

# Heritage and Mobility in a Multisensory Perspective

- Call for contributions to the edited volume
- Title: Heritage and Mobility in a Multisensory Perspective
- Editors: Magdalena Banaszekiewicz, Karolina Nikielska-Sekuła
- Deadline for abstract submission: 31.10.2022
- Notification of acceptance: 30.11.2022
- First drafts of chapters: 25.03.2023
- Submission of the book to the publisher: September 2023

We invite contributions to the edited volume focusing on empirical, theoretical, and methodological advancements of cultural heritage – mobility nexus. We are interested in contributions from the authors conducting empirical research within the heritage-mobility nexus in a multisensory perspective, as well as the authors working with the theorization of the concepts from the heritage-mobility nexus through the multisensory lens. The initiative is conducted under the umbrella of transnational research teams (TRTs) “Mobility and Migration” created in relation to the Una Europa Cultural Heritage (CH) focus area.

Prospective contributors are requested to send a short description of their research and an indication of how their work can contribute to one or more of the core focus areas of the volume specified in the rationale below (max. 250 words), along with their institutional affiliation to one of the organizers:

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Once the submissions have been selected, the organizers will develop a book proposal to be sent to one of the prestigious publishing houses (Routledge, Palgrave Macmillan, Springer, etc.).

**The organizers foresee an in-person workshop to be held in Kraków at the end of April 2023.** The workshop will be dedicated to the development of individual contributions. Participants will be offered full coverage of participation costs to facilitate their stay in Kraków.

## Rationale

The multisensory approach is gaining momentum in the social sciences and humanities. While not new and with solid canonical grounds coined by Maurice Merleau-Ponty (1962), Sarah Pink (2009, 2013), Paul Stoller (1997), Nadia Seremetakis (1996, 2019), and David Howes (1991, 2003), it is now expanding and entering new areas of research across disciplines. A growing body of studies that employ a multisensory perspective proves that the opening of theoretical and methodological toolboxes on sensuous scholarship adds to the cognitive understanding of the researched phenomena in disciplines such as anthropology, sociology, human geography, archaeology, and more.

On a different note, heritage studies under the influence of globalization, mass migration, and mass tourism have become permanently intertwined into the processes of mobility. The intersection of heritage and mobility studies has been a subject of extensive research with burgeoning literature on heritage and tourism, a growing interest in the heritage of migrants and heritage and politics in the context of mobility, and expansion of the field of memory studies. These developments resulted in offering a fresh contribution to critical heritage approaches. While rich in scholarship, the interest in bringing together various aspects of heritage and mobility processes does not always reflect an even transfer of knowledge between the subfields involved, causing theoretical inconsistencies and omissions. For instance, researching migrants' heritage within heritage studies was criticized by Byrne (2016) as done in a limited dialogue with the theoretical developments of migration studies, falling into the trap of methodological nationalism.

The practice of both researching and displaying heritage has become gradually more open to a multisensory approach. This includes museum exhibitions that involve not only the vision but also the smell, touch, and noise in the display (see ANAMED 2016; Miotto 2016; Davis & Thys-Şenocak 2017), and methodological choices of heritage scholars, who are eager to employ visual and sensory methodologies to research heritage (Wang et al. 2020) and tourism (Rakić & Chambers 2012). New heritage regimes emerging from mobility, cultural flux, and belonging to horizontal networks challenge traditional attribution of heritage to the local community that identifies itself with the particular resources of the past. On the other hand, the shift from the ocular-centrism and the logo-centrism is a consequence of critical reflection on the reductiveness of approaching only the discursive or visual representations of heritage (Waterton & Watson 2010). Discussions over the nature of affect and emotion in heritage-making, embodiment, and performativity privilege various subjectively situated agents engaged in inter and cross-cultural encounters (Smith 2021).

On the other hand, studying mobility through the multisensory lens has proven fruitful by several scholars, who pointed out how sensory experiences can work as barrier makers in contact between the locals and people on the move (Dey 2021; Low 2005; MacQuarie 2021), discussed the embodiment of migrants' adaptation process (Bendixsen, 2020; Willen 2007), described transnational sensespaces of the actors (Low & Kalekin-Fishman 2016), and problematized the relationship between senses and home on the move (Ahmed 1999).

While not sufficing the topic, the growing body of research employing a multisensory approach within heritage and mobility studies sets a fruitful direction for further multisensory research within the two fields. Our volume aims at going a step further by bridging the theoretical and empirical gap between the heritage and mobility field of study with the help of the employment of a multisensory perspective. Our proposal to bring together studies of heritage and mobility and analyze it through the lens of a multisensory perspective comes with two novelties. Firstly, it attempts to bridge the gap between heritage and mobility, not only by empirically researching the issues from the intersection of the two areas but, most importantly, by creating a theoretical dialogue that results in novel perspectives drawn from intellectual advancements of both heritage and mobility studies. This will be facilitated by the employment of a multisensorial approach to look upon the studied issues through new theoretical, epistemological, and methodological lenses that acknowledge the connection between rational processes of heritage-making in the context of mobility and the bodily experiences that assist in this process. This presents a second novelty, namely featuring the studies that actively employ theoretical, epistemological, and methodological frameworks that acknowledge the premises of a sensory turn in social sciences and humanities (Howes 2021; Pink 2011; Lauwrens 2012; Skeates & Day 2019)

We invite contributions focusing on the intersection of heritage and mobility studies, employing theoretical, epistemological, and/or methodological perspectives based on the assumptions and developments of the multisensory approach.

**We are interested in:**

- theorization of sensory experiences through the scholarly conceptualizations of heritage and mobility studies
- discussion on methodological, theoretical, and empirical advancements of multisensorial approach in researching heritage-mobility nexus
- empirical, theoretical, and methodological accounts on the embodiment of heritage in the context of mobility on macro, meso, and micro levels
- accounts on heritage change under mobility in a multisensory perspective
- research on mobility regimes in crises at both global and local scale and actor's agency in relation to sensual experience especially taking into account the issue of in/exclusiveness, (in)accessibility, and various modes of participation
- multisensory studies on heritage, global migration, and mobility in urban peripheries

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