

DIGITAL

CULTURE
THEORY
AND
TECHNOLOGY
IN THE
NETWORK
ECOLOGY

FRIDAY JUNE 30TH

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

SUSSEX HUMANITIES LAB
SILVERSTONE SB211
FALMER, EAST SUSSEX
BN1 9RG

CONFERENCE ORGANISER
NATHAN RICHARDS

KEYNOTE
LEONA SATCHELL SAMUELS

BLACKNESS

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

10:00 – 10:10 – WELCOME IN LECTURE HALL

(ROOM: SB 121)

10:10 – 11.10 – THE DIGITAL FUTURE OF
AFRICAN LITERATURE

Afrikult (Zaahida nabagereka & Marcelle Mateki Akita) chairs a session with Nancy Adimora and Emma Shercliff discussing the growth of digital publishing in Africa and the impact this is having on African writers, readers and language.

11:10 – 12:10 – THE BITS AND BYTES OF
BLACK HERITAGE

The panellists in this session discuss heritage projects and the role of digital tools and theories to aid the investigation, and dissemination of the black past. *Patrick Vernon MBE, Rob Waters, Tony Warner & Abira Hussein*.



School of
Media,
Film and Music

12:10 – 12:25

TEA & COFFEE BREAK

12:25 – 13:25

DIGITAL MEDIA: CREATING CONTENT ON THE MARGINS

This session will be chaired by BuzzFeed editor *Elizabeth Pears*, in conversation with members of some of the most recognisable digital content producers – *Back Chat London, Gal-Dem, Media Diversified* – discussing why the digital provides an avenue to empower content creators and black audiences. *Sebastien Thiel, Kiri Kankhwende, Varaidzo, Andy Amadi*

13:30 – 14:15

LUNCH

14:00 -15:30

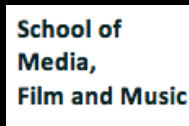
WORKSHOP: EDITING WIKIPEDIA WHILE BLACK
(PARALLEL SESSION IN ROOM SHL SB211)

This workshop will include an introduction to editing Wikipedia, a look at how 19th century Black encyclopedists continue to influence free knowledge and open data movements of the digital age, and the role of Wikipedia in documenting the black digital landscape. *Kelly Foster*

14:15 – 14:45

EMERGING THINKERS (parallel session)

This short panel will profile the work of undergraduate students – giving them the opportunity to discuss their current research projects, and the future of their interests in the field of digital humanities.



14:45 – 15:45

THE BLACK BODY AND TECHNOLOGY

How is the black body conceptualised and subjected to racialised forms of profiling in the age of algorithms and machine learning? Our panellists discuss this theme, addressing issues of gender and sexuality, Trans-humanism and Afro futurist thought. *Jacob V Joyce, Florence Okoye, Irene Fubara-Manuel*

15:45 – 16:45

THEORISING BLACKNESS IN THE SOCIAL NETWORK

What exactly is blackness and how is it constructed, interrogated and negotiated online, across national borders, on global platforms with local features? What role do broader social justice issues play in contemporary constructions of blackness? *Dr Sanjya Sharma, Ikem Nzeribe, Kui Mackay, Kadian Pow*

16:45 – 17:00

FINAL COFFEE BREAK

17:00 -18:00

KEYNOTE ADDRESS & CLOSE

