

# UNESCO RIELA SPRING SCHOOL 2026

THE ARTS OF INTEGRATING



## CARING & SHARING

TUE-THU

26-28 MAY 26

GLASGOW

## PROGRAMME

This year in partnership with:





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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Dates

This year, the Online Spring School will take place over 3 days, from Tuesday 26 May until Thursday 28 May. Sessions are scheduled for morning and afternoon/evening times, based on the GMT time zone, to allow participants from all over the planet to join in for at least some of the programme. For details of the starting and finishing time on each of the days, please see the schedule. To make the most out of the event, we encourage you to come for a full day (or more) if possible.

## Venue

All sessions for the Spring School will be held in person at in a venue in the West End of Glasgow - exact details will be on your ticket. Participants are expected to attend in person on site to take part in the full programme of activities and discussions.

## Access

We are committed to ensuring that the UNESCO RIELA Spring School is accessible and welcoming to all participants. The event will take place in a fully wheelchair-accessible venue with step-free access, accessible toilets, and lift facilities. If you have specific accessibility requirements including mobility support, hearing assistance, language support, quiet space, or any other needs, we encourage you to contact us in advance so we can make appropriate arrangements. During the event, members of the UNESCO RIELA team will be available to provide support where needed. For accessibility enquiries, please contact: [unesco-riela@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:unesco-riela@glasgow.ac.uk) or mention them clearly on your registration form.

## Language

We welcome the use of languages other than English. English is the language of (most of) our programme, but other languages will be spoken at the event. Please do not be alarmed and enjoy being in a linguistic space where you might not understand everything that is going on and can enjoy the musicality of different languages.

## Wellbeing

Some of the topics explored during the Spring School may be sensitive and emotionally challenging. We have incorporated dedicated wellbeing moments throughout the programme to allow time for reflection, rest, and mental space. Participants will have access to quiet areas on site for pause and reflection, alongside optional wellbeing activities designed to support both physical and emotional comfort. Regular breaks will also be scheduled to ensure participants have time to rest, recharge, and engage at a pace that feels appropriate for them.



## Organisers

This event is organised by the UNESCO Chair on Refugee Integration through Education, Languages, and Arts (UNESCO RIELA). We are part of UNESCO's UNITWIN and Chairs programme, which promotes international cooperation and networking to mobilise collaboration around the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and in key priority areas related to UNESCO's fields of competence – education, natural and social sciences, culture and communication.

The UNESCO Chair supports learning from contexts which have long-term refugee and migratory experiences and where resilience has been developed, often in the face of overwhelming linguistic and cultural destruction. Working with our cross-sectorial partners, we engage in research and advocacy for creative and artistic approaches to integration, which sustain linguistic and cultural diversity, foster creativity and intercultural capabilities and promote peace.

The main organiser is Bella Hoogeveen, Project Manager of the UNESCO Chair. You can reach her on [unesco-riela@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:unesco-riela@glasgow.ac.uk). She is assisted by the UNESCO RIELA team (Tawona Sitholé, Esa Aldegheri, Hyab Yohannes, Pinar Aksu and Alison Phipps) and by the numerous volunteers who help run the event: Azadeh, Margot, Avril, Deirdre, Rebecca, Abigail, Freya, Shanshan, Bhavya, Honor and Bhavika. More will join after we've published this programme. You know who you are and our thanks are with you!



# THEME

**We have curated a collection of workshops / presentations / performances / creative interventions for the UNESCO RIELA Spring School 2026 which connect with the theme of “Intergenerational CARING & SHARING in the context of (forced) migration”.**

The Spring School is a 3-day in person knowledge exchange event, organised and hosted by the UNESCO Chair on Refugee Integration through Education, Languages, and Arts (UNESCO RIELA). We host this annual event in person in May, with an online edition during the Southern Hemisphere Spring later in the year. At our 9<sup>th</sup> annual Spring School in 2026, we will explore intergenerational caring and the sharing of knowledge, wisdom and practices in the context of (forced) migration and restorative integration through education, languages and the arts.

How can Elders, the living archives among us, pass on their language, history, culture and wisdom to younger and future generations when spatial, temporal and political barriers stand in the way? How is care organised when people are forced to flee? Who carries culture forward, and how is it kept alive when communities are broken up and dispersed? Can cultural heritage be maintained and transmitted within new communities, and what mechanisms or efforts are involved? How can destination countries support those experiencing the loss of cultural and linguistic heritage? How do refugees and people seeking asylum access knowledge about their own cultural heritage? UNESCO has declared a Decade of Indigenous Languages and the wisdom-speech, linguistic inheritance and forms of speech of elders, and of those beginning steps in the languages of home are critical to intergenerational forms of care for intangible cultural heritage. How are the generations undertaking care for culture and language in times of genocide, pain and protest?

We want to understand how intercultural caring and sharing is organised, how it can be supported by longstanding communities and what we can learn from these practices. We have curated a programme that offers practical examples, as well as performances and academic reflections, to cater for all

Join us to come and think these questions through with us!

# SNAPS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS



# PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE	PAGE
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Opening Words	Lecture Theatre	15
10:15 - 11:00 AM	 <b>KEYNOTE: Scottish Surrogate Grannies and Intergenerational Caring and Sharing</b> <i>Grace Franklin &amp; Joyce Smith</i>		
11:00 - 11:15 AM	Tea / Coffee Break		
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	 <b>Songs That Remember: Ukrainian Music, Memory, and Care Across Generations</b> <i>Solo Way Ukrainian Choir</i>	Lecture Theatre	30
	 <b>The Story of the Traveling Plate: Returning What We Receive</b> <i>Dilara Özel &amp; Erdem Avşar</i>	Seminar Room 1	31
	 <b>Caring Through Creation: Intergenerational Transmission Across Glasgow</b> <i>Radia Mohammed Al Madhagi</i>	Workshop Room	32
12:15 - 1:15 PM	Lunch		
1:15 - 2:15 PM	 <b>Amaro Kheliben (Our Dance)</b> <i>Sonia Michalewicz &amp; members of Romano Lav</i>	Lecture Theatre	33
	 <b>My Story, Our Future: Story Connections as Acts of Care</b> <i>Bria Trosclair, Helena Fox, John Weeks, Louna, Mena, Salma &amp; Edith</i>	Seminar Room 1	34
	 <b>Learning from Practice: Community Practitioners' Insights for Social Prescribing Training</b> <i>Victoria Touzel &amp; Carlotta Filius</i>	Workshop Room	36
	 <b>Caring Without Inheritance: The Inner Journey of Unaccompanied Migrant Youth</b> <i>Domingo Clemente Cruz</i>	Seminar Room 2	50
2:15 - 3:00 PM	ART SLOT - see detailed listings on pages 20-29		
3:00 - 3:30 PM	 <b>The Power of Three Ms: From Gaza to Glasgow - A family Story of Sharing and Caring</b> <i>Manar Al-Houbi, Mohammed Alshaikh &amp; Mira</i>	Lecture Theatre	38
	 <b>Educational Justice Across Borders: Care, Equity and Humanisation in Global contexts</b> <i>Sihui Wang, Gaston Bacquet &amp; Marta Moskal</i>	Seminar Room 1	39
	 <b>Cloth of Gratitude</b> <i>Rachel Morley</i>	Workshop Room	40
	 <b>Folding a River by Heart</b> <i>Alison Phipps &amp; Tawona Ganyamatopé Sitholé</i>	Seminar Room 2	41
3:30 - 3:45 PM	Tea / Coffee Break		
3:45 - 4:00 PM	 <b>Keynote Listener report</b> <i>Holly Trundle</i>	Lecture Theatre	18
4:00 - 4:45 PM	 <b>KEYNOTE: Heritage languages as resources and opportunities for active multilingual societies</b> <i>Antonella Sorace</i>		13

# PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY, 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE	PAGE
09:30 - 09:45 AM	Opening Words	Lecture Theatre	
09:45 - 10:30 AM	 <b>KEYNOTE: From Oral Tradition to Digital Memory: Preserving Culture in Displacement</b> <i>Larry Bottinick</i>		16
10:30 - 10:45 AM	Tea / Coffee Break		
10:45 AM - 12:15 PM	 <b>Hakka Women's Stories, and Meeting Glasgow's Elderly Anarchists</b> <i>Peilin Shi, Josey-Ann Green &amp; Boya Li</i>	Lecture Theatre	42
	 <b>Jagged Roots- How Elders and Communities Carry Culture Forward</b> <i>Aisha Abbas</i>	Seminar Room 1	43
	 <b>Caring Hands, Living Heritage: Ukrainian Intergenerational Art Practices in a Scottish Context</b> <i>Mariia Miskova &amp; Nataliia Spyridonova (Mission of Innocents)</i>	Workshop Room	44
	 <b>What We Carry: Memory and Intergenerational Exchange</b> <i>Christina Kyriakidou &amp; Central and West Integration Network (CWIN) Art Group</i>	Seminar Room 2	45
12:15 - 1:15 PM	Lunch		
1:15 - 2:15 PM	 <b>The 'Work' of Passing On</b> <i>Deborah Olivier &amp; Hyab Yohannes</i>	Lecture Theatre	47
	 <b>Little Books, Big Care: A Zine-Making Workshop</b> <i>謝思盈 Sih-Ying (Iris) Hsieh</i>	Seminar Room 1	48
	 <b>Carelaborations of Spring Schools past and present</b> <i>Sarah Stewart</i>	Workshop Room	48
	 <b>Weaving Belonging: the Collective Art of Care</b> <i>Agathe Galina Johanna Leroy</i>	Seminar Room 2	49
2:15 - 2:30 PM	Tea / Coffee Break		
2:30 - 3:30 PM	 <b>No More Bad News – Strikes Back!</b> <i>Erdem Avşar &amp; Bella Hoogeveen</i>	Lecture Theatre	37
	 <b>Care, Language, and the Space Between Us</b> <i>Gizem Karaköse</i>	Seminar Room 1	51
	 <b>"Əldən ələ" — From Hospitality to Trust</b> <i>Samira Hasanzade &amp; Narmin Aliyeva</i>	Workshop Room	52
	 <b>Mai Arrendersi, Never Give Up: Stories As Paths of Resistance</b> <i>Esa Aldegheri</i>	Seminar Room 2	54
3:30 - 3:45 PM	Last 15-minute break		
3:45 - 4:00 PM	 <b>Keynote Listener report</b> <i>Sawsan Al-Areeqe</i>	Lecture Theatre	18
4:00 - 4:45 PM	 <b>KEYNOTE: Gaelic Scotland in both Popular Imagination and the Tourism Industry</b> <i>Coinneach Maclean</i>		14









# PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE	PAGE
09:30 - 09:35 AM	Opening Words	Lecture Theatre	
09:35 - 10:30 AM	 <b>KEYNOTE: Tatreez as Identity, Belonging, and Cultural Resistance in Palestinian Heritage</b> <i>Leena Nammari</i>		17
10:30 - 10:45 AM	<b>Tea / Coffee Break</b>		
10:45 - 11:30 AM	 <b>Subject to Review: Pending</b> <i>Pinar Aksu &amp; Shafik Kazkaz</i>	Lecture Theatre	55
	 <b>How Can We Reimagine Intergenerational Social Care Services? An Appreciative Inquiry Approach</b> <i>Ali Huntley</i>	Seminar Room 1	56
	 <b>When Displaced Voices Speak: Listening, Language, and the Meaning of Care in Multilingual Societies</b> <i>Raneem Knaj</i>	Seminar Room 2	57
11:30 - 11:45 AM	<b>Tea / Coffee Break</b>		
11:45 AM - 12:15 PM	 <b>Sharing is Caring: Co-constructing Inclusive, Creative, and Love Community Across 'Difference' in Glasgow's Southside</b> <i>Ray Di Marco Campbell</i>	Lecture Theatre	58
	 <b>Weight for Light to Inherit an Icon - Towards a Synaesthetic Formation</b> <i>René Landspersky</i>	Seminar Room 1	59
	 <b>A Not-so-simple Origin Story: Tracing a Melody Across Borders, Bureaucracy and (Post)migrant Bodies in Berlin</b> <i>Eli Vardzhiyska</i>	Seminar Room 2	60
12:15 - 1:15 PM	<b>Lunch</b>		
1:15 - 2:30 PM	 <b>Listening to Language: Care, Silence and Untranslatability</b> <i>Azadeh Fatehrad &amp; Hyab Yohannes</i>	Lecture Theatre	61
	 <b>Grounding, Guidance and Giggles</b> <i>Mirna Šolić, Marzanna Antoniak, &amp; Ali Zaregol</i>	Seminar Room 1	62
	 <b>The Lyrical Tradition: Cultural Homeland, Nostalgic Writing, and Poetical Dwelling</b> <i>汪筱蓓 Hsiao-Chiang (Hope) Wang &amp; Tawona Sithole</i>	Seminar Room 2	63
2:30 - 2:45 PM	<b>Tea / Coffee Break</b>		
2:45 - 3:00 PM	 <b>No More Bad News – Strikes Back!</b> <i>Erdem Avşar &amp; Bella Hoogveen</i>	Lecture Theatre	37
3:00 - 3:15 PM	 <b>Keynote Listener report</b> <i>Paria Goodarzi</i>		19
3:15 - 4:45 PM	 <b>KEYNOTE: Being a 'Doktormutter' (PhD Supervisor) Intergenerational Research and the Firepit</b> <i>Alison Phipps &amp; a number of her PhD students</i>		12

# EXHIBITIONS & STALLS AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE	PAGE
Stalls during the breaks & Tuesday's Art Slot	 <b>折り紙 Origami – Collective Act of Folding for Caring and Sharing</b> <i>Misa Kanno-Watson (independent)</i>	Hallway	26
	 <b>“My babcia always used to say...” Sharing Intergenerational Idioms</b> <i>Sally Zacharias &amp; Dobrochna Futro (both University of Glasgow)</i>		27
	 <b>Sharing is Caring: Co-constructing Inclusive, Creative, and Love Community Across ‘Difference’ in Glasgow’s Southside</b> <i>Ray Di Marco Campbell and colleagues (Glasgow Autonomous Space)</i>		28
Tue-Thu: 10am-5pm Wed: 1:30-8pm	 <b>Eskaintza (Offering)</b> <i>Nerea Bello Sagarzazu &amp; Ane López (independent artists)</i>	National Library of Scotland (NLS) Moving Image & Sound Archive meeting room	23
	 <b>Bigger than I: solidarity and help in dark times</b> <i>Anna Lenchovska (Tolerspace)</i>		21
	 <b>Showcase of archival films</b> <i>The National Library of Scotland’s Moving Image &amp; Sound Archive</i>		22
Continuous	 <b>Women's Collectives in the Social and Solidarity Economy for the Sustainability of Life in México</b> <i>Andrea B. Reyes &amp; María Guadalupe Reyes García (COFEMESSS)</i>	Hallway	20
	 <b>What We Carry Together</b> <i>Paria Goodarzi (University of Glasgow)</i>		25
	 <b>Care Engine</b> <i>Erdem Avşar (University of Glasgow)</i>		24
	 <b>Feedback activities</b> <i>UNESCO RIELA Evaluation Team (Bhavya, Bhavika, Honor &amp; Shanshan)</i>		
Tuesday-Friday 10am - 6pm	 <b>Momentary and Fleeting: A Life Documenting Conflict and All That It Displaces</b> <i>Exhibition of the photojournalism of Robin Taudevin (14.03.1977 - 14.05.2006)</i>	University Chapel	29

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## Being a 'Doktormutter' (PhD Supervisor) Intergenerational Research and the Firepit

*Professor Alison Phipps*

Thursday 28 May, 3:15 - 4:45 pm - Lecture Theatre

***As is traditional this Spring School will close with a keynote from Alison, the UNESCO Chair holder, but it will be held as a chorus.***

**Alison Phipps** has now been teaching at the University of Glasgow for 30 years. She has a certificate from The Principal and bought a water butt, plum and pear tree with the kind gift voucher that marks long service for staff at the University. The water butt may not outlast her but the fruit trees will for sure.

She has also been supervising PhD students to successful completion for 30 years and it is 25 years since her first student completed. Over the last 6 years PhD students from Alison's recent past and present have joined together in an online Firepit to check in and provide support and to write a book together. This is an innovative and unusual way of working across scholarly generations and sees siblings and kinship through clusters of work, and the movement of ideas from one generation to the next.

This plenary will hear from Alison's experience and reflections of watching generations and themes move through research and artistic practice, the caring and sharing that is inherent in PHD supervision and it will celebrate and present the book that the Firepit have produced.

There may be some surprise guests...

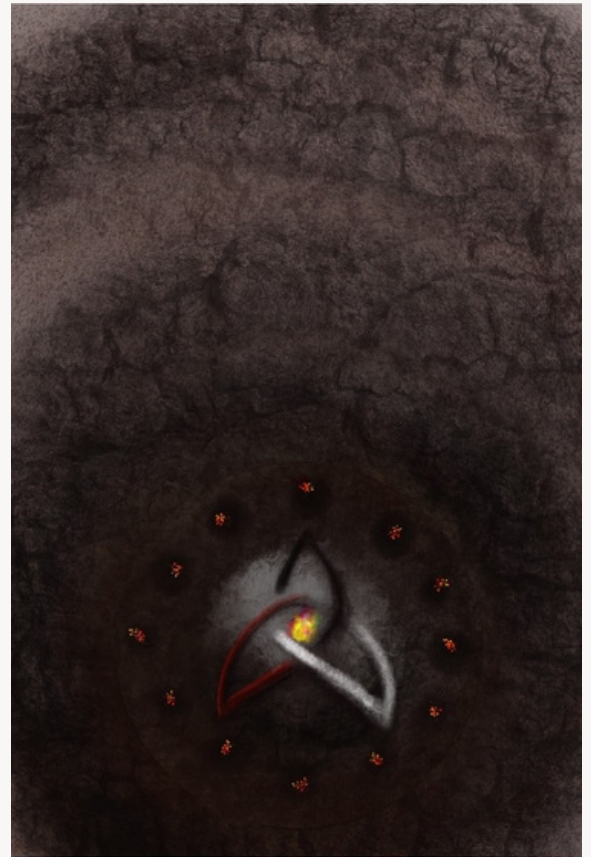


Image Design by Dr Piki Diamond

## Heritage languages as resources and opportunities for active multilingual societies

*Antonella Sorace*

Tuesday 26 May, 4:00 - 4:45 pm - Lecture Theatre

Multilingualism in any languages, regardless of their status, prestige, and worldwide diffusion, can potentially give children and adults a range of linguistic, cognitive and social benefits - although not in all contexts and in all cases. When are the benefits most likely to be seen? Research on heritage languages - both migrant and indigenous - shows that more attention should be paid by families, researchers, educators and policy makers to children's and young people's attitudes and perception of their languages. In order to realise the multiple benefits of multilingual communities we need supportive and informed attitudes around multilingual families, which help building firm community foundations for inter-generational language transmission and enable positive decisions in all sectors of society. I will illustrate these facts and show how the public engagement centre Bilingualism Matters enables families, teachers, and policy makers - in Scotland and internationally - to make decisions on bilingualism informed by research.

**Antonella Sorace** is Professor of Developmental Linguistics at the University of Edinburgh. She is internationally known for her interdisciplinary research on bi-multilingualism across the lifespan, and for her commitment to building bridges between research and society. She is the founding director of the non-profit organisation Bilingualism Matters, which currently has more than 30 associated partners in four different continents.



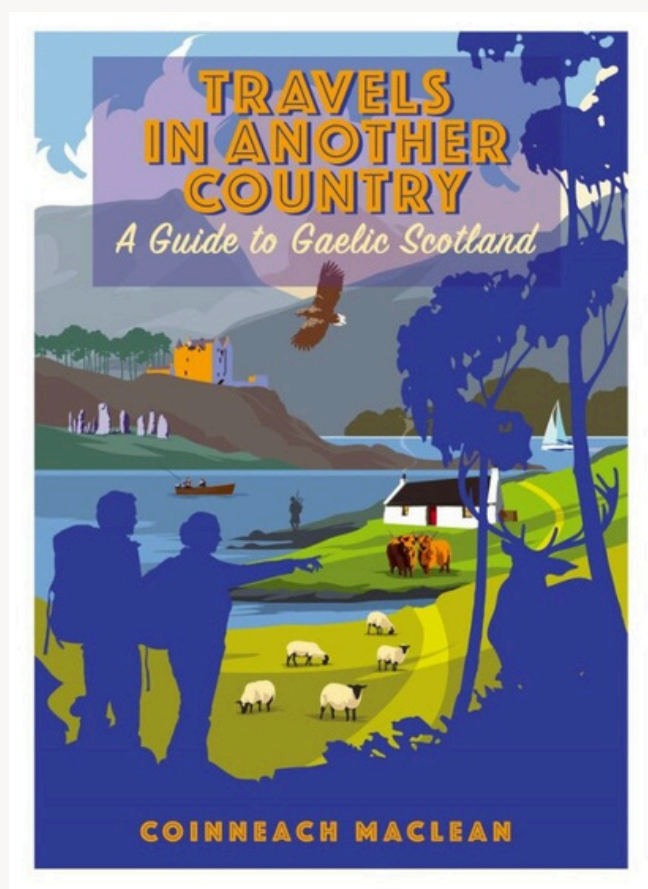
## Misguided Tours: Inventing Tradition

Coinneach Maclean

Wednesday 27 May, 4:00 - 4:45 pm - Lecture Theatre

### *Gaelic Scotland in both Popular Imagination and the Tourism Industry*

Tourism in Scotland has a powerful marketing brand, the kilted Highlander in a mountain landscape. This image has become deeply rooted in popular imagination and serves as a readily available and immensely powerful tourism marketing brand. Literary discourse views this image as false, distorting and displacing a more authentic image of the nation. The pervasiveness of this discourse substitutes for a reasoned examination of the impact of mass tourism on the culture of Gaelic Scotland. His illustrated talk looks in more detail at the current tourism narratives of “wilderness”, the conjuring of new meaning for ancient place-names, the construction of new narratives based on such musing, the failure to understand the nature of older landscape narrative, and finally considers the context for the deliberately calculated “academic” positioning of Scotland as the prime site of the “Invention of Tradition”.



**Coinneach Maclean** is from the island of South Uist and is now retired from full-time employment and trusteeships. Although he initially trained as an archaeologist at Edinburgh and Cambridge universities, he has had a diverse career latterly as a qualified tourist guide. This field has provided further insight into the treatment of indigenous cultures at the hands of the mass tourism industry. Coinneach has successfully defended a doctoral thesis entitled ‘The Tourist Gaze on Gaelic Scotland’ and authored two books in 2025: *Travels in Another Country*, a guide to Gaelic Scotland and *An t-Eilean, Skye Places and People*.

## Scottish Surrogate Grannies and intergenerational caring and sharing

*Grace Franklin & Joyce Smith*

Tuesday 26 May, 10:15 - 11:00 am - Lecture Theatre

To tell how the International Welcome Club of Kelvin West Church found a need for support for mums-to-be who had been coming to its weekly English Language Conversation Corner, Friday Club or Summer Away days programmes. The Mums -to -be were usually the spouses of international students at the University of Glasgow. They were without family support at the time their baby was due here in Glasgow. So the Club asked church members who were themselves Grannies (mostly!) if they'd like to take a young family 'under their wing.'



One of the families with the 'real' gran and prospective other grannies

**Grace Franklin** is Co founder of the International Welcome Club and its leader since 2004. A volunteer who has gathered a big team of local people who also volunteer to make the Club 'work'. It offers the hand of Christian friendship to anyone from anywhere of any faith or no faith. Grace was a journalist in her career but has been retired for some years.

**Joyce Smith** is a mother of three and a grandmother to two. She claims she is 'old enough to be a great grandmother but that is not in the horizon.' So she continues with voluntary work - through the church and the International Welcome Club. From this came the reason for Joyce being here today.

She says: 'When my children were growing up I became the bread winner. After training as a Social Worker I worked for the Local Authority covered areas of priority treatment, gaining experience particularly in Adoption and Mental health care. I moved to hospital work and continued to specialise in these fields. I also became a Field Work Teacher which entailed supervising students in training.'

Now retired, Joyce is a 'lady who lunches' and keeps an active social circle. And she simply loves being a Scottish Surrogate Granny! Her daughter said publically that being a Surrogate Granny had transformed Joyce to make her an even happier Mum.

## From Oral Tradition to Digital Memory: Preserving Culture in Displacement

*Larry Bottinick*

Wednesday 27 May, 9:45 - 10:30 am - Lecture Theatre

The preservation of culture, faith, and language through intergenerational teaching largely relied on oral traditions and geographic proximity throughout much of history. Today it takes new forms, taking advantage of technology that allows the transfer of one's heritage beyond borders, to audiences unconnected by kinship. The presentation will touch on the passing of culture between generations in the context of displacement, with observations on intergenerational trauma, examples of life-saving wisdom and the impact of displacement on familial relationships in camps and host countries.

**Mr Larry Bottinick** has worked for UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, for more than 30 years. His postings include a Vietnamese / Cambodian refugee camp in Indonesia, the Czech Republic, Turkey, Israel and finally, as Deputy Representative, in the the UK. He had several postings in the Geneva Headquarters, including as a legal advisor for operations in Asia and the Americas, an investigator of staff misconduct and Senior Executive Assistant to the Assistant High Commissioner. His emergency missions include the Kosovar crisis, Great Lakes, and Guantanamo Bay (Haitian Boat people).



Outside UNHCR, he served one year in New York as an Ethics Officer in the UN Secretariat and a year as an Asylum Officer with the U.S. Department of Justice performing refugee status determination in California (several U.S. Presidencies ago).

A Washington, D.C. native, he has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Michigan and J.D in Law from Georgetown University.

## **Tatreez as a state of being and a sense of belonging:**

*Leena Nammari*

Thursday 28 May, 9:35 - 10:30 am - Lecture Theatre

***Palestinian Embroidery, or Tatreez, is the keeper of the culture, a container of stories, and evidence that we once lived on the land, reflecting our surroundings.***

Considered a craft of village women, Tatreez has been integrated into the Palestinian subconscious and narrative, infusing belonging, identity, pride and rootedness into the fabric, whether that is a dress (thobe), a table runner, or cushions.

Palestine and its heritage have been on the frontline of cultural appropriation and erasure. A century of propaganda and obfuscation, genocide and supremacy has taken its toll on the fabric of Palestinian society. I want to give you a moment of reflection, time to reimagine and redress the current events we have all been witnessing and cannot unsee, as an artist and a maker.

I am here to talk with you, including you in this conversation by making a piece of tatreez yourselves. I will introduce you, those who wish to participate, to the intricate nature of tatreez at the end of my talk. Each will have a pattern to copy, with details of what you are embroidering. You will have some coloured thread, a needle and a piece of cloth.

You will not be able to complete the piece by the end of the session, but I do hope that by then you will understand the importance of the cultural tradition you are holding in your hands. You will understand the weight of centuries of heritage and why it is important to keep the traditions alive.

As for cultural appropriation, it is up to your own conscience to decide how you interpret cultural theft, appropriation and seizure. You are welcome to enjoy and participate in this age-old practice, marvel at the skills involved and nod to the ancestors who kept the customs alive.

My aim is to make you all Palestinians, and you are most welcome.  
Ahlan wa sahlan.

**Leena Nammari** is a Palestinian artist living in the diaspora. She explores the role Haneen plays in collective cultural consciousness, its nostalgia and mythmaking, where tensions of longing/belonging function as catalysts in artistic and cultural dialogue for displaced communities.

Using mainly photographic and diverse printmaking techniques, she creates artworks that explore lived, remembered, and mythologised experiences as visual responses to contemporary Palestinian literature, reflecting the search for home and longing.

Her work draws inspiration from her homeland, the ancient city of Jerusalem, Ramallah, and the neighbouring hills, echoing years of living in and visiting a divided and suffering land.



# KEYNOTE LISTENERS

## **Keynote listener**

*Holly Trundle*

Tuesday 26 May, 3:45 - 4:00 pm - Lecture Theatre

**Holly Trundle** is an observational poet who is curious about the things that are often overlooked or undervalued. She also develops children's books from her poems - educating while entertaining.

With an interest in children's development, and wellbeing enhancement for people living with cancer or dementia, Holly is also sharing her love of literature and writing with others, through performance and creativity workshops.

Holly enjoys writing creative non-fiction and plays, and currently has a screenplay being developed into her first short film. She's a keen-eyed proofreader and copyeditor and hopes to use these skills to fund her writing, publications and community work.



## **Keynote listener**

*Sawsan Al-Areeqe*

Wednesday 27 May, 3:45 - 4:00 pm - Lecture Theatre



**Sawsan Al-Areeqe** is a writer and filmmaker based in Glasgow. Her fourth poetry collection "Expired Death" was written during the Artist Protection Fund Fellowship and hosted by the University of Glasgow for a year. She is also a UNESCO RIELA Affiliate Artist.

## **Keynote listener**

*Paria Goodarzi*

Thursday 28 May, 3:00 - 3:15 pm - Lecture Theatre

**Paria Goodarzi** is an Iranian-born artist, social art practitioner, and PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow. She is a member of the UNESCO RILA Affiliated Artists network and The Young Academy of Scotland. She holds a BA (Hons) in Textile Design from the University of Science & Culture (Tehran), studied Sculpture and Environmental Art at the Glasgow School of Art, and completed an MSc in Adult Education, Community Development & Youth Work at the University of Glasgow.

Her multidisciplinary practice explores cultural identity, displacement, and the politics of belonging, with a focus on cultural transfer and translocation. Through collaborative and socially engaged approaches, her work creates spaces for participation, aiming to support wellbeing and amplify the visibility of diverse communities.



# EXHIBITIONS & STALLS

## Women's Collectives in the Social and Solidarity Economy for the Sustainability of Life in México

*Andrea B. Reyes & María Guadalupe Reyes García (COFEMESSS)*

Continuous - Hallway

COFEMESSS will present a poster with a link to an interactive virtual exhibition (available in English, Spanish and French) that emerged from a transdisciplinary research project on Women's Collectives in the Social and Solidarity Economy for the Sustainability of Life (COFEMESSS, by its Spanish acronym) in Mexico.

The exhibition presents collectively developed proposals for the (self-)characterisation and analysis of the Frameworks of Action for the Sustainability of Life (MASV, by its Spanish acronym). It also explores the factors that enable the creation and continuity of these collectives, in dialogue with the challenges and obstacles they face collectively. Through this journey, empowerment strategies have emerged from our own collective processes, grounded in the recognition that within every experience lies a seed of transformation towards the sustainability of life in Mexico.

**Andrea B. Reyes** is a Mexican socio-environmental activist, manager, and researcher with over 15 years of experience. PhD candidate in Sustainability Sciences at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), with the dissertation "Women's Collectives in the Social and Solidarity Economy for the Sustainability of Life in México". Founder and coordinator of the Sirukua Solidarity Project, focused on Social and Solidarity Economy, sustainability, and conscious women-led entrepreneurship since 2021. Lead researcher and co-creator of the COFEMESSS Network and research project in Mexico since 2022. Since the age of 15, I have worked on socio-environmental well-being, culture, and education through volunteering, academic research, and professional practice, with a strong commitment to community-based, transdisciplinary, and "feeling-thinking" approaches.



COFEMESSS Interactive Exhibition presented at the Global Forum GSEF25 last year

**Lupita Reyes** is a Cultural and Environmental Manager, Sustainable Fashion Designer, Photographic Artist, Biologist, Museographer, and Museologist with over 35 years of professional experience. Sub-Coordinator of the Sirukua Solidarity Project and Coordinator of the Sirukua Sustainable Fashion Network. Curator of the COFEMESSS Interactive Exhibition.

## **Bigger than I: solidarity and help in dark times**

*Anna Lenchovska*

Tue-Thu 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Wed 1:30 - 8:00 pm - NLS Meeting Room

What compels us to dedicate our resources and energy to a cause greater than ourselves? This educational exhibition seeks to answer these profound questions and provides an opportunity for meaningful discussions with teenagers. It showcases the stories of 10 young Ukrainians who collaborated to achieve a common goal, going above and beyond what was expected of them. This initiative utilizes a peer-to-peer guided model, empowering teenage tour guides to facilitate meaningful dialogue and inspire civic action among their contemporaries. Between 2023 and 2024, the program successfully engaged 3,543 teenagers in 8 cities, strengthening humanitarian response.

Authors: Uliana Ustinova, Oleksandr Voitenko, Myroslav Grinberg

Design and layout by: Dana Verstak

Curator: Anna Lenchovska

© NGO Kyiv educational center "Tolerspace", 2023

**Anna Lenchovska**, M.D. in Psychology, is a psychologist, trainer, and coordinator of educational projects for teenagers and teachers. She is the Director of the NGO Kyiv Educational Center "Tolerspace" and a trainer for international initiatives, including "UpRooted" and the ETwinning adolescent psychology course. Since 2014, she has led the long-term rehabilitation program "Building Bridges, Not Walls" for war-affected youth. Anna is a co-author of trauma-informed and safe pedagogy courses and has delivered mental health programs for UNICEF. She has extensive experience in intercultural, anti-discrimination, and Holocaust education across Eastern Europe.



Lin, one of the young Ukrainians, photo by Dana Verstak

## Showcase of archival films

*National Library of Scotland's Moving Image & Sound Archive*

Tue-Thu 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Wed 1:30 - 8:00 pm - NLS Meeting Room



The National Library of Scotland's Moving Image & Sound Archive at the open access centre in Kelvin Hall is a space where you can drop in to watch curated content on touchscreens or explore thousands of digitised films on one of the public computers. You can also access the Library's digital resources. There are viewing rooms with special equipment for watching films in a range of analogue and digital formats.

Our discovery space showcases Scottish cinema history with filming equipment, posters and objects, including a replica Oscar. There is also space for all the family to relax and have fun with crafts and books.

We have teamed up with the UNESCO RIELA Spring School, adding our meeting space to the programme. In there, we will be showing films from the moving image archive, on and off, that link to themes of cultural identity, minority languages and integration.

Films will include:

**Escape to Freedom** - an amateur documentary about the arrival of Vietnamese refugee families at Kersewell College in Lanarkshire, before their eventual resettlement in different parts of Scotland. The documentary includes interviews with refugees about their experiences in escaping from Vietnam and adapting to a new life in Scotland. (35 minutes)

**The Last in the Line** - a moving portrait of ballad singer Sheila Stewart, the last in the line of a long lineage of travellers and storytellers. Her final quest is to ensure that her culture does not die with her. (13 minutes)

## **Eskaintza (Offering)**

*Nerea Bello Sagarzazu & Ane López*

Tue-Thu 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Wed 1:30 - 8:00 pm - NLS Meeting Room

Eskaintza is a two-minute meditative film shaped by the principles of txalaparta, an ancient Basque percussive device. It can only be played in dialogue between two or more players and requires deep listening, constant negotiation, and openness.

A circular rhythm emerges as individual strikes become indistinguishable.

A heartbeat.

Txalaparta summons the community into ritual, for moments of celebration, labour, and loss, and holds the pulse of the emotion.

An offering of care for ancestors, land, and folk.

This film was created in dialogue between Nerea Bello Sagarzazu and Ane López.

**Ane López** is a Basque artist and film programmer based in Scotland. She has programmed for Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, Femspectives and Glasgow Short Film Festival and recently she took part in the Scottish Documentary Institute's Bridging the Gap Scheme as a Creative Producer with filmmaker Holly Marie Parnell. Ane is also the co-founder of A+E, a now dormant collective of artists working together towards a post-oil vision.



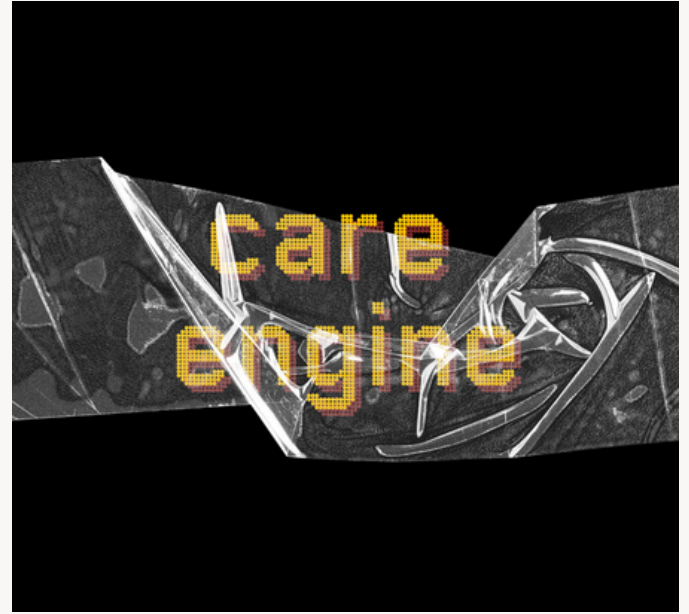
**Nerea Bello Sagarzazu**, a Basque artist and researcher based in Scotland, delves into the realms of deep listening and dialogical approaches to constructing meaning. Her artistic practice involves unearthing materials, sounds, and words that are often overlooked or we carry deep within. Nerea thrives in collaborative environments and is currently pursuing a PhD at the University of Glasgow.

## Care Engine

*Erdem Avşar*

Continuous - Hallway

**Care Engine** is an experimental, drop-in game station where participants collectively build a story-driven world using an offline language model trained solely on their own shared anecdotes of hospitality, protection, and care in migratory contexts. Each new contribution becomes part of the model's tiny universe, transforming it into a narrative engine that reflects acts of solidarity rather than crisis or spectacle. By inviting contributors to sit down and input a memory to prompt the machine, the corner becomes a quiet site of world-building that resets each evening as a playable text-adventure, where participants navigate a world generated from their shared memories of care.



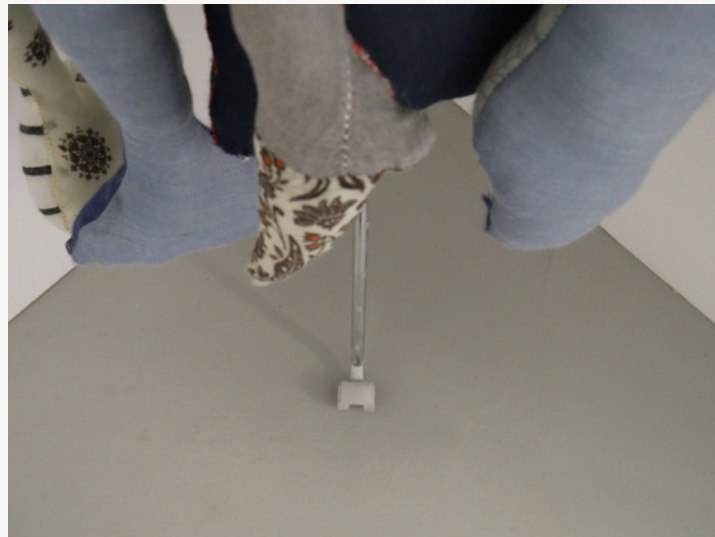
**Dr Erdem Avşar** is a researcher, playwright-poet, and translator. His transdisciplinary research spans sociology of culture and the media, utopian thinking, performance studies, queer theory, and creative methods. Erdem is also an affiliate artist at UNESCO RILA. His plays have been shown in Scotland and Italy. He was the 2019 recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award (University of Bristol Theatre Collection). His creative work has recently appeared in *clavmag*, *Lune Journal*, in the anthology *The Book of Bad Betties* (Bad Betty Press), and in *Collaborative Playwriting* edited by Paul Castagno (Routledge).

## What We Carry Together

Paria Goodarzi

Continuous - Hallway

What We Carry Together is a participatory installation inviting visitors to engage with a wearable textile sculpture made from layered garments and softly weighted natural materials. Participants can approach the work, read the instructions, and choose whether to wear, hold, or carry the garment before passing it on to someone else. As the piece moves between people over time, it becomes a shared gesture of care, connection, and support. Visitors may also leave reflections in a nearby notebook in any language. The installation invites quiet, self-directed participation and explores how memory, culture, and belonging are carried through touch, movement, and collective experience.



*Sphere of Influence*, Paria Moazemi Goodarzi, 2019

**Paria Goodarzi** is an artist and practice-based PhD researcher in social science and education. Her research explores participatory art as a method for understanding belonging and intergenerational cultural transmission, particularly within Iranian and wider diasporic communities. Her artistic practice focuses on cultural and political transfers, displacement, and the contemporary human condition. Working across installation, sound, video, and socially engaged practice, she examines how identity is formed, represented, and negotiated through everyday life and collective making. A significant part of her work involves developing collaborative projects that respond to questions of cultural belonging, visibility, and care within communities.

## 折り紙 Origami – Collective Act of Folding for Caring and Sharing

Misa Kanno-Watson

During the breaks and the Tuesday Art Slot (2:15 - 3:00 pm) - Hallway

People can create a thousand cranes collectively or individually, whether it be in a school or community, to send good wishes to a person who is hospitalised or to wish for world peace. On 6th August 1945, US dropped the world's first atomic bomb in Hiroshima, Japan. Three days later in Nagasaki (09.08.1945), bringing catastrophic disaster to the human history, killing total of 550.000 residents as of August 2025 and that the survivors known as Hibakusha still suffer to this day. A story of *orizuru* (folding a crane) became well known due to a little girl called Sadako who was exposed to the atomic bomb at the age of two and who developed leukaemia at the age of 10. She set a goal to complete a thousand cranes in the hope to be well again, however she passed away after completing about 650. Her wish was carried on by her family and classmates, who completed the thousand cranes. The act of folding a paper bird itself has become a national and international symbol of peace movement.

At the Spring School, Misa will be hosting a stall, where you can learn how to fold a crane and chat to her about trauma-focused art psychotherapy.

**Misa Kanno-Watson** is a Japanese-born and raised bilingual HCPC-registered Art Psychotherapist currently based in Glasgow. She specialises in trauma-focused art psychotherapy informed by neuroscience research, particularly in work with refugees. In recent years, Misa led a community-based art therapy pilot project funded by the Scottish Government and has continued to develop the service over the past five years. As an author and research practitioner, last year she contributed a chapter to *The Routledge International Handbook of Art Therapy Practice* (2025).



*Orizuru* folded by Sadako, photo by Misa Kanno-Watson at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum in 2009.

Misa is deeply committed to the healing potential of the body and the arts in health. In her clinical practice, she integrates somatic experiencing and clients' cultural heritage with art psychotherapy to support post-traumatic growth and processes of grieving. In May 2024, Misa was appointed Race and Culture Representative for the British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT) Scotland-Alba Council. Since February 2025, Misa has served as a visiting lecturer at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, teaching postgraduate students in the MSc Art Psychotherapy programme. She is currently undertaking Global Arts in Medicine Fellowship as Cohort 10.

## **“My babcia always used to say...” Sharing Intergenerational Idioms Through Art.**

*Sally Zacharias & Dobrochna Futro*

During the breaks and the Tuesday Art Slot (2:15 - 3:00 pm) - Hallway

At this stand we will invite participants to think about idioms and metaphors they use with their close ones. They will be asked to either recall language that they heard in their homes when young or that they currently share with their own children. This can be idioms and metaphors in any language. Through simple language and art games participants can discover more about the hidden messages behind these sayings. With their permission, participants can upload them to the ‘idioms across cultures website’. The aim of our interactive stand is to provide a supportive space to share, discover and reflect on family language that carries particular memories, emotional value and a sense of belonging.

**Sally Zacharias** is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Education, University of Glasgow, who is the co-founder of the Idioms Across Cultures project. She teaches on the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) programme. Her scholarly and pedagogical interests intersect approaches to teaching language that foster both plurilingual and metaphorical competences. She grew up and currently lives in a multilingual household.

**Dobrochna Futro** is a Lecturer in the School of Education, University of Glasgow. In her research she focuses on translanguaging, multilingualism, art-based inquiry, language learning, teaching, and use in multilingual, often migratory contexts. Dobrochna has led and co-led several funded projects exploring the relationship between art practice and language learning, developed a number of CPD courses and teaching resources working with teachers in Scotland and internationally. She teaches with Sally on TESOL Language Learning for Young Multilingual Learners course and is a mum of two multilingual children.



*Belonging* by Lynne Cameron

## Sharing is Caring: Co-constructing Inclusive, Creative, and Love Community Across 'Difference' in Glasgow's Southside

*Ray Di Marco Campbell & colleagues from the Glasgow Autonomous Space*

During the breaks and the Tuesday Art Slot (2:15 - 3:00 pm) - Hallway

Glasgow Autonomous Space (GAS) is a collectively-run social centre in the Southside of Glasgow, established in 2016, that provides space for groups working to fight capitalism and other forms of oppression. Over many years, the space was transformed by hundreds of people into a multifunctional social centre including a library, herbal clinic dispensary, kitchen, wood workshop, print workshop, meeting and event space, toilets plus a garden with greenhouse and a shed.

GAS is run by the people who use it, destroying hierarchies (where some people are seen as more important than others) wherever they can. They are committed to helping people feel welcome, empowered and accountable to one another.



At the Spring School, Ray Di Marco Campbell and colleagues from GAS will be present with a stall where where you can witness a detailed exhibition containing photographs, testimonies, and summaries of the various groups utilising GAS.

Ray will also host a dialogical session on Thursday at 11:45 am. For more information on that, please see page 58.

An experienced community development practitioner and community organiser, **Ray di Marco Campbell** has worked with a range of local and national organisations, primarily centring their work on anarcho-feminist practice, anti-racist initiatives, mutual aid, consensus-based decision-making processes, programmes for social inclusion, and services supporting queer inclusion. Since 2023, they've held the role of Treasurer for the Community Development Journal and co-ordinate the Anarchist Studies Network (part of the Political Studies Association). In addition, they lead a pay-what-you-can solidarity barbering project at the Glasgow Autonomous Space.

## Momentary and Fleeting: A Life Documenting Conflict and All That It Displaces

*Curated by Julia Taudevin*

Tue - Fri 10:00 am - 6:00 pm - University Chapel

Robin Taudevin was an international aid worker and photojournalist who sought to expose injustice, understand complexity and inspire compassion. He documented significant themes by looking at seemingly insignificant actions, preserving that which is momentary and fleeting. This exhibition celebrates the diversity of his work and his humane interest in both people and nature, from families seeking asylum in Glasgow in 2005, to the Timor-Leste armed struggle for full independence, to underwater ecosystems. Curated by his sister, the playwright and theatre maker Julia Taudevin, this exhibition and connected events consider what, if anything, has changed in the 20 years since Robin died.

**Robin Taudevin** was born in Bouganville, Papua New Guinea, and grew up in Indonesia. A graduate of the University of Glasgow, he worked in humanitarian aid, mostly in Indonesia and Timor-Leste, and as a street and landscape photographer and photojournalist documenting refugees and people displaced by conflict. In 2005 Robin documented families living in Glasgow whilst seeking asylum which brought him into contact with Glasgow's migrant solidarity activist networks. Robin's plan was to document human shields in Gaza but first he returned to Timor-Leste on a UN contract. A sky-diver since his teens, Robin started free-diving in his late 20's, opening the door to underwater photography. The 2006 Timor-Leste coup sparked dreadful violence and Robin documented both sides of the conflict and the people displaced by it.

On the 14th of May 2006, Robin drowned when free-diving alone off Cristo Rei beach in Timor Leste. He was 29.

[www.robintaudevin.org](http://www.robintaudevin.org)

**Exhibition dates: 19 May - 2 June 2026**



Photo by Robin Taudevin: A rioter runs with a portrait of Nicolau Lobato, first president of Timor-Leste (after the civil war of 1975) and Falantil commander until his death in 1978, Dili, Timor-Leste, 28 April 2006

# SESSION DETAILS

## **Songs That Remember: Ukrainian Music, Memory, and Care Across Generations**

*Solo Way Ukrainian Choir*

Tuesday 26 May, 11:15 am - 12:15 pm - Lecture Theatre

Participants will be invited to join a welcoming, hands-on workshop where we will learn and sing a traditional Ukrainian song together - no musical experience required. The workshop will be guided by Bozhena Yakymenko, Master of Music and bandura player. Through shared singing, listening, and conversation, the session creates a warm and supportive space for reflection, connection, and intercultural exchange. Members of the Solo Way Ukrainian Choir will also share songs passed down by parents, grandparents, and elders through generations of oral tradition. Each song will be introduced with a short story about who taught it and when it was traditionally sung, revealing how music preserves language, memory, and cultural knowledge across generations.



Photographer: Basya Volodarskaya

**Solo Way Ukrainian Choir** is a Glasgow-based vocal ensemble founded in 2022 by Ukrainian conductor, bandura player, and cultural activist Bozhena Yakymenko (Master of Music). The choir brings together singers with lived experience of displacement and performs traditional Ukrainian repertoire transmitted orally across generations. Solo Way's practice centres on song as a form of care, cultural continuity, and community building. Since its founding, the choir has performed more than 60 concerts across Scotland in civic, cultural, and academic spaces, frequently contributing to charity events, humanitarian initiatives, and intercultural dialogue.

## The Story of the Travelling Plate: Returning to What We Receive

*Dilara Özel and Dr Erdem Avşar*

Tuesday 26 May, 11:15 am - 12:15 pm - Seminar Room 1

Inspired by a shared cultural practice in Türkiye, this workshop explores learning as a reciprocal exchange. In Türkiye, when food is shared, the returned plate is never empty, it carries something newly prepared, continuing a cycle of care and connection. Drawing on this idea of the “traveling plate,” we will reflect on what the Spring School has offered us new ideas, questions, and relationships and consider what we might give back. In small groups, participants will create a simple handmade or written “return” (a poem, message, or small object) to pass on, extending a gesture of creativity, gratitude, and shared learning.

Lokma is a traditional Turkish dessert of deep-fried dough balls soaked in syrup, usually prepared in large batches and distributed to people in public spaces during celebrations, religious gatherings, or even in times of mourning as a gesture of remembrance, gratitude, and community.

**Dilara Özel** is a postdoctoral researcher at Middle East Technical University. She is also a counsellor working trauma with adults and groups, using embodied practices. Her research focuses on peace education, trauma, and researcher wellbeing.

**Dr Erdem Avşar** is a researcher, playwright-poet, and translator. His transdisciplinary research spans sociology of culture and the media, utopian thinking, performance studies, queer theory, and creative methods. Erdem is also an affiliate artist at UNESCO RILA. His plays have been shown in Scotland and Italy. He was the 2019 recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award (University of Bristol Theatre Collection). His creative work has recently appeared in *clavmag*, *Lune Journal*, in the anthology *The Book of Bad Betties* (Bad Betty Press), and in *Collaborative Playwriting* edited by Paul Castagno (Routledge).

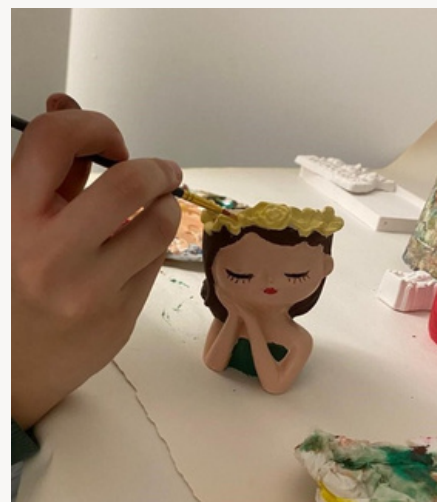


## Caring Through Creation: Intergenerational Transmission Across Glasgow

*Dr Radia Al Madhagi - Together Reaching Higher*

Tuesday 26 May, 11:15 am - 12:15 pm - Workshop Room

Caring Through Creation: Intergenerational Transmission presents TRH Glasgow's Wellbeing Cultural Hub as a welcoming creative space where families from different cultural backgrounds gather year-round to restore wellbeing and self-peace through Art & handmade art practices. Through textiles, drawing, collage, clay and movement, creative making becomes a gentle pathway for intergenerational cultural transmission. As hands work with materials, home languages emerge, family memories surface, and cultural heritage flows naturally without formal instruction. In this participatory workshop, attendees will take part in a simple creative activity and experience how artistic making can nurture care, cultural sharing and community connection.



Together Reaching Higher CIC (TRH)

**Together Reaching Higher (TRH)** is a social enterprise based in Glasgow that empowers individuals, families and young people from diverse cultural backgrounds through wellbeing, creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation programmes. Through initiatives such as **TRH Glasgow's Wellbeing Cultural Hub**, the organisation creates inclusive spaces where communities connect, share cultural knowledge and build confidence. The session will be led by **Dr Radia Al Madhagi**, Research and Development Manager at TRH, alongside a creative facilitator and community volunteers involved in the hub's participatory art programmes.



Together Reaching Higher CIC (TRH)

## Amaro Kheliben (Our Dance)

*Romano Lav*

Tuesday 26 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Lecture Theatre

Join us for a lively and welcoming introduction to Romani dance, a vibrant cultural tradition rooted in connection, joy and freedom!. This interactive session begins with a brief introduction to Romani dance followed by an open Q&A, where you'll hear directly from Roma dancers about the history, meaning and lived experience behind the dance. You'll then watch a mini performance that brings these stories to life, followed by a chance to learn some moves yourself. No experience needed - just curiosity and a willingness to join in (but no pressure to do so!). This is a space to connect, share and experience dance as a living, intergenerational tradition passed through family and community.

We are **Romano Lav**, a community-based organisation and registered charity working in Govanhill, Glasgow with the local migrant Roma communities. We work together to support and empower our local communities, with Roma youth-led decisions at the heart of everything we do. This workshop has been designed by our youth group - the Community Catalysts - who strive to make a change together, from learning and teaching Human Rights to organising a multicultural talent show, we are eager to bring a new mindset to our community through our strength and determination. Our futures are being shaped by hard work and unity together.



## **My Story, Our Future: story connections as acts of care**

*Bria Trosclair, Helena Fox, John Weeks, Louna, Mena, Salma & Edith*

Tuesday 26 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Seminar Room 1

This workshop will allow hands-on exploration of how simple acts of story sharing can become radical moments of connected experience. Using a postcard-sharing structure, we will reflect on storytelling as an intervention in representing plural, multinational, multilingual experience in Glasgow's heritage. Participants can expect to come away from this having voiced a part of their own story, holding onto another's, and weaving a connection between the two in an ongoing movement toward meaning making. We hope to show how connecting to our pasts allows us to forge futures together rooted in care for one another and the stories we all hold.




**Louna** is an ESOL student based in Glasgow and a native Arabic speaker. She enjoys learning new skills and gaining new experiences, and she is very passionate and ambitious. Louna loves drawing, adventures, and spending time in nature.

**Mena** is an ambitious student who hopes to study radiology in the future. She is passionate about cameras and photography, and enjoys capturing moments and exploring the world through a creative lens. She is curious about learning new things and looks forward to connecting with others through shared experiences.

**Salma** is an ESOL English student with a heart full of ambition. She is dedicated to completing her studies and is always driven by a desire to learn and grow. A true lover of nature and books, Salma finds beauty in reading and peace in the outdoors. She is a curious person who loves discovering new things and is always seeking to develop herself and reach her full potential.

**Helena Fox** is a facilitator, writer, and performer, with particular interests in intangible heritage and drag practice. As a Project Officer in the Our Heritage, Our Future programme at Keep Scotland Beautiful, she has worked with communities from across Scotland to enable the discovery, celebration, and preservation of local heritage. Helena has written award-winning work for stage and podcast and came second at Man Up!, Europe's largest drag king competition, in 2019. They have a starred First Class degree in Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, specialising in medieval Irish, and are keenly interested in Gaelic heritage and revivalism.



**John Weeks** is a development worker at ESOL Scotland coordinating classes across Glasgow with partner organisations. He develops courses and learning materials with a focus on functional language skills for progression into employment, further education, and integration. John started delivering an ESOL and digital skills course in September 2024 after seeing the digital exclusion experienced by many people migrating from countries where devices are a luxury. John's interests include languages, art, and community education.

**Edith** is based in Glasgow and volunteers for many organisations in a range of roles including Glasgow Film Theatre, ESOL Scotland, Scottish Refugee Council, Refuweegee, Bridges Programmes and Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice. Edith is also studying digital skills and is involved with many community groups and events. Originally from Nigeria, Edith's first language is Igbo. She is passionate about learning new skills, meeting new people, and is committed to contributing to her community and helping others. Edith loves to cycle.

**Bria Trosclair** is a 2nd year PhD researcher exploring heritage as a methodology. Her research applies heritage as action research to understand how those who have migrated to Glasgow can imagine more ontologically secure futures. A community educator by training, Bria is passionate about facilitating spaces of mutual learning and finding moments of connection through language, story, song, and movement.

## Learning from Practice: Community Practitioners' Insights for Social Prescribing Training

*Victoria Touzel and Carlotta Filius*

Tuesday 26 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Workshop Room

What should social prescribers know before working with refugee communities?

And what can we learn from you as practitioners already doing this work?

This interactive workshop brings together community practitioners to share their knowledge and help shape real training resources. We'll briefly introduce findings from recent research into social prescribing with refugees, then open up the room: small group discussions will explore what skills, values, and knowledge good training should include, how to address power and institutional barriers, and how to build genuine partnerships with refugee communities. Your insights will directly feed into an open-access training package. Come ready to share!

**Victoria Touzel** is a doctoral researcher at Bielefeld University's School of Public Health, focusing on health equity, social prescribing, and refugee health. Her research centres practice-based knowledge and community expertise, exploring how health systems can better serve marginalised populations. She is committed to participatory methods that honour lived experience and practitioner wisdom, working collaboratively to translate community insights into policy and practice recommendations.

**Carlotta Filius** is a Master of Public Health student at Bielefeld University and is about to begin her Master's thesis focusing on social prescribing. With a background in Health Communication, she is particularly interested in global health, prevention, and the role of communication in shaping equitable health systems. Alongside her academic work, she has gained professional experience in healthcare communication and hospital settings, as well as international work experience in Canada and Austria. She is especially interested in how practitioner insights can inform more relational and inclusive models of care.



## No More Bad News - Strikes Back!

*Dr Erdem Avşar and Bella Hoogeveen*

Wed 27 May, 2:30 - 3:30 pm & Thu 28 May, 2:45 - 3:00 pm - Lecture Theatre

This workshop builds on the successful first iteration of No More Bad News, delivered as a participatory workshop and short performance at the Spring School 2025. This second version further develops the format as a collective practice of imagining peace, repair, and care through shared storytelling.

We invite participants to collectively reimagine the world through the familiar structure of the evening news broadcast. Responding to the overwhelming circulation of crisis-driven and aggressively pessimistic news, the workshop proposes an intervention: transforming dominant narratives into hopeful, peace-oriented news reports grounded in care, responsibility, and shared desire.

Working in small groups, participants will be asked to write short news segments reporting on imagined transformations of reality, as if they have already happened. The emphasis is not on naïve optimism, but on collective world-building: articulating desires for peace, coexistence, and repair in a shared public language, inspired by the wisdom of Elders.

Contributions will be shaped into a short performative news broadcast to be shared on Thursday afternoon. Participation is entirely voluntary and not a prerequisite for joining the workshop on Tuesday.

**Dr Erdem Avşar** is a researcher, playwright-poet, and translator. His transdisciplinary research spans sociology of culture and the media, utopian thinking, performance studies, queer theory, and creative methods. Erdem is also an affiliate artist at UNESCO RIELA. His plays have been shown in Scotland and Italy. He was the 2019 recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award (University of Bristol Theatre Collection). His creative work has recently appeared in *clavmag*, *Lune Journal*, in the anthology *The Book of Bad Betties* (Bad Betty Press), and in *Collaborative Playwriting* edited by Paul Castagno (Routledge).

**Bella Hoogeveen** is the Project Manager of the UNESCO Chair on Refugee Integration through Education, Language and Arts at the University of Glasgow, and as such, the main organiser of this event. She is a serial language learner with a passion for music, theatre and nature, who enjoys organising events that bring those elements together.



## The Power of Three Ms: From Gaza to Glasgow - A family Story of Sharing and Caring

*Manar Al-Houbi, Mohammed Alshaikh & Mira*

Tuesday 26 May, 3:00 - 3:30 pm - Lecture Theatre

This contribution is a 1-minute video made for my family with lived experience of displacement and migration. The video brings together family photographs, short video clips, music, poetry, and a song performed by our 10-year-old daughter, Mira. Through visual storytelling, sound, and silence, the film reflects on family life during migration and the ways care, responsibility, and resilience are shared across generations. The video included in a 10-minute presentation, followed by a 10-minute reflection from the audience.

**Manar Al-Houbi** is an early career researcher with a decade of experience teaching Palestinian refugees at UNRWA. She holds an MA in Linguistics and Translation from the Islamic University of Gaza (IUG). Her research interests include intercultural communication and film studies. Recently, she led a small grant project on Palestinian cinema as part of the Culture for Inclusive and Sustainable Peace (CUSP), funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). She began working as a part-time lecturer at IUG in September 2023, but her work was interrupted by the genocide. She is currently a PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow.

**Mohammed Alshaikh** is an educator and researcher with over a decade of experience within the Ministry of Education in Gaza. During the recent educational crisis, he participated in teaching initiatives for displaced students in collaboration with UNICEF to maintain learning continuity. Holding an MA in Educational Leadership from Al-Aqsa University (2023), he is currently preparing for the MSc in Adult Education and Community Development at the University of Glasgow.



Manar and her family

**Mira** is a 10-year-old girl whose name means "goodness." She is a responsible and caring child who has taken on many family responsibilities during displacement. Despite missing school for the third consecutive year, Mira continues to grow and mature, showing strength beyond her age. She speaks Arabic and dreams of becoming a doctor one day. Through her singing, Mira shares hope, resilience, and the love she holds for her family.

**Mohammed Alhoubi** is a 20-year-old Palestinian IT Diploma graduate. Now living in displacement following the erasure of Rafah, he operates as a "digital witness," using mobile tools to transform his experiences. Despite the systematic censorship and loss of four social media channels with thousands of followers, Mohammed remains committed to his craft. He hopes to develop his art and continue his education.

## Educational Justice Across Borders: Care, Equity and Humanisation in Global contexts

*Marta Moskal, Gaston Bacquet & Sihui Wang*

Tuesday 26 May, 3:00 - 3:30 pm - Seminar Room 1

The 2026 GLACIER seminar series brought together scholars to explore pressing questions of care, equity, participation, and humanisation across diverse educational contexts. In this conversation, Prof Marta Moskal, Dr Gaston Bacquet, and Dr Sihui Wang reflect on these themes, sharing insights from their work on international policy discourse in refugee education and Freirean pedagogies in higher education.

**Dr Marta Moskal** is a Professor of Migration and Diversity at the University of Glasgow. Her research spans a range of migration studies, including key themes such as transnationalism and family migration; migrant youth identities and citizenship; university internationalisation and international student mobilities; and family engagement and refugee education.

**Dr Gaston Bacquet** is a Lecturer in Education Studies at the University of Glasgow. His scholarship is shaped by Buddhist philosophy, international wisdom traditions, and decolonial studies, with a particular focus on nonviolence as a catalyst for educational change and whole-person formation. His current work explores how we might conceptualize an ethical, humanizing pedagogy capable of disrupting the instrumentalization and competitiveness that characterize neoliberal education.

**Dr Sihui Wang** is a Lecturer in Education Studies at the University of Glasgow. Her research centres on internationalisation in higher education, focusing on linguistic, intercultural, and transnational issues. Her expertise lies in learning, and teaching practices involving international students, with attention to classroom participation patterns among international students and the reconceptualisation of international students.



The Mexico/USA border. Image credit: Marta Moskal

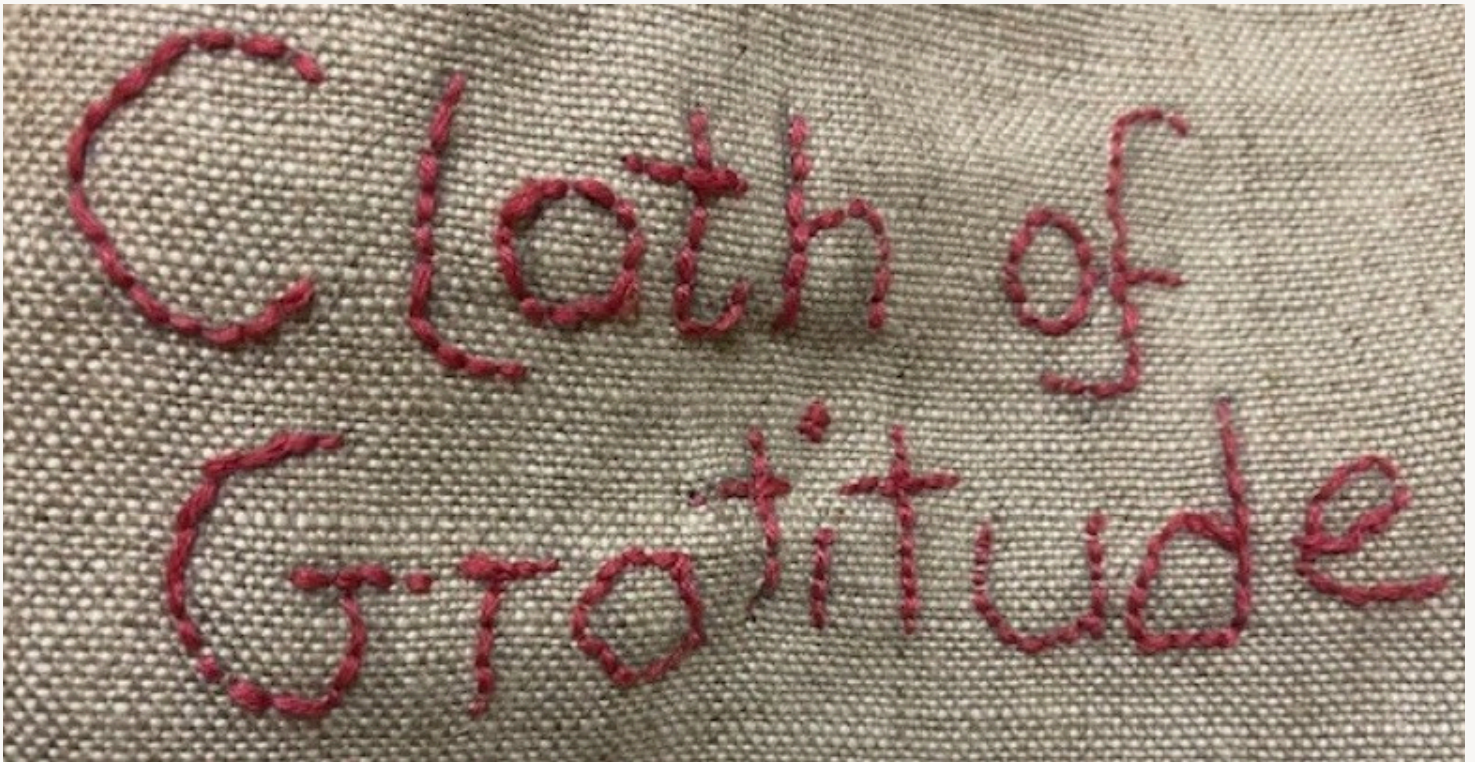
## Cloth of Gratitude

*Rachel Morley*

Tuesday 26 May, 3:00 - 3:30 pm - Workshop Room

In this workshop we will create a tablecloth together, sewing and writing wisdom that we have inherited from our elders, wisdom about sharing, and gratitude, and hospitality.

**Rachel Morley** is a clinical and community psychologist who works with survivors of violence and human rights abuses and supports practitioners and leaders working in humanitarian, advocacy and human rights organisations. She is committed to supporting psychological wellbeing and social justice and is currently exploring, through an MPhil at Glasgow university, how we can co-create rituals of love and lament in response to border violence.



## Folding a River by Heart

*Alison Phipps and Tawona Sitholé*

Tuesday 26 May, 3:00 - 3:30 pm - Seminar Room 2

It's one thing to write poetry but quite another to perform it by heart.

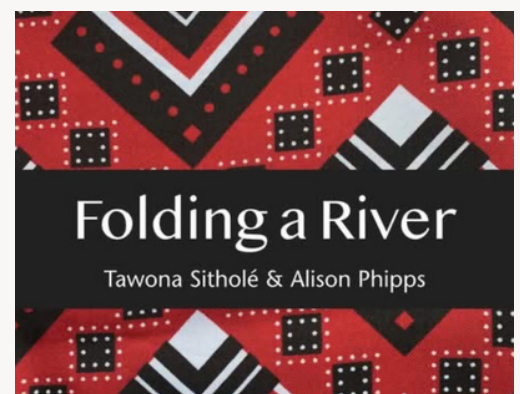
As an acclaimed spoken word poet and playwright Tawona Sitholé, the first author of this second research poetry collection, has coaxed, cajoled and refused the protestations that Alison has brought when suffering acute writer's block with regard to writing poetry (too many forms to fill out is not good for the muse), has insisted on daily practice and then on the practice of reading aloud and learning by heart.

Learning by heart and performing do not come at all naturally to Alison. She finds it exposing, gets brain freeze and struggles.

Aligned to the Spring School theme of 'Caring and Sharing' in this session Tawona will workshop Alison into learning her words by heart, teaching her techniques and methods for developing an oral facility with textual traditions

**Alison Phipps**, Professor of Languages and Intercultural Studies, holds the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Education, Languages, and Arts at the University of Glasgow. She was De Carle Distinguished Visiting Professor at Otago University, Aotearoa New Zealand 2019-2020, Thinker in Residence at the EU Hawke Centre, University of South Australia in 2016, Visiting Professor at Auckland University of Technology, Principal Investigator for 2 separate multimillion pound awards (AHRC Large Grant Researching Multilingually at the Borders of Language, the body, law and the state & Cultures of Sustainable and Inclusive Peace) and Co-Director of the Global Challenge Research Fund South South Migration Hub 2019-2024. In 2025 she was promoted to the highest professorial zone by the University of Glasgow. She is an Ambassador for the Scottish Refugee Council. She received an OBE in 2012 and Honorary Doctorates from the University of Edinburgh, and the University of Waterloo, Canada in 2023. She is an academic, activist, educator, essayist, knitter, allotmenteer, published poet and a member of the Iona Community.

Better known as Ganyamatope Dzapasi, **Tawona Sitholé's** ancestral family name inspires him to connect with other people through creativity and the anticipation to learn. His work is inherited from ancestors and modified through experience of meeting many inspiring people. A poet, mbira player, storyteller and playwright, he is co-founder of Seeds of Thought, a non-profit arts group. He is Lecturer in Creative Practice Education at the School of Education, University of Glasgow, and a core member of the UNESCO RIELA team.



## Hakka Women's Stories, and Meeting Glasgow's Elderly Anarchists: A storytelling duo performance, followed by open discussion.

*Peilin Shi, Josey-Ann Green and Boya Li*

Wednesday 27 May, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm - Lecture Theatre

What stories do we inherit, and how do they shape the ways we care for one another? In this storytelling performance, the duo Peilin Shi and Josey-ann Green bring together Hakka women's songs and migration stories with contemporary urban myths drawn from working-class life in the UK. Through storytelling, the performance explores how memories, values, and survival strategies are passed down across generations and communities.

The performance will be followed by an artist talk and open discussion, hosted by Boya Li, sharing insights from community heritage projects and the duo's applied storytelling creative process, inviting participants to reflect on how stories can sustain care, connection, and cultural knowledge. Inviting all storytelling practitioners!



**Josey-ann Green** is an artist, writer, and folk storyteller based in Glasgow. Her practice is grounded in working-class identities, wellbeing, accessibility, and the transformative potential of storytelling. Her stories draw on personal and community experiences, focusing on labour, resistance, learning, and care across generations.

**Peilin Shi** is a multidisciplinary artist, storyteller, and researcher working across performance, community heritage, and multilingual storytelling, exploring storytelling as a form of care. Her work centres on intergenerational memory through migration, Hakka women's ritual of endurance, and ancestral knowledge and survival carried through voice and daily practice in the fragile space between languages.

**Boya Li** is a researcher in sociology whose work focuses on migrant belonging and the processes of migration and settlement. Her research explores how migrants navigate inequality and marginalisation in their everyday lives, shaped by ethnicity, class, sexuality and gender. She has a particular interest in community-based and informal forms of social and civic engagement and how such practices might contribute to social change. Drawing on her lived experience as a migrant across diverse social and cultural contexts, she works to address social inequality through both academic research and grassroots activism.

## Jagged Roots - How elders and communities carry culture forward

Aisha Abbas

Wednesday 27 May, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm - Seminar Room 1

**When we say, “heritage preservation,” what exactly are we preserving; buildings, stories, or power?** This interactive workshop invites participants to rethink how heritage survives. Through participatory mapping and storytelling activities, we explore how culture endures in practice: through repetition, disagreement, adaptation, humor, and emotionally charged relationships. Rather than presenting heritage as polished or harmonious, the session examines the everyday labor of cultural care carried by elders and communities navigating change, migration, and loss. Participants will leave with a sharper understanding of how cultural practices endure collectively, when people keep using, reshaping, and debating over them.

**Learning Objectives** - By the end of the session participants will:

1. Recognize the messy mechanisms through which culture actually survives.
2. Identify social and emotional labor behind cultural continuity.
3. Critically examine romantic narratives of “heritage preservation.”
4. Apply this lens to their own communities or research contexts.

**Dr Aisha Abbas** is an interdisciplinary researcher with work across education, psychology, and social impact. After a period away from formal academic research, she is currently re-engaging with social impact learning and community development, with an interest in how reflective learning approaches can support community resilience, integration, and social change. She uses storytelling and humor as serious methods for engaging difficult questions, surfacing contradiction, and unsettling polished narratives in learning spaces. In this action-learning workshop, she invites participants to examine what cultural care looks like in practice; what is carried, adapted, resisted, and passed on when life is anything but orderly.



## Caring Hands, Living Heritage: Ukrainian Intergenerational Art Practices in a Scottish Context

*Mariia Miskova and Nataliia Sprydonova*

Wednesday 27 May, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm - Workshop Room

This participatory workshop explores Ukrainian intergenerational art practices through motanka doll-making and Petrykivka painting. Led by Mission of Innocents' artists Mariia Miskova and Nataliia Sprydonova, the session combines hands-on creative practice with contextual reflection. Participants will create a motanka doll with a baby — a symbol of care and continuity — and work with Petrykivka painting as a traditional Ukrainian decorative technique that, through colour, rhythm, and floral motifs, conveys a sense of vitality, connection, and inner strength. A short lecture is woven into the making process, highlighting how embodied craft supports emotional resilience, cultural transmission, and integration. The session invites shared attention, intercultural dialogue, and collective creativity within a Scottish context.

**Mission of Innocents** is a grassroots charity initiative founded by Joyce Landry to support children displaced by war, political or economic instability, and environmental disasters. The organisation works with children and families through creative practices such as art, music, and dance, creating safe community spaces that foster healing, resilience, and connection. Mission of Innocents prioritises collaborative, child-centred, and culturally sensitive approaches to community building.



Mission of Innocents in action

**Mariia Miskova** is a Ukrainian artist living and working in Scotland. Her creative developments is supported by Mission of Innocents, her practice centres on a contemporary interpretation of the Ukrainian motanka doll as a form of cultural memory and embodied heritage. Working with natural materials and traditional textile techniques, she bridges folk legacy with contemporary artistic language. Her work combines individual artistic practice with participatory workshops involving children, families, and vulnerable groups from diverse cultural backgrounds.

**Nataliia Sprydonova** is a Ukrainian artist and master practitioner of Petrykivka painting based in Scotland. She works with children at the Ukrainian Kids Club in Coatbridge with the support of Mission of Innocents, focusing on the intergenerational transmission of cultural heritage. Trained by leading Ukrainian masters and at the Petrykivka Art College, she regards Petrykivka painting as a living visual language of care, memory, and protection. Her artistic and educational activities contribute to the promotion of Ukrainian culture in an international context.

## What We Carry: Memory and Intergenerational Exchange

*Central and West Integration Network (CWIN) Art Group*

Wednesday 27 May, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm - Seminar Room 2

Join the members of the CWIN Art Group on a journey through memory and intergenerational exchange. Each artist will present a personal offering dedicated to an elder who has shaped their values, cultural grounding, or sense of self. Contributions include written reflections, poetry, visual art, songs, food recipes, photographs, and other culturally significant forms of practice. The session will provide a structured, supportive environment for sharing and reflection, exploring how memory, care, and identity are carried across generations through lived experience and in day-to-day life, rather than formal records.



The CWIN Art Group at their recent exhibition at the 'Library of Sanctuary', November 2025.

**The Central and West Integration Network (CWIN) Art Group**, led by Christina Kyriakidou, has been meeting regularly since its formation in January 2022 and has realised over ten exhibitions to date, including exhibitions at the Scottish Refugee Festival for four consecutive years. The group brings together migrants, including asylum seekers and refugees, to build community, develop and exchange skills and support one another through collaborative creative practices. Joy, exploration, self-determination and empowerment are central to the group's ethos.


**Christina Kyriakidou** is a Multidisciplinary Visual Artist, Community Educator, UNESCO RIELA Affiliate Artist and Autism Specialist Mentor for students in Higher Education. She leads the CWIN Art Group (2022–present).

**Diana Pimiento** is an Industrial Engineer from Colombia with a passion for logistics, art, and cultural exchange. She has been an artist-member of the CWIN art group since 2024.

**Hadia Mohammadi** has a strong interest in art and sports and actively supports fellow artists through the CWIN Art Group.

**Isabella Pimiento** is a student and a member of the CWIN art group since 2024. Her practice embraces diverse forms of creative expression, allowing her to convey her emotions and personal experiences.

**Lina Fernanda Rangel** is a young Visual Artist who has recently joined the CWIN Art Group accompanied by her mother and brother. She was recognised by the Auchenharvie Academy as an Art and Design Ambassador of her school for 2024/2025.



**Kattia Manrique** is a Business Administrator with over 20 years of experience in export and import companies, who has long nurtured a passion for creativity and the arts. Since February 2026, she has participated in art classes with the CWIN Art Group, exploring painting and other forms of expression within a supportive community. She enjoys piano, cycling, gardening, and painting, and through her art shares her culture, connects with others, and reflects on personal experiences collaboratively.

**Luz Dary Rodríguez** joined the CWIN Art Group this year as a participating artist accompanied by her children. She hopes to nurture their love of art by supporting and guiding them through a shared journey of creative exploration.

**Mathias** is the group's youngest artist-member and is presenting alongside his mother.

**Mohammed Hamami** is an Artist, Chef, self-taught Musician, and member of the CWIN Art Group since 2024.

**Svitlana Kurbatska** holds a Master's degree in Special Education (Speech Therapy, Correctional Pedagogy and Special Psychology) and a Master's degree in Educational Institution Management. She is a Choir Conductor and Music and Singing Teacher. In Ukraine, she worked as a Philharmonic Director and spent 22 years as Artistic and Programme Director of Concert Programmes at Poltava State Agrarian University. She has participated in Erasmus+ programmes, international competitions, and festivals. Svitlana completed the New Scots Leadership Programme at the Social Enterprise Academy and studied Music Theory at the University of Edinburgh. She is member of Musicians in Exile and the CWIN Art Group.

**Tahereh Samori** is a retired banker with 22 years of management experience and an MBA. An active lifelong learner, she has studied a wide range of creative practices, including painting, sewing, crochet, calligraphy, traditional Iranian mirror art, patina, and even hairdressing. She also writes her own poetry and has explored cultural and heritage studies through tourism courses, as well as completing advanced first aid training. She brings both a wealth of experience and artistic curiosity to the CWIN Art Group.

**Taylor del Castillo** is a Colombian student, musician, and member of the CWIN art group since 2025. Through singing, he reflects on his beliefs, thoughts, emotions and personal journey.

**Yuliana Giraldo Orozco** is a Chef from Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia, with a deep passion for culinary arts. She has been married for 25 years and is the mother of two children, Alejandro and Luciana Ríos. Over a year ago, Yuliana and her family relocated to the United Kingdom, where they have been warmly welcomed. Since January, she has been participating in art classes with her daughter through the CWIN Art Group, a space where they spend time together and explore the beauty and value of creative expression.

Guest Collaborator: **Peilin Shi** is a Multidisciplinary Artist, Storyteller, and Researcher working across spoken word, song, and applied storytelling. Exploring storytelling as a form of care, her practice explores ancestral knowledge, migration, and the fragile space between languages. Her work centres on Hakka women's lived histories, communal heritage rituals of endurance, intergenerational memory and survival carried through voice and daily practice, and asks how folk traditions might function within contemporary performance.

## The 'Work' of Passing On

*Deborah Olivier and Hyab Yohannes*

Wednesday 27 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Lecture Theatre

This discussion reflects on the fugitive yet persistent question of how culture travels across generations in diaspora. What can be carried from one homeland to another, and what must be remade along the way? We ask to what extent 'culture' can be transmitted across generations, and whether 'heritage' resides in place or in the bodies, memories, and practices of those who move. We approach transmission as a process of 'translation', enacted as traditions encounter new landscapes, languages, and social worlds. We also attend to the necropolitical and racialised conditions under which heritage is passed on, examining how migration status, passport privileges, and experiences of (be)longing shape whose culture is intelligible, whose mobility is possible, and whose inheritance is burdened with expectations. Bringing together first- and second-generation perspectives from different intercultural backgrounds, we weave personal experience with critical reflection. The discussion will open with a short musical tune performed by one of the discussants, as participants are invited to gather in an open circle, creating a shared and embodied space for dialogue.

**Deborah Olivier** is an MA student in Ethnomusicology at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg. She holds a BM in Violin Performance and a BS in Environmental Science from Florida State University. In addition to Western classical violin, she also regularly plays in several traditional styles, most notably including Celtic fiddle music. Her masters thesis focuses on the Eritrean koboro and its presence and role in Glasgow's Eritrean diaspora. Her research interests include music in women's spaces and gendered experiences of music-making, music and migration, and the creation of heritage.

**Hyab Yohannes** is a Lecturer in Forced Migration and Decolonial Education at the University of Glasgow, researching decoloniality, poetics, and political theory.



Hyab Yohannes

## Little Books, Big Care: A Zine-Making Workshop

謝思盈 *Sih-Ying (Iris) Hsieh*

Wednesday 27 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Seminar Room 1

Are you a parent, grandparent, or family caregiver? Come make a zine with us! In this hands-on, one-hour workshop, you'll create a small handmade booklet to explore your own stories of care, across cultures, generations, and everyday life. No art skills needed. Just your experiences and curiosity. Through drawing, writing, and sharing, we'll reflect together on what it means to care for others and ourselves. You'll leave with your very own zine. 1 hour activity. Process over perfection. Stories over skills.



Credit: Sih-Ying Hsieh

謝思盈 **Sih-Ying (Iris) Hsieh** is an artist, community practitioner, and PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow. Her work explores arts-based methods for dementia care, caring literacies, and community education.

## Carelaborations of Spring Schools past and present

*Dr Sarah Stewart*

Wednesday 27 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Workshop Room

The May 2025 Spring School included a pop-up cloutie well, a place where participants would share offerings to the Spring School: words of wisdom, hope and care, as well as recipes and drawings, in dark times. When the Spring School was over, these offerings became a hand-bound book. In this workshop, we will use words and phrases offered in the salvaged chats from the online October 2025 Spring School to make new works of art to be included in the Cloutie Well Book of the Spring School that honours three 'generations' of the UNESCO RIELA Spring School.



**Dr Sarah Stewart** is a knitter, forager, gardener, researcher, writer, jam-maker, and bookbinder. Originally from Aotearoa New Zealand, she now makes her home in Scotland and helps run FOSS (Friends of Scottish Settlers), a befriending charity creating links between established locals and newcomers to Falkirk. Bookbinding with found materials is one way she bridges distance between herself and people and places she is fond of, collecting reminders of them and making something new.

## Weaving Belonging: the Collective Art of Care

*Agathe Galina Johanna Leroy*

Wednesday 27 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Seminar Room 2

Join us for a unique, hands-on journey where art meets community. In this hour-long collaborative workshop, you are invited to co-create a large-scale woven artwork without the need for a loom. As we weave threads together across a shared space, you will be invited to reflect on your personal understanding of community and care. This session fosters closeness and communication, weaving the threads of belonging. Come share your thread and reveal the beauty of our interconnectedness through a collaborative tapestry!

No prior art experience required, and all the material will be provided.



Credit: Ashley Merlov

**Agathe Leroy** is a Master's student in Inclusive Education at the University of Glasgow, holding dual bachelor's degrees in Fine Arts and Education. Passionate about interculturality and languages, she facilitates collaborative art experiences that foster social integration. Previously, as a core member of the grassroots Collective 4891 (@collective4891) in Tiohtià:ke/Montreal, she organized inclusive workshops and managed community resources to reduce barriers to artistic expression. Agathe's work focuses on collaborative art practices and inclusivity, aiming to weave stronger social fabrics through shared creation.

## Caring Without Inheritance: The Inner Journey of Unaccompanied Migrant Youth

*Domingo Clemente Cruz*

Tuesday 26 May, 1:15 - 2:15 pm - Seminar Room 2

This session presents an ethnographic reflection on the experiences of unaccompanied migrant youth in Catalonia, based on ongoing doctoral research conducted in collaboration with the Superacció Foundation. Drawing on interviews and six months of fieldwork, the research explores how young migrants navigate loss, belonging and identity in the absence of family networks. Particular attention is given to everyday practices of care emerging in educational, community and sports contexts. The session invites participants to reflect on how care, knowledge and emotional support are shared when intergenerational transmission is interrupted by migration.



**Domingo Clemente Cruz** is a social educator and PhD candidate with experience in educational, community-based and psychosocial work with migrant youth. He is currently conducting an ethnographic study focused on the experiences of unaccompanied migrant young people in Catalonia, in collaboration with the Superacció Foundation. His work explores the interaction between migration, psychosocial wellbeing, community care and identity construction, with a particular interest in everyday practices of accompaniment and coping strategies developed in contexts of high social vulnerability.



## Care, Language, and the Space Between Us

Gizem Karaköse

Wednesday 27 May, 2:30 - 3:30 pm - Seminar Room 1

This workshop examines how artistic and cultural spaces support social inclusion for people with lived experience of forced migration. It draws on ethnographic research with Syrian participants involved in art initiatives in Istanbul. The session considers how language, emotion, and everyday interaction shape whether inclusion is experienced in practice. Short research narratives, shared listening or viewing moments, and guided discussion create a collective space for reflection. Participants will discuss care, belonging, and multilingual communication in cultural contexts. The session also reflects on the limits of participation-based approaches and asks when creative initiatives encourage connection and when they unintentionally maintain distance.



Addar community singing event after the Friday film and dinner gathering (Photo: Gizem Karaköse)

**Gizem Karaköse** is a PhD candidate in Linguistics at Nicolaus Copernicus University. Her research focuses on migration, social inclusion, sociolinguistics, and multilingual practices in diasporic and refugee contexts. She has conducted extensive ethnographic fieldwork in diaspora studies. Her work is based on ethnographic research in multiple countries, including research on refugee-led art and cultural spaces in Istanbul. She is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Glasgow, UNESCO Chair of Refugee Integration through Education, Languages, and Arts in May-June 2026.



YoloArt music night (Photo: Gizem Karaköse)

## **“Əldən ələ” — From Hospitality to Trust**

*Samira Hasanzade & Narmin Aliyeva*

Wednesday 27 May, 2:30 - 3:30 pm - Workshop Room


A simple piece of bread passes from hand to hand, carrying with it a story of care, trust, and human connection. “Əldən ələ — From Hospitality to Trust” draws on an Azerbaijani cultural tradition in which tea or food is offered to every guest as a gesture of hospitality, while sharing bread and salt represents something deeper: a bond of trust, responsibility, and belonging between people.

In this participatory workshop, participants are invited to explore the difference between being welcomed and truly becoming connected. Through a collective bread-sharing ritual inspired by the tradition of *birlikdə duz-çörək kəsmək* (“cutting bread and salt together”), participants experience how a simple act can symbolise mutual care and equality. Moments of quiet reflection and a short writing exchange encourage participants to consider how relationships begin and how trust is formed through small gestures.

Rooted in cultural memory yet open to diverse experiences, the workshop creates a space for participants from different backgrounds to reflect on hospitality, care, and responsibility toward one another. By engaging with these traditions through shared action rather than explanation alone, the activity highlights how everyday practices can build warmth, trust, and a sense of community across cultures.



Credit: Chef Grandma Cooking



**Samira Hasanzade** is a PhD candidate in Education at the University of Glasgow whose work explores how education can nurture peace, dialogue, and human connection. Her research focuses on Peace Education and innovative approaches that use artistic, intercultural, and experiential methods to foster empathy, resilience, and inclusive learning. Samira's work bridges research, teaching, and cultural engagement, drawing on diverse educational contexts and collaborative initiatives. She is particularly interested in how simple, shared experiences: stories, rituals, and creative expression, can open spaces for dialogue across differences. Through her work, she aims to contribute to more compassionate, connected, and peaceful learning communities.

**Narmin Aliyeva's** journey moves between research, culture, and human connection. Currently pursuing a PhD in Peacebuilding through Sport with an academic background from the University of Glasgow and working with MSF in London, she explores how sport, shared experiences, and collective energy can bring people closer and create spaces for dialogue and understanding. Fluent in several languages and deeply engaged in the world of digital publications, Narmin believes that ideas travel further when they are shared with clarity, creativity, and heart. Her work blends research with storytelling, aiming to spark new perspectives on peacebuilding - where collaboration, culture, and positive energy come together to inspire communities across borders.

## **Mai Arrendersi, Never Give Up: Stories As Paths of Resistance**

*Esa Aldegheri*

Wednesday 27 May, 2:30 - 3:30 pm - Seminar Room 2

Stories shared by beloved Elders are like spiral paths which we follow all our lives, returning to them as our needs change and when history seems to repeat itself. This interactive session starts from the stories of my Nonno who lived through war and fascism in Italy and, through humour and a stubborn refusal to ever give up, passed on models of resistance to systems of domination and violence. You will be invited to think about formative stories of resistance from beloved elders and share these if you wish. Together we will explore what it means to care for these stories now while making a multilingual installation of 'story paths'.

**Dr Esa Aldegheri** holds a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship investigating how unequal narratives and borderings of refugee journeys affect community integration, with a focus on Scotland as an internationally relevant case study. This interdisciplinary and multilingual research project uses a combination of qualitative, narrative-based and multilingual research methods, linking academic research with Esa's work as a creative writer and facilitator of community education and integration projects. She is an Affiliate Researcher with the UNESCO RIELA team. She greatly enjoys tree climbing, sea swimming and storytelling.



## **Subject to Review: Pending**

*Pinar Aksu & Chafik Kazkaz*

Thursday 28 May, 10:45 - 11:30 am - Lecture Theatre

This **short play** will explore themes of culture, language, migration, and connection. Inviting the audience to understand and connect with the past/old character of migration and the present/young character of the immigration systems.

What does it mean to be subject to review: pending?

How can we understand one another?

After the creative performance, participants will hear from the presenters about the themes and development of the play. Our creative performance links to Caring and Sharing as we will present a short play based on migration connecting the past and the present using dialogue and performance.



Image credit: Chafik Kazkaz

**Pinar Aksu** is a researcher at the University of Glasgow, a theatre maker and human rights campaigner. Pinar is currently a Research Associate with the 'Sustainable Designs for Living and Learning (SDLL): Embedding Multilingualism into Learning for Sustainability' research project. Her PhD research explored 'Art and Law in migration: using art practices for social change and access to Justice'. She is interested in finding connections between solidarity, art, justice, and law. With a particular focus in creating welcoming communities through critical dialogue and understanding of one another. She presented her PhD findings in the form of a Legislative Theatre and is keen to explore possibilities of using the creativity for alternatives based on humanity.

**Chafik Kazkaz** by profession is a Syrian dentist living in Scotland with his wife and three children. Chafik has a master's degree in Periodontology and has been practicing for more than 25 years. He is now calling Scotland his home as they have been living in Scotland for more than 18 months.

## How can we reimagine intergenerational social care services? An Appreciative Inquiry Approach

Ali Huntley

Thursday 28 May, 10:45 - 11:30 am - Seminar Room 1

How can we learn from each other to create social care services that work for all of us?

You will hear about my experience of growing up in a residential home for older adults and the impact of intergenerational living. We will look together at the work of Research in Practice, who bring together researchers, practitioners and people with lived experience of services to reimagine social care. You'll have the opportunity to learn from others – we will use Appreciative Inquiry to share the breadth of experience in the room, considering together how social care services could support older adults differently.

**Ali Huntley** was brought up in and around the care system, with her mother owning a residential home for older adults in Dartmoor, Devon. This brought to life a different type of intergenerational living, with three generations of mothers living and working in the care home supporting each other and those that live there. Ali has combined her passion for care with her interest in research and learning and is now a Learning and Development Officer at Research in Practice.



Four generations in the garden at Venville House, Dartmoor, Devon: Lindsey with her mother Hilary, her grandmother Alison, and Alison's great-granddaughter Ali on her lap.

**Research in Practice** works with and for professionals in the social care, health, criminal justice and higher education sectors offering resources, learning opportunities and specialist expertise. We aim to support their learning to enable people – children, young people, families, adults, carers and communities – to live good lives. Our work brings together research evidence, practice wisdom and expertise from people's lived experience. Research in Practice is a values-driven organisation, enabled by our independent and not-for-profit status.

## When Displaced Voices Speak: Listening, Language, and the Meaning of Care in Multilingual Societies

*Raneem Knaj*

Thursday 28 May, 10:45 - 11:30 am - Seminar Room 2

This interactive session explores how voice, language, and listening intersect in multilingual societies shaped by migration. Drawing on current research at the University of Glasgow on speech-based artificial intelligence and digital mental health, the session reflects on how migrant and refugee voices are often misrecognised in both institutional settings and emerging voice technologies. Many speech-analysis systems and everyday listening practices are implicitly designed around native speakers, creating barriers for those who speak the dominant language as a second language. Through short reflections and guided discussion, participants will explore how listening can be understood as a form of care and how more inclusive listening practices – both human and technological – can support dignity, participation, and meaningful integration in diverse societies.

**Dr Raneem Knaj** is a Research Fellow at the James Watt School of Engineering at the University of Glasgow. Her research focuses on speech-based artificial intelligence for healthcare, digital mental health, and multilingual speech analysis. Her work investigates how voice technologies interact with linguistic diversity and how speech-analysis systems can be designed to function reliably across native and non-native speakers. Before moving to the UK, she served as Head of the Computer and Electronic Systems Engineering Department at Tartous University in Syria. Her research connects technology, language, and care in societies shaped by migration.



"Voice, language and multilingual communication"

## Sharing is Caring: Co-constructing Inclusive, Creative, and Love Community Across 'Difference' in Glasgow's Southside

*Ray Di Marco Campbell*

Thursday 28 May, 11:45 am - 12:15 pm - Lecture Theatre

Positing the anarchist-inspired **Glasgow Autonomous Space** as a unique body of groups addressing the 'spatial, temporal and political barriers' flagged in the 2026 Call for Contributions, this work examines specific efforts undertaken to create the space over the last decade. It considers the extent to which this ideologically-driven grassroots collective shatters the state funding-dependent and otherwise liberal versus conservative dichotomy plaguing much of modern political action. Focusing on the opportunities, but also the limitations of the independently-funded groups - conducted via a series of case studies - the discussion considers recent successes in engaging refugee, queer, and mutual aid-minded communities.



An experienced community development practitioner and community organiser, **Ray Di Marco Campbell** has worked with a range of local and national organisations, primarily centring their work on anarcha-feminist practice, anti-racist initiatives, mutual aid, consensus-based decision-making processes, programmes for social inclusion, and services supporting queer inclusion. Since 2023, they've held the role of Treasurer for the Community Development Journal and co-ordinate the Anarchist Studies Network (part of the Political Studies Association). In addition, they lead a pay-what-you-can solidarity barbering project at the Glasgow Autonomous Space.

Ray and colleagues will also be hosting a stall during the breaks. More information can be found on page 28.

## Weight for light to inherit an Icon - Towards a synaesthetic Formation

*René Landspersky*

Thursday 28 May, 11:45 am - 12:15 pm - Seminar Room 1

This lecture performance asks how memory travels through images, sounds and stories across generations. The starting point is my own family history: the expulsion from Budweis in former Czechoslovakia after Second World war. Working with artifacts from my family archive, I aim to investigate in conversation with the audience how trauma, loss of place and identity are never transmitted neutrally but are shaped through media, symbols and sensory experience. During the session these materials will be recombined live, allowing interferences, gaps and dissonances to emerge. Rather than offering a linear narrative, I aim to elaborate why the sharing of individual and collective stories within increasingly computational cultures memory and heritage need to be remediated synaesthetically?

**René Landspersky** is a creative reader, curator and researcher whose practice is grounded in systemic thinking, collective empathy and collaboration. Working across artistic experimentation, cultural memory and social research, her work often begins with personal questions and expands into broader social and political contexts.

She is particularly interested in how language, artistic expression and sensory experience shape the ways we remember and engage with history, herstory and theirstory. Through the use of archives, sound, photography and performative formats, her practice explores how, when and why the arts become significant drivers of social transformation and intergenerational learning.



Photo Credit: René Landspersky

## A not-so-simple origin story: Tracing a melody across borders, bureaucracy and (post)migrant bodies in Berlin

*Eli Vardzhiyska*

Thursday 28 May, 11:45 am - 12:15 pm - Seminar Room 2

What sounds do you remember? Can a song be traveling down your spine? Or maybe a lullaby you knew as a kid is hiding in your shoulder...

In this session we will reflect on how bodies remember and carry sounds. We will listen to our bodies, find comfort in our voices and share silence. Initially, I will present observations from my research on an early field recording from the Ottoman empire that I heard in an archive in Berlin. Using the recorded melody as a case study, I hope to provide an insight into how institutional systems oversimplify cultural phenomena structurally, thus disregarding their ontological multiplicity and the effects of migration. The plurality of this song and the knowledge of/about it – linguistic, embodied, musical – will guide us to the participatory part of the session.



Eli Vardzhiyska

**Eli Vardzhiyska** moves, sings and inhabits spaces in-between: identities, knowledge systems, words and memories. She is currently pursuing an MA in Music, Sound & Performance at the Freie Universität and Humboldt Universität in Berlin with a focus on music and migration. Eli is interested in how (collective) identities emerge through and are fostered by artistic practices that invite social interaction and the futures we want to create, topics she started exploring during earlier studies in film and communication.

## Listening to Language: Care, Silence and Untranslatability

*Azadeh Fatehrad & Hyab Yohannes*

Thursday 28 May, 1:15 - 2:30 pm - Lecture Theatre

This participatory workshop explores language as a living archive of care, memory, and intergenerational heritage. Through storytelling, deep listening, and gentle creative exchange, participants are invited to reflect on words, sounds, and expressions associated with care in their own lives and communities. Working in small groups, participants share experiences of how language travels across generations, migrations, and cultural contexts.

The session also makes space for silence and untranslatability, recognising them as meaningful parts of communication. By foregrounding listening as an ethical practice, the workshop explores how language sustains relationships, cultural memory, and belonging across diverse and changing social worlds.



**Azadeh Fatehrad** is Professor of Art and Public Policy at Teesside University and Co-Director of the Institute for Collective Place Leadership. Her work focuses on participatory arts, migration, and cultural regeneration, exploring how creative practice can support social cohesion, integration, and community-led change.

**Hyab Yohannes** is Lecturer in Forced Migration and Decolonial Education at the University of Glasgow. His research explores decolonial thought, poetics, and political theory, with a particular focus on migration, language, and the cultural politics of knowledge.

## Grounding, Guidance and Giggles

*Mirna Šolić, Marzanna Antoniak, & Ali Zaregol*

Thursday 28 May, 1:15 - 2:30 pm - Seminar Room 1



The workshop *Grounding, Guidance and Giggles* (creating an ancestral atlas of care) will explore how language carries care across time, space, and displacement, using words, sayings, poetry, and literature inherited from elders. Participants will reflect on ancestral language, considering how it offered comfort, guidance, and joy beyond its original context. Facilitators invite all, regardless of age, to share their own verbal legacies and consider the care they wish to pass on. The session will culminate in creating an “atlas of care,” mapping meaningful words and connections across places, emphasizing communal bonds beyond geography.

**Ali Zaregol** was born in Shiraz, a city known in Iran as the “capital of culture and literature.” From the moment he learned to read and grasp the meaning of words, reading became his favourite pastime. His childhood unfolded in the imaginative and mysterious worlds of Jules Verne, and later in the shadowy, suspenseful realms of Agatha Christie’s novels. In adulthood, he changed jobs several times, moving workplaces every few years, and even changing the city - and at times the country - he lived in, in search of something undefined. Yet it seems his questioning spirit finally comes to rest where it truly belongs: in words.

**Marzanna Antoniak** is a multilingual culture animator, community development practitioner, language teacher, and trainer specialising in communication across linguistic diversity. Her work centres on strengthening cohesion, improving accessibility, and building inclusive, empowered multi-ethnic communities. She has led development projects, neighbourhood strategies, and curated exhibitions highlighting cultural diversity and lived experience. She has also published articles and zines and programmed cross-cultural festivals and events across Scotland.

**Mirna Šolić** is a Senior Lecturer in Comparative Literature at the University of Glasgow. She co-directs ArtsLab on Migration and Displacement in Arts&Humanities Research. Mirna is interested in the themes of home and belonging, displacement and environment. She is exploring these themes across different media and genres, including literature, film, and visual arts.

## The Lyrical Tradition: Cultural homeland, nostalgic writing, and poetical dwelling

汪筱薈 *Hsiao-Chiang (Hope) Wang* & Tawona Sitholé

Thursday 28 May, 1:15 - 2:30 pm - Seminar Room 2

Writing is one of the ways we inherit and pass on our missing, caring, and healing through generations.

In this session, we will introduce **抒情傳統 the Lyrical Tradition**, and explore how it builds a cultural homeland, allowing 遺民 remnants to dwell poetically and 移民 migrants to negotiate fluid identities. We will read and listen to these emotional archives written after the 'great exodus' of 1949, following the Chinese Civil War. We will co-create poems and build a 'poetic shelter' through sharing words of caring.



Image credit: Neil Miller

**Tawona Sitholé**, better known as ganyamatope dzapasi, my spirit name inspires me to connect with other people through creativity and the anticipation to learn. my work is inherited from ancestors and modified through my professional education practice. I am lecturer in creative practice education at University of Glasgow, within the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Education, Languages and the Arts (UNESCO RIELA). I am co-founder of Seeds of Thought, a non-funded arts group, and continue working in the creative sector as poet, playwright, mbira musician, and facilitator. As I continues to write, teach and perform, mostly I appreciate this work for the many inspiring people it allows me to meet.

汪筱薈 **Hsiao-Chiang Wang (Hope)** as a UNESCO RIELA PhD Scholarship recipient, I am committed to using my cultural practices and research to foster restorative integration. My research interests are heritage interpretation, refugee integration, creative methodology, and migration museology. I have a background in Chinese literature, education, cultural policy, and heritage and museum studies. I truly believe that when people read and create, they can fly and be free.



Image credit: Yen-Ting Lin

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# DATES OF NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the UNESCO RIELA Spring School will continue with both online and in-person formats. The Online Spring School will take place across four sessions on 2, 9, 16, and 23 November 2026, offering participants the opportunity to engage in the programme remotely. This will be followed by the next in-person Spring School, which will be held from 25–27 May 2027, bringing participants together once again for three days of dialogue, creative exchange, and community building.

We hope to see you again in person at the next Spring School in Glasgow!

