

SCHEDULE

THINKING ABOUT COMPARATIVE RESEARCH, GLOBAL HISTORIES AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE THROUGH ORCHESTRAS

1. DATE: Saturday 1 June 2013 (10.15 am - 4.30 pm)
2. VENUE: Institute of Musical Research, Room G22/26 Senate House, University of London, WC1E 7HU.

AIMS: This workshop (the fourth in a series of five) will focus on renewed theoretical interests in comparison, especially looking at cultural exchanges in both historical and contemporary contexts, and comparative methods as a way of researching into global histories. We will consider these issues through orchestras and also in relation to musical practices more generally. Comparison is one of the foundations of ethnographic research and this workshop will take up Gingrich and Fox's call for the resumption of comparison in view of 'critical self-awareness in changing global conditions' (2002). Through comparison we may highlight orchestral practice as a global phenomenon and present new conceptual perspectives on the ways in which orchestral performance traditions are shaped and also often historically connected. A central issue concerns how cultural exchange and comparison compel us to think beyond culturally and geographically bound ethnographic case-studies. The workshop aims to share insights from practitioner and researcher perspectives.

10.15 - 10.30 am Technical check

10.30 - 10.45 am Convenor's welcome and introduction, Tina K. Ramnarine

10.45 - 11.30 am Eero Hämeenniemi *"A thousand ways of being a musician"*

11.30 - 11.45 break

11.45 - 12.30 pm Mekala Padmanabhan *"Aspects of Tamil film music and popular culture"*

12.30 - 2.00 pm Lunch

2.00 - 2.45 pm David Wright *"The early ABRSM and the notion and transmission of musical authority"*

2.45 - 3.30 pm Christine Dettman *"A bow across the ocean: research on the Afro-Brazilian musical bow berimbau, past and present"*

3.30 - 3.45 pm break

3.45 - 4.30 pm Panel (Francesca Carpos and Shirley Thompson) and GENERAL DISCUSSION