Contextualising African Identities and the Politics of Space and Othering

Presentation of a special issue of the journal African Insight

Postcolonial theory, as emerging since the late 1980s, has contributed to new approaches to (re-)claiming historical processes, thereby supporting and promoting the (re-)positioning of those forced to the margins in new discourses. But while mainly located in the critique of the dominant theories and providing space for alternative approaches and perspectives, a deeper understanding of complex dynamics requires a challenge in terms of further explorations into representational practices in context. This includes the need for further analyses of ‘othering’ by scrutinising representational practices in context and at the intersection of space and time also within and not only through lenses of African Studies.

A guest edited special issue of the journal Africa Insight (no. 1/2014), published different perspectives on the thematic focus and is presented at this seminar.

DATE: Wednesday 21 January
TIME: 15.15 – 17.00 hrs.
VENUE: The Nordic Africa Institute, Villavägen 6, Uppsala
The event is open to all, registration is not needed.

PRESENTERS:
Nadine Lake, Centre for Africa Studies, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, currently a doctoral student at the Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University, will present a summary of her article on “Black Lesbian Bodies: Reflections on a Queer South African Archive”.

Henning Melber, Director emeritus of The Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and Senior Advisor of The Nordic Africa Institute, provides a general overview on the publication as one of the guest editors and contributor of an article on “‘Othering’ and Structural Violence in Former Settler Colonies – Liberation Movements as Governments in Southern Africa”.

MODERATOR:
Annika Teppo, Associate Professor, The Nordic Africa Institute.

The event is jointly organised by the Center for Gender Research, Uppsala University and the Nordic Africa Institute.