



SOUTH-ASIAN FICTION: CONTEMPORARY TRANSFORMATIONS



Photo: Mat Booth 2007

Saturday 3 November 2012

A one-day symposium organised by the Open University's Postcolonial Literatures Research Group and the Institute for English Studies, University of London, Senate House

Speakers include Priyamvada Gopal, Elleke Boehmer, Susheila Nasta and Suman Gupta.

Supported by The Open University and the Modern Humanities Research Association

£25 standard; £10 students (lunch included)

South-Asian fiction in English is a major global publishing phenomenon, and represents some of the most original and marketable literature being written today. Yet, in the past two decades its material circulation and its national and international audiences have changed dramatically. In Pakistan, writers have renegotiated their country's hidden political histories and confronted the involvement of the country in the war on terror after 9/11; in India and Bangladesh, explosive economic growth and environmental changes have led to new debates about social justice and models of development; and in Sri Lanka, the end of twenty-six years of civil war has reshaped the country's political terrain and posed new questions about its future. The South-Asian diaspora has both transformed and energised the cultural politics of the global North at the same time as its communities have become the focus of renewed concerns about multiculturalism, immigration and political radicalism.

With these changes in mind, the Symposium will address emerging contexts and formal departures in South-Asian Anglophone fiction, and interrogate established critical and theoretical assumptions about this rapidly evolving body of writing. It will allow critics and scholars to exchange ideas, challenge current paradigms in postcolonial studies, and map new areas of importance.

For registration and programme details: <http://www.ies.sas.ac.uk/events/ies-conferences/SouthAsianFiction>

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