tremendous response to the call for senior, visiting and post-doctoral/early-career research Fellows. I feel certain that the Fellows starting over the coming months will inaugurate this latest Institute Project in a novel and exciting way. I hold great hopes that very many IPD Fellows will be able to be present in Edinburgh to conduct their research and that their work will have a significant impact at the University, as well as marking a distinctive component within IASH's next fifty years.

Professor Steve Yearley
IASH Director

### Organisation & Governance



#### ADVISORY BOARD

At the top level of oversight, our Advisory Board is drawn from diverse areas of academia and from civil society. The Board is chaired by Professor Dorothy Miell OBE (Vice-Principal and Head of CAHSS, University of Edinburgh), and in 2020-21 the membership comprised:

- Dr Olivier Bouin (Director of French Network of Institutes for Advanced Studies/EURIAS)
- Professor Rosi Braidotti (Founding Director, Centre for the Humanities, University of Utrecht)
- Dr Alison Elliott OBE (Honorary Fellow, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh; General Secretary, Royal Society of Edinburgh)
- Ms Shreela Ghosh (Secretary, The Charles Wallace India Trust)
- Dr Robin Jackson CBE (former Chief Executive & Secretary, The British Academy)
- Mr Allan Little (broadcaster; former BBC Correspondent; Chair of the Edinburgh International Book Festival)
- Professor Jane Ohlmeyer (Professor of Modern History, Trinity College Dublin; Parnell Fellow, Magdalene College, Cambridge)
- Dr John Scally (Librarian and Chief Executive, National Library of Scotland)
- Ms Christine Wilson (Head of Research and Engagement, British Council)
- Dr William Zachs (Honorary Fellow, University of Edinburgh)

#### MANAGEMENT GROUP

The IASH Management Group continues to ensure that we meet our strategic goals of excellence across our interdisciplinary remit and that we serve the needs of all Schools across the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS). Members are drawn from across the College and meet twice annually to consult on strategic and major operational matters.

#### The 2020-21 Management Group members were:

#### PROFESSOR RICHARD ANDREWS

Head of the Moray House School of Education and Sport. Richard's research interests are in rhetoric, poetics and argumentation across the disciplines; in writing development; and in research methodologies in the digital age. He joined the Management Group in 2020.

#### PROFESSOR CHRISTINA BOSWELL

Dean of Research, CAHSS and Professor of Politics. Christina works in the areas of Political Sociology, use of research in policy, immigration and asylum policy, the politics of immigration, and public policy.

#### DR PATRICIA ERSKINE

Head of Stakeholder Relations & Policy Officer for CAHSS. Patricia manages several of the University's collaborative relationships with Edinburgh's major festivals and cultural organisations, including coordination of the University's digital arts programme.

#### PROFESSOR ED HOLLIS

Personal Chair in Interior Design and Director of Research and Knowledge Exchange at the Edinburgh College of Art. An architect and interior designer, Ed balances his own research with assisting staff across ECA to develop their own research interests and projects.

#### PROFESSOR LESLEY McARA CBE

Chair of Penology, Director of EFI Studio Group & Assistant Principal Community Relations. Lesley is an Associate Director of the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research, as well as founder and co-convenor of the Leadership Foundation for Women in the Legal Profession.

#### PROFESSOR FIONA MACKAY

Professor of Politics and Director of genderED. Fiona convenes the Gender Politics Research Group and co-directs the Feminism and Institutionalism International Network (FIIN).

#### PROFESSOR JOLYON MITCHELL

Director of the Centre for Theology and Public Issues (CTPI), Professor of Communications, Arts and Religion, and former Academic Director of IASH. His research examines religion, violence and peacebuilding with particular reference to the arts.

#### PROFESSOR MARTIN PICKERING

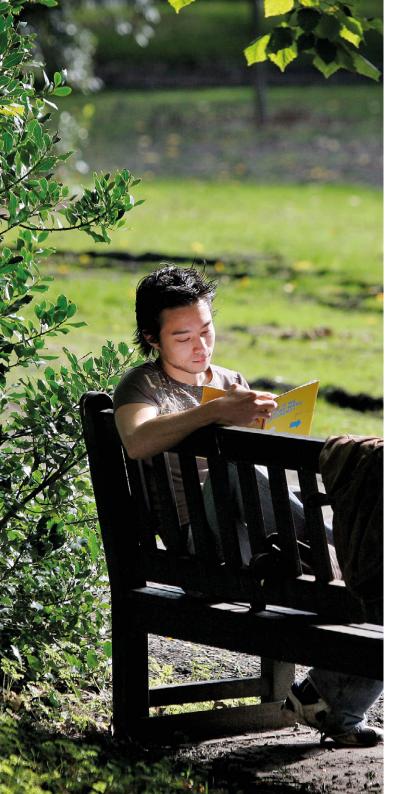
Director of Research for the School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences. His research interests centre on the psychology of language and communication, including language production, language comprehension, dialogue, language and imagination, joint action, and bilingualism.

#### PROFESSOR LYDIA PLOWMAN

Chair in Education and Technology at the Moray House School of Education and former Dean of Research in CAHSS. Lydia's research interests are mainly in digital media and children's play and learning in a range of formal and informal settings.

#### PROFESSOR GREG WALKER

Regius Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature in the School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures and a member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council. He specialises in the literary culture of the reign of Henry VIII and has also written widely on late-medieval drama and poetry and Renaissance literature.



# Incubating Ideas Across the College & Beyond

The pandemic gave us an opportunity to expand the range of events offered, in collaboration with partners across the city and around the world. From author interviews to gallery exhibitions, our Fellows have disseminated their research in a host of new ways, and the Institute has reached thousands of people who had previously been unable to engage with our work.

#### THE YEAR AT IASH

### 15TH AUGUST MAGGIE O'FARRELL: GIVING NEW LIFE TO SHAKESPEARE'S SON

Maggie O'Farrell discussed her critically acclaimed novel *Hamnet* with Scottish author and journalist Stuart Kelly as part of the Edinburgh International Book Festival, streamed live around the world. A full video recording is available at: https://youtu.be/y\_eA5bfMbb8

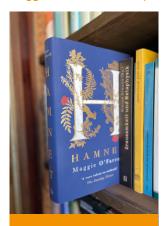
As *The Scotsman* critic noted, "A completely engaging event concluded with chair Stuart Kelly reading out a comment the audience had already seen arrive on screen. 'As a mother who has lost a child,' it read, 'Hamnet has claimed a part of my heart.' Sometimes, you realise, the festival's medium isn't the key message at all."

This event was sponsored by IASH as part of the University of Edinburgh's support for the Book Festival.

### AUGUST TO NOVEMBER TRAVERSE THEATRE HAPPENINGS

Like all theatres, Edinburgh's Traverse was badly hit by the pandemic. Our partnership project, Happenings, offered the chance to engage with theatre and culture from the comfort and safety of your own home. Happenings was a series of curated artistic interventions, events. and discussions responding to the urgent question of the role of culture in society, who has a voice through it and who owns the stories told. We offered provocations from artists, academics, cultural experts, political representatives and young Edinburgh residents to open up the conversation across the city, the nation and the globe. Contributions included a video essay from playwright May Sumbwanyambe, using his personal experiences to explore the concerning portrayal of Black people in the media, and in dreams i, an art film by Natasha Thembiso Ruwona.

Maggie O'Farrell's critically acclaimed novel, 'Hamnet'



Playwright May Sumbwanyambe





Playwright Jo Clifford

### NOVEMBER 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

In collaboration with genderED, IASH supported the launch of the annual campaign seeking an end to genderbased violence. The 16 Days Blogathon is an annual event hosted by genderED at the University of Edinburgh, the Australian Human Rights Institute at the University of New South Wales and Ambedkhar University in Delhi. The first blog came from 2011 IASH-Traverse Creative Fellow Jo Clifford, on art as resistance in the face of hate.

#### 10TH FEBRUARY

C.B. WADSTRÖM, S.T. COLERIDGE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF RADICAL SWEDISH-BRITISH NETWORKS IN THE 1790s BY PROFESSOR ANDERS MORTENSEN (LUND UNIVERSITY). A NORTHERN SCHOLARS LECTURE.

Former IASH Fellow Professor Anders Mortensen spoke online via Zoom about his research into Swedish economist, abolitionist, and Swedenborgian Carl Bernhard Wadström, linking his essays to a speech given by Samuel Taylor Coleridge against the slave trade in The Assembly coffee house in Bristol in 1795. Professor Mortensen outlined a case study for a larger investigation aimed at the historical context of the radical Swedish-British networks of the 1790s, which attracted religious dissenters and intellectuals committed to social utopianism and utopian colonisation, radical economics and abolition.



International Women's Day 2021: The role of women in HIV and LGBTQ+ activism

#### 9TH MARCH

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN HIV AND LGBTQ+ ACTIVISM

The success of the recent Channel 4 series *It's a Sin* shone a light on those affected by the AIDS crisis in the 80s and 90s. The character of Jill has inspired conversations about the role of women at this time, often as supporters, carers and campaigners for justice. The theme of International Women's Day 2021 was #ChooseToChallenge, a fitting call when reflecting on the contributions made by women towards HIV and AIDS justice and LGBTQ+ rights.

Panellists included Lisa Power, Juno Roche, Ceri Hutton, Katie Deverell, Winnie Ssanyu Sseruma and Val Harvey.

#### 24TH MARCH

FACTS AND FEELINGS: A CROSS-CHANNEL TYPOLOGY OF AFFECTIVE CONTENT BY DR MARIA ESIPOVA (UNIVERSITY OF OSLO). A NORTHERN SCHOLARS LECTURE.

Dr Esipova delivered the second of 2020-21's Northern Scholars Lectures with a fascinating exploration of the empirical differences between truth-conditional and expressive meaning, noting that these have important consequences for our understanding of the architecture of grammar, and, thus, should be properly captured in our linguistic theories.







Gavin Francis GP
Licenced under a CC-BY Licence.
Photo by Thomas S.G. Farnetti.

### 28TH APRIL INTENSIVE CARE WITH DR GAVIN FRANCIS

Our live Q&A with GP Gavin Francis delved into his latest book *Intensive Care*, exploring his experiences of treating patients during the coronavirus pandemic in both urban and rural communities.

In conversation with Junior Anniversary Fellow Dr Jivitesh Vashisht, Gavin discussed his experiences in Edinburgh and the islands of Orkney. When the pandemic arrived in our society he saw how it affected every walk of life: the anxious teenager, the isolated care home resident, the struggling furloughed worker and homeless ex-prisoner, all united by their vulnerability in the face of a global disaster. He saw how the true cost of the virus was measured not just in infections, or deaths, or ITU beds, but in the consequences of the measures taken against it. This event was organised in collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

#### 26TH MAY

ODYSSEUS' TEARS AND THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WEEPING BY DR ERIC CULLHED (UPPSALA UNIVERSITY). A NORTHERN SCHOLARS LECTURE.

This free public lecture took place on Zoom, with Dr Cullhed exploring the scene from the *Odyssey* where Odysseus bursts into tears first at lunch and then again at dinner while listening to songs about the Trojan War among the Phaeacians. Dr Cullhed reanalysed the relationship between weeping, loss and suffering but also affiliative attachment and values in the *Odyssey*, concluding that the particular object of Odysseus' emotion is the public celebration of his own social self,



Sir Stapleton Cotton, Lord Combermere, Commander-in-Chief, India (1825-1830) By kind permission of The National Trust for Scotland

apprehended as precious and profoundly important to him.

## 17TH-18TH JUNE COLONIAL CONNECTIONS: NORTH EAST SCOTLAND'S COLONIAL PAST, 1700-1840

The conference was organised by former IASH Fellow and member of the Steering Group for the Institute Project on Decoloniality Dr Désha Osborne and her colleagues, Dr Eloise Grey and Matthew Lee. It was supported by IASH and the University of Aberdeen Museums and Special Collections. Over 20 speakers presented on topics such as institutional legacies of colonialism and life in the Caribbean. Dr Osborne chaired a superb keynote by Dr Andrew Mackillop of the University of Glasgow, as well as a final roundtable discussion titled 'Where do we go from here?'

Dr Osborne said, "We are very grateful for the support and guidance received in organising this first inaugural conference that brought together scholars working on the legacies of slavery and colonialism connected to individuals and institutions in North East Scotland. I began this research at IASH and am appreciative that my work was supported even after my Fellowship ended."

#### **26TH JUNE**

GLITTER BAR: A MAKEOVER TAKEOVER!

Hosted by Dr Nicole Seymour (IASH Environmental Humanities Fellow) and high priestess of Edinburgh drag Mystika Glamoor, *Glitter Bar: A Makeover Takeover!* explored the idea that the LGBTQ+ adoption of biodegradable glitter, along with movements like the #PlasticFreePride campaign, show that environmental



Mystika Glamoor, Edinburgh drag queen

ethics must be central to future queer politics. This exploration took a playful format, in which thirty participants from around the world applied, and reflected on their use of, biodegradable glitter. Part of the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

### 12TH JULY THE ART OF BEING DANGEROUS BOOK LAUNCH

An online celebration marked the launch of the Dangerous Women Project's first book, The Art of Being Dangerous: exploring women and danger through creative expression. Showcasing an array of contemporary art that highlights the breadth of talent among today's female artists, The Art of Being Dangerous offers many images of women - some humorous, some challenging, some well-known, some forgotten, but all unique. The launch featured Professor Jo Shaw in conversation with Dr Margie Orford, readings by Heather Pearson, Elaine Gallagher, Nkateko Masinga and Kate Feld, and a presentation of photography by Heshani Sothiraj Eddleston.

# 26TH-30TH JULY THE WHITE CANVAS: AN EXHIBITION BY SHATHA ALTOWAI

The White Canvas was award-winning Yemeni artist and IIE-Artist Protection Fund Fellow Shatha Altowai's first exhibition in Scotland. In The White Canvas, Shatha addressed issues that she has experienced and observed throughout her life in Yemen, specifically focussing on the last seven years since the start of the current war. She aimed to highlight the lifestyles of Yemeni families living through the war, their solidarity, and how they seek to overcome the lack of basic necessities, such as food,



'The Art of Being Dangerous' book launch event

water, electricity, fuel and security. Her work conveyed the contradictory emotions of strength and fear that Yemeni families grapple with as part of their everyday experience. The exhibition included the music of Saber Bamatraf, whose compositions have frequently inspired Shatha's art.

'Family No. 8' by Shatha Altowai







'Humanities of the Future'

'The Art of Being Dangerous'

### MAKING AND CELEBRATING BOOKS AT IASH

HUMANITIES OF THE FUTURE (IASH, 2020) EDITED BY BEN FLETCHER-WATSON AND JANA PHILLIPS

To mark our half-century, we collected some of the papers due to be delivered at our anniversary symposium in April 2020 (sadly cancelled due to the pandemic) into a handsome volume as number 21 in the IASH Occasional Papers series. With an introduction from the Principal, and a keynote paper by Prof. Rosi Braidotti, the book gathers together interdisciplinary contributions to offer conversations about the trajectory of the humanities, arts and social sciences, and encourage anticipations towards the next fifty years to prepare IASH and the scholarly community for key trends in humanities futures.

THE ART OF BEING DANGEROUS: EXPLORING WOMEN AND DANGER THROUGH CREATIVE EXPRESSION (LEUVEN UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2021) EDITED BY JO SHAW AND BEN FLETCHER-WATSON

The idea that women are dangerous – individually or collectively – runs throughout history and across cultures. Behind this label lies a significant set of questions about the dynamics, conflicts, identities and power relations with which women live today. *The Art of Being Dangerous* offers many different images of women, some humorous, some challenging, some well-known, some forgotten, but all unique. In a dazzling variety of creative forms, artists and writers of diverse identities explore what it means to be a dangerous woman.



'Screening Queer Memory: LGBTQ Pasts in Contemporary Film and Television"

SCREENING QUEER MEMORY: LGBTQ PASTS IN CONTEMPORARY FILM AND TELEVISION (BLOOMSBURY, 2021) BY ANAMARIJA HORVAT

IASH welcomed 46 attendees to the book launch of Screening Queer Memory: LGBTQ Pasts in Contemporary Film and Television by former IASH Fellow Dr Anamarija Horvat on 14 June. Anamarija was joined by discussant Dr Glyn Davis of the Edinburgh College of Art. The successful and intriguing launch focussed on Anamarija's research interrogating how contemporary cinema and television have commented on the specificity of queer memory, both reflecting aspects of its construction and participating in its creation. In conversation with attendees, Anamarija and Glyn discussed the influence of the producer in queer films, and two recently released series, It's A Sin and Veneno.



Death and Commemoration in the 17th and 18th Centuries

#### IASH/SUSAN MANNING WORKSHOPS

In 2020-2021, we continued the practice of supporting postdoctoral fellows to organise workshops and symposia, especially where they are able to secure complementary funding from other sources; these workshops are known as Susan Manning events in honour of Professor Manning's outstanding contributions as IASH Director (2005-2013). Topics this year included:

Critical Globalism: Perspectives from Early Modern Artistic Networks (12 October, Dr Francesco Gusella) in collaboration with the Edinburgh Centre for Global History

Disappointed Hopes: Reclaiming the Promise of Resistance (7–9 December, Dr Maša Mrovlje) in collaboration with CRITIQUE – Centre for Ethics and Critical Thought

The African Dilemmas: Entangled Histories, Partnerships, and Issues of Development (17 & 18 March, Dr George Njung) with thanks to the Centre for Data, Culture and Society

Death and Commemoration in the 17th and 18th Centuries (12 April, Dr Sydney Ayers), co-hosted with the Material and Visual Culture Seminar Series at Edinburgh College of Art

Queer Representation: Pasts, Presents, Futures (11–14 May, Dr Anamarija Horvat and Dr Alice Kelly)

Reports for many of these workshops can be found on our website.



'Feminist Classrooms: Past, Present, Future'

#### genderED

genderED is the University of Edinburgh's interdisciplinary hub for gender and sexualities studies. It is powered by the School of Social and Political Science (SPS) and hosted by IASH. Now approaching its fourth year of existence, genderED has grown to around 135 researchers (from 85 at launch) and has more than 200 courses listed on its directory (from 80 at launch). This demonstrates the breadth and strength of work in Edinburgh in this frequently overlooked interdisciplinary field.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to the disruption of our events programme and the cancellation of several planned events. As a result, our focus in 2020-21 has been on the delivery of digital content and communications with the support of SPS Comms, our genderED web and editorial assistant Aerin Lai, and IASH and genderED Communications and Events Intern Shy Zvouloun, as well as amplifying events with others, particularly RACE.ED.

#### KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-21

#### Supporting the study of gender and sexualities:

Understanding Gender in the Contemporary World (UGCW), convened by Dr Meryl Kenny, ran successfully for the fourth time with more than 270 students. Introduction to Queer Studies, convened by Dr Glyn Davis, ran for the third time capped at 200 students. genderED facilitated the development of a proposal for a new interdisciplinary undergraduate course on Gender and Visual Cultures with Dr Idil Akinci and Professor Nacim Pak-Shiraz. We sponsored a prize for best UGCW Gender Observation for the second year, publishing the winning entries on the genderED blog.



'Trespassing the Binary' from the series 'Unblocked: Beyond the Gender Normative'.
Reproduced by permission of artist Natasha Chandhock.

Feminist and intersectional classrooms: We completed the first phase of our oral history project 'Voices from the Early Days' with a series of blog posts, with the support of the Teaching Feminisms and Transforming Lives Project (PI Radhika Govinda). We supported ongoing work on feminist digital classrooms (Elena Pollot and Meryl Kenny) and cosponsored with EUSA a panel on Feminist Classrooms.

International collaboration to address gender-based violence: Working with partners at Ambedkar University Delhi and the Australian Human Rights Institute (University of New South Wales), as well as the Edinburgh College of Art, genderED curated our third 16 Days international blogathon to raise awareness of genderbased violence through arts-based approaches and creative responses. Contributors included artists, writers, musicians, playwrights, and performers, alongside activists, academics, and students. The blog was launched by playwright and transgender activist Jo Clifford (cosponsored by IASH/Dangerous Women), followed by 16 days of stories, reflections, and performances from around the world: from Scotland to Brazil, Australia to Nigeria, and South Africa to India. Through images, videos, and texts, we shared experiences and acts of remembrance and resistance that were challenging, yet illuminating and hopeful. The Blogathon attracted around 4,000 views from 106 countries over the 16 days, and almost 11 thousand views to date. In 2021 the Histories of Gender and Sexualities Research Group will lead for Edinburgh/ genderED on the theme of Histories, Legacies, Myths and Memories.

Putting expert knowledge to use: As part of the Gender Sensitive Research Project, genderED (PI Professor Fiona Mackay and Project Manager and Research Lead Dr Rosalind Cavaghan) and Edinburgh Research Office created a suite of resources to support academics in meeting new legal requirements to integrate gender equality considerations into GCRF and Newton Fund research projects, and to promote gender parity in research teams. This tool kit has attracted interest and praise from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Scottish Funding Council, UK Research and Innovation, and the British Academy. The tool kit has been adopted by several Universities, including Glasgow and Bristol. The tool kit and guidance has been migrated to the genderED website. Additionally, genderED created a new intersectional resource: an annotated bibliography on COVID-19, care, and HE careers, which has been shared both internally and externally through the UNA Europa network.

Supporting interdisciplinarity and networking: Alongside RACE.ED, we mapped multi and interdisciplinary research across CAHSS and beyond in the broad field of inequality. We supported an Erasmus+ Visiting Fellowship with IASH by Dr Maria Belloso, who leads the Horizon 2020 Project Gearing Roles, which works to transform gender roles and tackle gender inequality in HE and research institutions.

To join the online directories or the genderED mailing list, or to find out more, please email gender.ed@ed.ac.uk. Follow us on twitter at @UoE\_genderED.



RACE.ED's logo, the Tree of Life

#### RACE.ED

RACE.ED is a university-wide network concerned with race, racialisation and decolonial studies from a multidisciplinary perspective. Made up of over one hundred colleagues across the University of Edinburgh's three colleges, RACE.ED is constellated across different traditions of thought, research, and teaching commitments, allowing for different genealogies of race and colonialism to be known.

Since our launch in June 2020, RACE.ED has worked to deepen and expand a broad and enduring intellectual culture, to undergird teaching and learning, support research within and beyond the University, and insist that topics of race, racialisation and coloniality are not peripheral in the identity of the University of Edinburgh.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have primarily focused on the delivery of digital content and online events, supported by Michaelagh Broadbent, the SPS Comms Team, Events & Protocol's Rebecca Whitfield, and IASH and RACE.ED Communications and Events Intern Lucien Staddon Foster.

#### KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020-21

Supported the study of race and coloniality: RACE.ED

began preparing for the launch of *Understanding Race* and *Coloniality*, an interdisciplinary course that provides an overview of the major issues at stake in the study of race, racialisation and decoloniality from a broadly conceived social science and humanities tradition. This course moves directly from an SPS in-Practice course designed and led by Dr Shaira Vadasaria, Dr Katucha Bento and Professor Nasar Meer organised in term one. This teaching team drew from a similar pedagogical



RACE.ED's 'Collective and Creative Pedagogies' logo by Paola Rozo

approach in the subsequent honours course that ran in term two, entitled *Race and Ethnicity*, which received the award as "Outstanding Course" of 2021 by the Edinburgh University Student Association. Additionally, we collaborated with the Centre for Research Collections and the Main Library to develop a catalogue of resources on race and decolonial studies to support and broaden teaching.

RACE.ED's first anniversary: This June, we celebrated our first anniversary, marked by a special collaborative issue of the Retrospect Journal entitled 'Race in Retrospective', featuring fifteen articles written by members of the RACE.ED network and edited by Jamie Gemmell. Additionally, we released the commemorative collections, 'RACE.ED Speaks: Conversations on Race and Racialisation' and 'RACE.ED Writes: Reflections on Race and Racialisation', to highlight the great anti-racist and decolonial work and events from RACE.ED's inaugural year.

Broadcasted conversations on race and coloniality within and beyond the university: Over the last year, RACE.ED has co-organised a number of seminars and workshops around the topic of race and racism with CERES, CAS, CRITIQUE, IASH, ESALA, E-Flux, genderED and the journal Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power, with local and international colleagues situated across the Global South and North. Centering knowledge and knowledge practices by Black, Indigenous and POC scholar-activists who also engage with questions around sexuality, gender, class, caste and disability, these discussions further deepened space for intersectional thinking, praxis and debate. In January, we launched our podcast 'Undersong: Race and Conversations Otherwise', which has provided a new platform to engage with the legacies of empire and coloniality and exchange critical thought around race.



Connected race scholars and grew ideas: With the

RACE.ED Network, we have connected over 100 academics concerned with race and decoloniality, building long-lasting relationships and laying the foundations for collaborative scholarship. We are also proud to have been awarded the first of our Fellowships as part of IASH's Institute Project on Decoloniality 2021-2024, in collaboration with the Centre for Research Collections (CRC) and the Stuart Hall Foundation.

Created partnerships to tackle racial inequality: This year, we partnered with the Coalition for Race Equality and Rights (CRER), other race-equality stakeholders and the Scottish Parliament on our Runnymede report and panel discussion 'Taking Stock - Race Equality in Scotland'. We also partnered with the Edinburgh International Book Festival in hosting the author Brit Bennett, and with the Scottish Graduate School of Social Sciences to celebrate Black History Month. Additionally, we worked with Wezi Mhura, Curious Edinburgh and an incredible array of artists to help produce the Scotland-wide Black Lives Matter Mural Trail, and we cannot wait to share all the plans being developed for this summer.

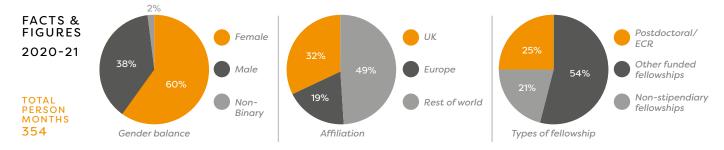
Community: We would like to thank all those whose support and collaboration has enabled RACE.ED's conception and everything we've done to date. Thank you to all the many colleagues across all three Colleges, to Ben Fletcher-Watson, Steve Yearley and IASH, to Daryl Green and CRC, to Jamie Gemmell, Alice Goodwin, Tristan Craig and the entire Retrospect team, and our array of colleagues in Professional Services: Michaelagh Broadbent, Joe Burrell, Adam Cavill, Jen Chambers, Gordon Coutts, Clare de Mowbray and Marie Storrar, and the countless others who have helped and supported RACE.ED in this turbulent and uncertain year.

#### **NETWORKS & CONSORTIA**

IASH supports researchers across the College to forge and strengthen international collaborations and is an active member of several consortia of peer institutes:

- UK Consortium of Institutes of Advanced Studies (CIAS)
- Network of European Institutes for Advanced Study (NetIAS)
- European Consortium for Humanities Institutes and Centres (ECHIC)
- University-Based Institutes for Advanced Study (UBIAS)
- Consortium of Humanities Centers & Institutes (CHCI)

The Institute also plays a leading role in the Scottish Arts and Humanities Alliance (SAHA). The Alliance is a joint initiative of ten Scottish Higher Education institutions, the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities. It was established to give a public and collective voice to the Arts and Humanities in the context of Higher Education and will also make connections as appropriate with work at a UK level to promote the value of SHAPE (social sciences, humanities and the arts for people and the economy/environment).



### Fellows & Fellowships

In all, 61 Fellows were appointed this year, with visits totalling almost 360 person-months despite the pandemic. This maintains IASH's position as the fourth largest Institute of its kind in Europe.

For 2020-21, the Institute received 173 fully eligible applications for the Postdoctoral Fellowship programmes and over 220 applications for other Fellowships, our highest ever application rate. The success rate for Postdoctoral Fellowships remains around 6-7%. By retaining the 'feel' of a small and cohesive cohort, we have endeavoured to ensure that our investment in the next generation of academics delivers the benefits of its location in a world-class, internationally-oriented university. Similarly, competition for places as Research Fellows continues to grow, with ever more incredibly well-qualified applicants at all career stages applying for our annual February deadline. We remain open for sabbatical applications from colleagues within the University of Edinburgh and for shorter-term Nominated Fellowships, intended to enable and intensify international collaborations.

New Fellowship programmes this year included the IIE-Artist Protection Fund Fellowship, sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the British Council-IASH Fellowship for 'Decolonising Digital' with the British Council; and the Combe Trust Fellowship and the IASH-CTPI Duncan Forrester Postdoctoral Fellowship, both supported by the Centre for Theology and Public Issues.



#### LIST OF 2020/21 FELLOWS

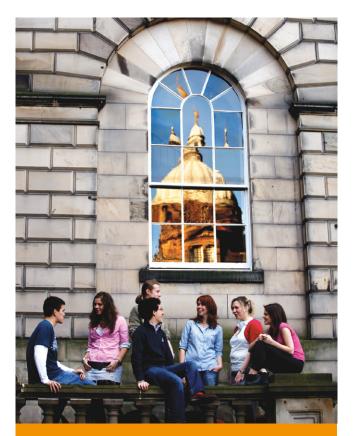
TITLE	FIRST NAME	SURNAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME	HOME INSTITUTION	RESEARCH PROJECT
Dr	В	Camminga	African Fellowship	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa	Trans at the Border: Hostility, Visibility and the Digital Diasporic Voices of Africa's Transgender Refugees
Dr	Janan	Dietrich	African Fellowship	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa	Evaluation of an Online Application to Improve Maternal and Child Health in South Africa
Dr	Alex	Wafer	African Fellowship	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa	Digital Disruptions - Digital Infrastructures, Informal Economies and emerging Knowledge Practices in Africa
Professor	Deborah	Boyle	American Philosophical Association Edinburgh Fellowship	College of Charleston, USA	The Oxford Guide to Mary Shepherd
Professor	Ronald A.	Johnson	American Philosophical Society Fellowship	Baylor University, USA	Edward Stevens: A Checkered History in Black Freedom & Atlantic Slavery
Dr	Michael Kyle	Thompson	American Philosophical Society Fellowship	Pittsburg State University, USA	Capital Importance: Gladstone's Relationship with Edinburgh
Dr	Doreen	Nchang	British Council-IASH Fellowship for 'Decolonising Digital'	University of Cape Town, South Africa	Redesigning Open Access and Research Communication in Francophone Africa
Dr	Elieth	Eyebiyi	Catalyst Fellowship	LASDEL Parakou, Benin	The Bureaucratization of Informality: The Case of Benin-Nigeria Fuel Smuggling
Dr	Senzokuhle	Setume	Catalyst Fellowship	University of Botswana, Botswana	Cohabitation in Botswana: Exploring Questions of Religion and Adulthood
Professor	Enongene	Sone	Catalyst Fellowship	Walter Sisulu University, South Africa	Oral Literature and Environmental Education in Swaziland (Eswatini)
Dr	Navaneetha Mokkil	Maruthur	Charles Wallace India Trust Fellowship	Jawaharlal Nehru University, India	Encountering the Body: Cinematic Practices and the Scenography of Protests in India
Professor	Ina	Merdjanova	Combe Trust Fellowship	Coventry University, UK & Trinity College Dublin, Ireland	Gender-Critical Perspectives on Interreligious Dialogue for Peacebuilding in the Balkans
Dr	Margie	Orford	Community Fellowship	Independent Scholar, UK	A memoir
Dr	Elizabeth	Banks	CSMCH-IASH Visiting Postdoctoral Fellowship in Modern and Contemporary History	European University Institute, Italy	Cold War Cod: Soviet Technology and the Environmental Politics of Fishing
Dr	Lois	Burke	Digital Scholarship Postdoctoral Fellowship	Edinburgh Napier University, UK	Scottish Women Writers of the Golden Age of Children's Literature: Connections, Creativity, and Children's Cultures
Dr	Tinashe	Mushakavanhu	Digital Scholarship Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa	Reading Zimbabwe and the Internet
Professor	Leith	Davis	Digital Scholarship Visiting Research Fellowship	Simon Fraser University, Canada	Robert Forbes's Lyon in Mourning Manuscript: Networking Jacobites, Cultural Memory and Intermediality
Dr	Kevin	Driscoll	Digital Scholarship Visiting Research Fellowship	University of Virginia, USA	The Moral Economy of Shareware
Dr	Roxana	Preda	Digital Scholarship Visiting Research Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	The Late Cantos of Ezra Pound
Dr	Brett	Buchanan	Environmental Humanities Visiting Research Fellowship	Laurentian University, Canada	Animal Fakers: Philosophy, Ethology, Art
Dr	Alexandra	Coţofană	Environmental Humanities Visiting Research Fellowship	Zayed University, UAE	Carpathian Imaginaries: The Making of Geological Architectures of Liminality
Dr	Nicole	Seymour	Environmental Humanities Visiting Research Fellowship	California State University, Fullerton, USA	Glitter
Dr	Azeb	Amha	European Fellowship	Leiden University, Netherlands	Whistled Names and their Social importance in the Oyda language, and Clause Chains In Zargula
Professor	Gerardine	Meaney	European Fellowship	University College Dublin, Ireland	European Migrants in the British Imagination: Victorian and Neo-Victorian Culture
Dr	Ashli	Stokes	Fulbright Distinguished Visitor Award	University of North Carolina at Charlotte, USA	Blue Ridge Myth and Memory: Tracing Appalachian Identity Through Scottish Foodways

#### LIST OF 2020/2021 FELLOWS

TITLE	FIRST NAME	SURNAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME	HOME INSTITUTION	RESEARCH PROJECT
Professor	Sam	Cohn	Honorary Fellowship	University of Glasgow, UK	Epidemics: Waves of Disease, Waves of Hate, from the Plague of Athens to AIDS
Professor	David	Purdie	Honorary Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	The Textual Enlightenment Project
Professor	Karina	Williamson	Honorary Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	Bryan Edwards (1743-1800)
Dr	Hanane	Benadi	IASH-Alwaleed Postdoctoral Fellowship	Independent Scholar, Netherlands	The Politics and Ethics of Divine Tribulation: Making Sense of the Consequences of the Egyptian Revolution
Professor	Ridwanul	Hoque	IASH-Alwaleed Visiting Research Fellowship	Charles Darwin University, Australia	Citizenship, Mass-Denationalization and Statelessness in Mighty States: The Cases of the Rohingya and India's NRC
Dr	Christopher	Cotter	IASH-CTPI Duncan Forrester Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	The Environment of Unbelief: The Everyday Entanglements of Non-Religion and Environmental Ethics in the Climate Emergency
Professor	Perri	6	IASH-SSPS Research Fellowship	Queen Mary University of London, UK	Political Judgement and Governance
Dr	Stéphanie	Prévost	IASH-SSPS Research Fellowship	Paris Diderot University, France	British Liberals and the Eastern Question: Conceptualising Humanitarian Crises and the Transnational Search for Global Peace
Dr	Cristina	Richie	IASH-SSPS Research Fellowship	East Carolina University, USA	Economic Policies for Medical Reproduction that Support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
Dr	Lana	Swartz	IASH-SSPS Research Fellowship	University of Virginia, USA	Shadowing the Digital Economy
Dr	Uğur	Üngör	IASH-SSPS Research Fellowship	Utrecht University & NIOD Institute Amsterdam, Netherlands	Detention and Torture in Syria: Intimate Violence, Societal Impacts
	Shatha	Altowai	IIE-Artist Protection Fund (APF) Fellowship	Sana'a, Yemen	A series of artworks
	Saber	Bamatraf	IIE-Artist Protection Fund (APF) Fellowship	Sana'a, Yemen	A series of musical compositions
Dr	Jivitesh	Vashisht	Junior Anniversary Fellowship	University of Leeds, UK	Medical Case Writing and its Contemporary Cultural Legacies
Dr	Reuben	Phillips	Library Fellowship	Staatliches Institut für Musikforschung, Germany	Reading Music: A Social History of the Miniature Score, 1875-1925
Dr	Annabel	Williams	Library Fellowship	Mansfield College, University of Oxford, UK	Remote-Control Culture: Science, Minds and Magical Thinking in the Work of Arthur Koestler
Professor	Thomas	Williams	Nominated Fellowship	University of South Florida, USA	John Duns Scotus: Ethics in Transition
Dr	Kristján	Ahronson	Northern Scholars Visiting Research Fellowship	Wolfson College, University of Oxford, UK	Scotland, Tephrochronology and the Problem of Iceland's Viking-Age Artificial Caves: A Case for Interdisciplinary Reflection
Dr	Sydney	Ayers	Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	The Global Adam Style: Robert Adam and British Neoclassical Architecture beyond Britain, 1760-1830
Dr	Thomas	Charman	Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	Men, Gender, and (In)Visibility: Representations of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence against Men in International Law and the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative
Dr	Yimon	Lo	Postdoctoral Fellowship	Durham University, UK	Romantic Silence: Voice and Identity in British Poetry, 1789-1850
Dr	Maša	Mrovlje	Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	Disappointment: Reclaiming the Unfulfilled Promise of Resistance
Dr	George	Njung	Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa	On the Fringes of the British Empire: The First World War Disabled Men of the Gold Coast and their Postwar Masculinity Conundrum
Dr	Jane	O'Neill	Postdoctoral Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	Constructions of Consent: Gender Roles in Sex Education since the 1960
Dr	George	Roberts	Postdoctoral Fellowship	Trinity College, University of Cambridge, UK	Africa and the Oil Crisis
Dr	Hazel	Gray	Sabbatical Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	The Political Economy of Innovation and Inclusion in the Food Industry in Tanzania and South Africa
Dr	Chisomo	Kalinga	Sabbatical Fellowship	University of Edinburgh, UK	Creating a Critical Disabilities and Medical Humanities Hub

#### LIST OF 2020/2021 FELLOWS

TITLE	FIRST NAME	SURNAME	FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME	HOME INSTITUTION	RESEARCH PROJECT
Dr	Elizabeth	Darling	Senior Anniversary Fellowship	Oxford Brookes University, UK	Heroines of the Canongate: Women Social Activists in Scotland, 1890s-1910s
Dr	Gašper	Jakovac	Susan Manning Postdoctoral Fellowship	European University Institute, Italy	Christmas in Purgatory: The History of Purgatory and Catholic Performance Culture in Post-Reformation England
Professor	Tamás	Demeter	Visiting Research Fellowship	Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungary	Methodologies of Inquiry in Enlightenment Scotland
Dr	Kate	Flaherty	Visiting Research Fellowship	Australian National University, Australia	Moving Women: The Actress in Scotland from Enlightenment to Modernity
Professor	Glenda	Norquay	Visiting Research Fellowship	Liverpool John Moores University, UK	Topographies of Identity in Scottish Fiction 1880-2020
Dr	Yumi	Pak	Visiting Research Fellowship	California State University, San Diego, USA	Blue, Gold, Black: Jackie Kay's Trumpet and Luke Sutherland's Venus As A Boy
Dr	Julie	Park	Visiting Research Fellowship	New York University, USA	Writing's Maker: Inscribing and Formatting the Self in the Long Eighteenth Century
Dr	Marzena	Wojtczak	Visiting Research Fellowship	University of Warsaw, Poland	Representation and Legal Capacity of Monastic Communities in Late Antique Egypt
Professor	Jolene	Zigarovich	Visiting Research Fellowship	University of Northern Iowa, USA	Necropolitics: Legislating the Dead Body and the Victorian Novel



"The Institute's trust in the potential of my research has had positive effects well beyond the duration of my fellowship: for early career academics from BAME backgrounds such as mine, these funding opportunities are vital both for allowing us a less troubling transitional time between the completion of the PhD and a more established position, and also to broaden our experience of academic life."

Dr Sara Tafakori, Postdoctoral Fellow 2020

"I came to appreciate the range of creative and interdisciplinary scholarly initiatives IASH supports across the social sciences and humanities. Being exposed to scholarship from widely disparate disciplines and contexts, in my opinion, fosters an environment of intellectual openness and curiosity among members of the IASH community, something that rarely happens when one works within the confines of a particular discipline."

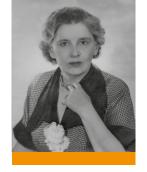
Dr Hanane Benadi, IASH-Alwaleed Postdoctoral Fellow 2020-21

### Ideas Grow: Looking Ahead to 2021–22

We're excited about our plans for next year, as we continue our existing projects and programmes, and embark on new initiatives to support incoming Fellows from around the world and the work of researchers across the College. Here's a small taste of what's in store:

In the past fifty years, IASH has overseen many largescale projects in which the majority of Fellowships have been focused on specific themes. These have included 1986's Institute Project on the Scottish Enlightenment (IPSE '86) and 1988's Technology, Communication and the Humanities (TeCH '88). The Institute is pleased to launch a new £750,000, three-year project examining a variety of topics centred on decoloniality, understood inclusively and expansively. The Institute Project on Decoloniality 2021-2024 (IPD '24) begins in August 2021 with the arrival of the first year's cohort, around 35 Fellows. Topics developed by our Fellows in this first year will include research into Somali-Scots histories, queer ecology in Sri Lanka, slavery within Roman culture, the concept of Ala in Igbo thought, and radical landscape poetry by racialized women writers in the UK.

A play commissioned by IASH will form the centrepiece of the Traverse Theatre's programme in August 2021. *Still* by Frances Poet (IASH/Traverse Creative Fellow 2018) was written at Hope Park Square three years ago, and will reopen the Traverse Theatre after many months of closure. *Still* tells four interconnected stories about the transitions of birth and death: as a couple labour to birth their first child, a dying man labours towards death; a soon-to-be grandmother struggles to step foot outside, while an old man travels a hilarious drunken odyssey to return to home. Full of tenderness and humour, and woven through with a live, folk-rock inspired, musical score, *Still* is a cathartic story of life, loss and joy. Set in familiar locations around Edinburgh, this stripped-back production draws audiences



Rebecca West

straight into the heart of the story.

In collaboration with the Scottish Arts and Humanities Alliance and the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Institute is hosting a one-off Fellowship to contribute to current debates around education policy in Scotland. The SAHA Fellowship will run for 10 months.

Dangerous Women: fifty reflections on women, power and identity (Unbound, 2022) is edited by Prof. Jo Shaw, Dr Ben Fletcher-Watson and Abrisham Ahmadzadeh. The book features fifty of our favourite contributions to the Dangerous Women Project from 2016-17, brought together in one manuscript. The book presents biographies, cartoons, poems, short stories, essays and more, by some of the most exciting female voices from around the world, who all come together to question: what does it mean for a woman to be dangerous? Who, or what, does she present a danger to? Who gets to say she's dangerous? The book is set to launch on International Women's Day, 8th March 2022.

Delayed from 2020, the Institute looks forward to the unveiling of a plaque honouring the eminent 20th century novelist, literary critic and journalist Dame Rebecca West at the author's childhood home, which happens to be IASH's current premises. The unveiling ceremony will feature a reading of West's work and a tour of locations that inspired her writing. IASH will also host events and an exhibition in 2022 to mark the centenary of publication of West's second novel, *The Judge*, set in Hume Park Square, a thinly-disguised version of Hope Park Square.

Our usual panoply of events will appear across the year. We will support, among others, the eleventh annual Fulbright Legacy Lecture, the Combe Trust Lectures, events at many of Edinburgh's Festivals, and much more.

We hope you will join us in 2021-22.

# Thanks & Acknowledgements

The staff and Fellows of IASH would like to thank all those who make our work possible and fruitful, including: the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, and its twelve Schools, which provide funds, professional services, governance and strategic direction for the Institute; various trusts and supporters, who fund Fellowships and support community activities for the Fellows; and our partners and stakeholders outside the University, who work with us on projects and events.



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