

CELEBRATE! COMMEMORATE! PARADE!

Festival Economy Then and Now

University of Cologne
June 28, 2019
Meister-Ekkehart-Straße 7
Room 2.09 – 9:30 a.m.

Humans celebrate and probably always did. In most cases, money or similar values are invested in these festivals; occasionally, these investments exceed the means of the investors, be they individuals or entities such as temples and states. Potlatches come to mind, prominently described for the Kwakwaka'wakw ('Kwakiutl') by Franz Boas. Festivals such as pride parades, Hindu chariot festivals, and carnivals draw thousands, sometimes even millions of visitors. Similarly, many festivals were celebrated in antiquity, from the Dionysia in ancient Greece to the Festival of the Valley in Thebes (Egypt). These festivals were an integral part of the calendar and demonstrated the prosperity and significance of both the temples and the state. The workshop aims to initiate a discussion on festival economy and to establish an interdisciplinary cooperation in the economic study of festivals.

festivaleconomy@gmail.com
Cora Gaebel (Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology)
Tobias Gutmann (Department for Egyptology)

PROGRAM

9:30-9:45 Cora Gaebel and Tobias Gutmann (University of Cologne): Welcome and Introduction

KEYNOTE

9:45-10:45 Monika Salzbrunn (University of Lausanne): Approaching the Economies of Festive Events through Multisensory and Audio-Visual Ethnography

Coffee Break

PANEL 1: THEN—FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN TO RUSSIA

11:00-11:30 Zsuzsanna Végh (University of Glasgow): Possibilities for an Eternal Festival Participation: Contracts with Priests at Abydos

11:30-12:00 Panayotis G. Kimourtzis (University of the Aegean) and Anna Mandilara (University of Ioannina): "Greece is poor and deprived in comparison to the leading light of civilized Europe": Establishment and Economics of State Symbolism during the Reign of King Otto (1832-1862)

12:00-12:30 Anastasia Papushina (Central European University, Budapest): Symbolism and Pragmatism: Organizing Mass-Scale Festivals in Post-Revolutionary Moscow, 1917-1922

Lunch

PANEL 2: NOW—CONTEMPORARY ASIA

13:30-14:00 Jörg-Henning Jüdt (University of Cologne): Music and Elephants: Capital Transactions at the Daśaharā Procession in Mysore, India

14:00-14:30 You Kyung Byun (FU Berlin): Collective Gift Money among Dear Friends in a South Korean Institutionalized Network

14.30-15:00 Ray Lucas (University of Manchester): The Ephemeral Architectures of Sanja Matsuri

Coffee Break

PANEL 3: APPROACHING FESTIVAL ECONOMY

15:30-16:00 Cora Gaebel (University of Cologne): Giving Alms, Commemorating Ancestors, Increasing Merit: Approaching Festival Economy in Buddhist Cambodia

16:00-16:30 Tobias Gutmann (University of Cologne): Ethnographical Data as a Tool for the Study of Pre-Modern Festivals: A First Attempt

Coffee Break

CONCLUDING PLENARY SESSION

17:00-18:30 Discussants: Nicola Schneider (University of Bonn) and Richard Bussmann (University of Cologne)

Dinner

promoted by the German Academic Exchange Service and funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

