

CALL FOR PAPERS
Reading the City – Iconic Places
Conference
25- 26 October, 2013

English and American Studies Institute, University of Pannonia, Veszprém
Regional Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (VEAB): English Studies Committee

The bilingual conference aims to bring together scholars dedicated to the study of space in the humanities and sciences in the year that is marked by a significant number of space related anniversaries. In the field of **architecture**: the iconic building of English Renaissance drama, the Globe theatre, (400th anniversary of its burning down), the world's oldest subway tunnel, the London Tube (150th anniversary of first offering public service), Gustave Eiffel, master builder of late 19th-century France died 90 years ago, and it is for 40 years that the impressive design of its Opera House has been Sidney's symbol. Memorable spaces in **history** include Gettysburg, the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, where Martin Luther King's gave his "I Have a Dream" Speech (50 years ago), Dallas, where President Kennedy was assassinated in an open convertible car, and the bus, where Rosa Parks (born 100 years ago) dared claim social space for Afro-Americans. Robert Capa, the legendary war photographer, whose photographs of all the major conflicts of his troubled time remind us that history always takes place in space was also born 100 years ago.

The organizers welcome papers on any topic related to what possibilities critical thinking offers for understanding how places assume significance, become and act as memory theaters.

Possible topics (focusing at choice on any chosen perspective – literature, linguistics, history, communication, education, geography, tourism, agriculture etc.) include, but are not limited to:

- iconic places imagined, visited, responded to, commented on, created, remembered, contested
- local, regional, national, transnational understandings of iconic places
- historic sites, sights, and looking beyond
- scenery, theatricality
- the historical gaze, the visitor's gaze, other gazes
- popular conceptions and misconceptions about iconic places
- the rhetoric of iconic places
- the rhetoric of iconic places in the classroom
- bridging the nature/culture divide
- internationalizing, transnationalizing, interactivizing place and memory
- the cinema, new media and iconic places
- themed sites, authenticity, and caricatures

The conference welcomes papers from any discipline, a variety of theoretical perspectives, and those which engage with media beyond that of the written text. Submissions are welcome from both research students and academics. Please send a title and a 300 word abstract for a 20 minute paper along with your name, affiliation and a 100 word professional biography to editors@topos.uni-pannon.hu by 21st August 2013.

Registration fee: 6.000 HUF

Selected papers of the conference will be published in a hard copy edition of TOPOS.

The organisers