CALL FOR PAPERS AND PANELS: The 14th Symposium of the ICTM Study Group Mediterranean Music Studies

Marseille, June 26-30, 2023

The ICTM Study Group Mediterranean Music Studies is pleased to announce its 14th Symposium on the theme

Music, Bridges, Passages: Towards a Mediterranean paradigm?

The symposium will be hosted by Institut d’Ethnologie Méditerranéenne Européenne et Comparative (IDEMEC, CNRS/Aix-Marseille Université) and Musée des Civilisations de l’Europe et de la Méditerranée (MUCEM) and will be held at MucemLab Fort St. Jean, the Research Department of the Museum, Marseille

Recent editions of our Symposium have questioned the impact of circulations in the Mediterranean, both musical and of musicians, as well as the thorny questions of legitimacy, power, authenticity, and the traditionality of music, at both local and transnational levels. For this 14th edition of the Symposium we invite colleagues to reflect on the bridges and passages — material, technological, digital, cultural, historic, aesthetic, and symbolic — embodied in musical productions, bringing them together and transforming them. We invite participants to reflect on notions of otherness and sameness and how these are manifested through music and sound in Mediterranean contexts. What senses of otherness or of unchanging sonic selfhood do these bridges and musical passages promote in the cultural foci that have come to be associated with the Mediterranean basin and its multiple diasporas?
We will examine the bridges and passages within and between both public and private, touristic and local, sacred and secular, urban and rural, and between collective and individual spaces; between state and private institutions, politics and business, as well as, in the geographic sense, between aerial, terrestrial and aquatic spaces, throughout the Mediterranean region. What can ethnomusicology tell us about alterity and similitude in the Mediterranean through its simultaneous states of stasis and connection?

Symbolically, the concept of bridge both connects and separates: by definition it implies two distinct entities, one on either side. It has both temporal and spatial associations, as well as social, cultural, anatomical, and indeed, spiritual ones. It carries the idea of borders, crossings, and in-betweeness: a state of transience, of being neither here nor there, whether in time or place. A bridge implies travel, movement, although it is itself static. The movement could be unidirectional or bidirectional, depending on circumstances. The notion of bridge may also be seen as problematic, as in the ‘bridging’ as opposed to the ‘embracing’, ‘engaging’ or ‘melding’ of cultures. Does the Mediterranean space then serve as a sort of sonic buffer, or as a conduit?

Call for paper and panel proposals:

Submissions and presentations should be in English or French.

Please submit abstracts in English or French to: ictm.marseille.2023@gmail.com

Proposals for individual papers must include the following:

Title and an abstract not exceeding 250 words; full contact information including address, phone and e-mail.

Fully formed panel proposals must include the following:

1. The Panel: Title and a short abstract not exceeding 250 words; full contact information including address, phone, and e-mail for the panel chair.

2. Individual Papers: Each panel must submit, for each participant, title and an abstract not exceeding 250 words and contact information including address, phone, and e-mail.

Participants may present only one paper, but may also serve as a chair on their own and/or another panel.

Important Dates:
Deadline submission for all individual papers and organized (i.e., fully formed) panels is December 18, 2022.
Notifications of acceptance will be circulated by mid-January, 2023

PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COVERING THE COSTS OF THEIR TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION. WE ARE WORKING WITH OUR HOSTS IN MARSEILLE TO ENSURE THE BEST CONDITIONS FOR YOUR STAY.
Program Committee:

Séverine Gabry-Thienpont (co-chair), CNRS/Aix-Marseille Université
Olivier Tourny (co-chair), CNRS/Aix-Marseille Université
Panagiota Anagnostou, École Française d’Athènes
Sergio Bonanzinga, University of Palerme
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