

Ankündigung und Einladung

## **Gastvorträge**

Domerschulstraße 13, Raum 113 (Institut für Musikforschung)

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**Thomas James Solomon**

University of Bergen, Norwegen

Mittwoch, 19. November, 10–12 Uhr

### *MUSIC AND DISPLACEMENT: MAKING SENSE OF A TERMINOLOGICAL “MESS”*

A number of distinct terms have been used, often interchangeably, in discussions of music and displacement. Perhaps the most commonly used terms include “diaspora,” “migration,” “exile,” and “refugee.” Some of these terms, such as “migration,” can be further qualified through sub-types such as “labor migration,” “forced migration,” and “transit migration.” Further complicating matters, these terms can have complex relationships to yet other concepts such as “ethnicity,” “ethnic groups,” “minorities,” or “ecumene.”

This talk presents a metatheoretical exploration of these myriad terminologies of displacement, interrogating how they have been used in the ethnomusicological literature of the last 20 years or so. It provides a tentative mapping of these concepts, teasing out the areas where they contrast, overlap, and are complementary to each other. This terminological investigation raises many questions, including:

Are we talking about the movements of music itself (“migrating musics,” “diasporic music”), or about the movements of people who deploy their musical agency in different contexts of displacement? To what extent are old essentialist paradigms of “each culture has its own distinct music” reinstantiated or challenged by the terminology we use? Is it preferable to maintain strict distinctions between different terms, or is it more productive to allow the boundaries to overlap or be blurry, thus enabling new concatenations of meaning? To what extent do the very terms we use construct, rather than simply describe, the phenomena they refer to?

In conclusion, Thomas James Solomon chooses not to advocate for a strict typology to rigidly distinguish between the different terms we use. He suggests, rather, that the “messiness” of this discursive field can be productive, as long as researchers continually reflect over the implications of the terms they choose to use, and remain aware of the stakes involved when using such terminology to represent other people’s experiences.

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**Thomas James Solomon**  
University of Bergen, Norwegen

Donnerstag, 20. November, 12–14 Uhr

### *THE PLAY OF COLORS: STAGING MULTICULTURALISM IN NORWAY*

Discussion of musical performances by the multicultural troupe “Fargespill” in Norway, which includes children and youth from different minority and immigrant groups, many of whom came to Norway as refugees. The performances represent ethnic, racial and cultural diversity in Norway staged through the sounding voices and bodies of the children on stage.

In this talk, Thomas James Solomon explores the question of whether the representations of Fargespill constitute a positive contribution to creating a climate for embracing difference in Norway, or whether Fargespill is better understood as a reassuring story white Norwegians tell themselves about multicultural Norway that, at best, naively sidesteps ongoing problems of racism and intolerance toward minorities and immigrants endemic in contemporary Norwegian society. The discussion is theoretically informed by recent theorizations of multiculturalism as well as Deleuze and Guattari’s twin concepts of majoritarian/minoritarian.

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Die Veranstaltungen finden im Rahmen der Lehrveranstaltung  
*Advanced Research Forum in Ethnomusicology* statt

Es ist keine Anmeldung erforderlich,  
Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen!