

Trans-American Crossings: Enslaved Migrations within the Americas and Their Impacts on Slave Cultures and Societies

Co-sponsored by the Omohundro Institute and the John Carter Brown Library
and held on the campus of Brown University

June 1–3, 2018

Friday, June 1, 2018

All sessions will take place at 85 Waterman Street, Room 130.

8:30

Registration opens and coffee is available in the lobby.

9:00-9:15

Opening remarks

9:15-11:00

SESSION 1: Cross-border Kidnapping, Enslavement, and Rendition

Rashauna Johnson, Dartmouth College, Chair

Richard Bell, University of Maryland, “The Impact of Anti-Kidnapping Activism”

Jon Wells, University of Michigan, “African Americans and Kidnapping in the Early Republic”

Randy Sparks, Tulane University, “‘Britons Never Shall Be Slaves’: Kidnapping and Illegal Enslavement in the Caribbean, 1830–1860”

11:00-11:15

Break

11:15-1:00

SESSION 2: Health, Slavery, and Medical Science

Greg E. O’Malley, University of California Santa Cruz, Chair

Marisa Fuentes, Rutgers University, “Refuse Bodies, Disposable Lives: African Captives and Death in Ports during the Early Transatlantic Slave Trade”

Carolyn Roberts, Yale University, “Hidden Enslaved Healers: Medicine, Archival Silences, and Interdisciplinary Methodologies in the History of the Transatlantic Slave Trade”

Jim Downs, Connecticut College, “Turning the Page: Slavery, the Archive, and Scientific Knowledge Production”

1:00-2:30

Lunch

2:30-4:45

SESSION 3: Recreating African America: Intercolonial and Domestic Slave Trades to the Lower Mississippi Valley

Jean-Pierre Le Glaunec, Sherbrooke University, Chair

William Jones, Rice University, “Colliding Creole Cultures: The Cultural Consequences of Forced Migration in Louisiana”

Patrick Luck, Florida Polytechnic University, “Remaking a Slave Population: Slave Trades in the Lower Mississippi Valley between 1783 and 1820”

Michael Picone, University of Alabama, “Linguistic Effects of Slave Migration in the American South”

Sara E. Johnson, University of California San Diego, “To ‘Tame’ Kikongo: Linguistic Battlegrounds in the Migrant Atlantic”

5:00-6:30

Reception at the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, 94 Waterman Street.

Saturday, June 2, 2018

All sessions will take place at 85 Waterman Street, Room 130.

8:30

Registration opens and coffee is available in the lobby.

8:45-9:00

Demonstration of slavevoyages.org and the new intra-American database associated with it.

9:00-10:45

SESSION 4: Caribbean and Mainland Internal Slave Routes

Bertie Mandelblatt, John Carter Brown Library, Chair

Nicholas Radburn, Lancaster University, “[T]he remains of all cargoes are sold to Foreigners’: The Intra-American and Domestic Slave Trades in 18th-century Jamaica”

Pablo Miguel Sierra Silva, University of Rochester, “Rebellion at La Rinconada: Muleteers and

Slaving Expectations along a Mexican Slave Route (1669)”

Neal Polhemus, University of South Carolina, “There is no such thing as whistling for Negroes...when one wants them:’ The Intercolonial Slave to British East Florida, 1762–1783”

10:45-11:15

Break

11:15-1:00

SESSION 5: Forced Indigenous Diasporas and Slavery in the Americas

Linford Fisher, Brown University, Chair

Carolyn Arena, Omohundro Institute, “Truth or Toponyms?: Mapping Indigenous People in early Guiana”

Andrew Johnson, Rice University, “Trading Enslaved Native Americans for Enslaved Africans in Early South Carolina”

Noel Smyth, Cabrillo College, “Natchez in Saint Domingue, 1731–1791 and the Obfuscation of Native American Slaves in the French Atlantic”

1:00-2:30

Lunch

2:30-4:15

SESSION 6: The Geopolitics of Slave Trading at the Level of Individual Experience

Matthew Spooner, University of Michigan, Chair

Magdalena Candiotti, CONICET-UBA, Inst. Ravnigani, “Legal Asynchronies and Enslaved Migrations in the Río de la Plata, 1810–1840”

John Burton, DePaul University, “Creating an Afro-Bahamian World: American Loyalists, Slaves and Migration in late 18th and early 19th-century San Salvador”

Kit Candlin, University of Newcastle, “Two Types of Refugee”

4:15-4:45

Break

4:45-6:30

SESSION 7: The Print Culture and Geography of the Internal Slave Trade

Alex Borucki, University of California Irvine, Chair

Celso Castilho, Vanderbilt University, “The Domestic Slave Trade and Brazilian Public Life: Advertisements and Serialized Fiction in the Rio-de-Janeiro Press, ca. 1850s”

Ebony Jones, North Carolina State University, “‘Dangerous Characters Sold for Transportation’: The Intercolonial Slave Trade and Geographies of Punishment in the 19th-century Caribbean”

Jordan Smith, Widener University, “The Mobility of Enslaved Expertise: Quacqo’s Story”

6:30-8:00

Reception on the Ruth Simmons Quad, Brown University campus.

Sunday, June 3, 2018

All sessions will take place at 85 Waterman Street, Room 130.

8:30

Coffee is available in the lobby.

9:00-11:15

SESSION 8: The Making and the Silencing of the Archive in the U.S. Slave Trade

Jennifer L. Morgan, New York University, Chair

Robert Colby, University of North Carolina, “‘Literal and Characteristic Abstracts’: The Civil War and the Creation of Slave Trading Archives”

Karen Morse, University of Rhode Island, “An archivist, an historian, and a museum educator walk into the archive: Archival challenges to understanding and presenting enslaved lives in the 17th and 18th centuries”

Viola Müller, Leiden University, “Slave Refugees in the Urban South and what the Archival Silence Reveals rather than Obscures”

11:15-12:00

Closing Remarks

Alex Borucki

Jennifer L. Morgan

Greg E. O’Malley