

**Narratives, Nostalgia,
Nationhoods**
*3rd Apartheid Archive
Conference*



UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG

27 – 29 July 2011

Call for Abstracts

In recent years there has been a resurgence in cross-disciplinary writings and theorising on nostalgia and nostalgic representations. In conceptualising nostalgia as a means of speaking to the present and an imaginary future, but through the lens of an idealised past, nostalgic representations, enactments and reproductions have traditionally been associated with conservative or reactionary ideological ends, whereas more recent work has shown nostalgia's potentially critical, progressive and creative functions. The aim of the Narratives, Nostalgia and Nationhoods Conference is to explore various deployments of nostalgia in different global contexts, including post-authoritarian and post-conflict societies, as well as contexts characterised by social, political and economic instability, fragmentation and disintegration. The conference will bring into conversation a range of scholars, creative writers and artists critically engaged with nostalgia as a means to expand social memory, and to reclaim and reconfigure subjugated knowledges, experiences and subjectivities. Critically, the conference will also endeavour to surface ways in which nostalgia is often harnessed in attempts to reinstate past regimes of privilege and power.

We invite all those interested in the area of nostalgia, but especially those working with nostalgia and national archives, to submit abstracts for this conference.

Keynote speakers and panellists will include:

Jacob Dlamini • Mark Gevisser • Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela • Brandon Hamber • William Kentridge
• Chris van Wyk • Zoë Wicomb

Deadline for submission of abstracts:

31 March 2011

Online submission of abstracts at: <http://www.apartheidarchive.org>

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Conference Co-sponsors:

Apartheid Archive Project • Wits School of Arts • School of Human and
Community Development University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg