

The Sub-Study Group on Dance and Diaspora at the ICTMD Study Group on Ethnochoreology

Report on the Sub-Study Group Activities
for the period November 2022 – June 2024¹

Within its nearly two years of existence, the Sub-Study Group on Dance and Diaspora felt comfortable with the model of bimonthly book club discussions via Zoom. The topics ranged from classic and recent theoretical works on diaspora to case studies. To facilitate the continuity of the conversation and to have an archive (with a collection of references), group members agreed to record the discussions and share them (unlisted) on YouTube.

A recent and exciting outcome of the Sub-Study Group work was forming a panel for participation in the 2025 ICTMD World Conference in New Zealand and its acceptance by the Program Committee. The panel was entitled “Imagining Diasporic Balkan Communities through Dance” (with panelists Gergana Panova-Tekath, Dilyana Kurdova, Carol Silverman, and Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg). We are honored and grateful for the Executive Board’s support for this submission.

A paper within the dance and diasporic theme by Jeanette Mollenhauer that could not be incorporated into the panel was also submitted and accepted by the ICTMD 2025 World Conference Program Committee (as an individual paper).

The latest discussion (**21 June 2024, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Meeting #10**) was led by Belma Oğul, who presented her research on the Bosniak Neighborhoods in Istanbul:



Part I <https://youtu.be/rD-v5NopbiQ>

Part II <https://youtu.be/xWoPFnpL-mo>

Earlier discussions included:

12 April 2024, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Meeting #9

“On the Megdan of the Other Bulgaria” - The Imagined Homeland
within the Identity Theory’s Research and Development

Presenter/discussant: Dilyana Kurdova

<https://youtu.be/ngDzGgQBpEQ>



¹ A report about the establishment of the group and its initial activities was submitted to the Executive Board and included in the January 2024 Bulletin of the ICTMD, Vol. 154, p. 27

<https://ictmusic.org/sites/default/files/documents/bulletins/154-ICTMD-Bulletin-Jan-2024-better.pdf>



29 February 2024, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Meeting #8
 “From Diaspora to Intersectional Performative Mobilities: Dance and Music in Transnational Balkan Romani Communities”

Presenter/discussant: Carol Silverman

https://youtu.be/Qes7w_fzpSA

15 December 2023, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Meeting #7
 “Two Recent Texts on Diaspora”

(Ipek Demir’s text on Diaspora as translation and decolonisation. Manchester University Press. Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/101057, published in 2022, and Tine Vekemans’s text, Lost and found, centre and periphery: narratives of the Jain diasporic experience online, South Asian Diaspora, DOI: 10.1080/19438192.2020.1773137, issued in 2020

Presenters/discussants: Nena Couch and Kristina Dolinina

<https://youtu.be/W51ZGxQP75o>



13 October, 2023, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Reading #6

Transnational roots/routes: Connecting art practices of Uday Shankar and Alice Boner

Presenter/discussant: Urmimala Sarkar

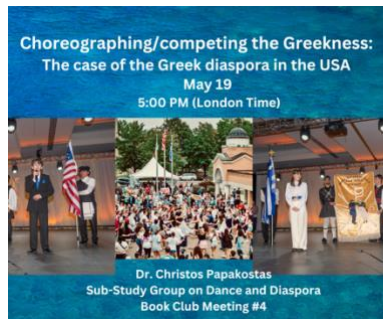
https://youtu.be/qgG_Nap-Ifl

30 June 2023, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Reading #5
 “Great Southern Land: Reinterpreting Traditional Dance in the Australian Context”

Presenter/discussant: Jeanette Mollenhauer

<https://youtu.be/5wnOSHCW9W4>





19 May 2023 Dance and Diaspora Book Club Reading #4

“Choreographing/competing the Greekness: The case of the Greek diaspora in the USA”

Presenter/discussant: Christos Papakostas

<https://youtu.be/4IlU60QWa0U>

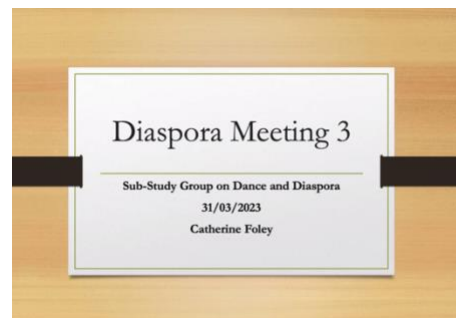
31 March 2023, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Reading #3

James Clifford, “Diasporas” in Cultural Anthropology, August 1994, Vol. 9, No. 3: pp. 302-338.

Floya Anthias’ article on “Evaluating ‘Diaspora’: Beyond Ethnicity?” in Sociology. August 1998, Vol. 32, No. 3: pp. 557-580.

Discussant: Catherine Foley

<https://youtu.be/hMRvivDgAk8>



20 January 2023, Dance and Diaspora Book Club Reading #2

Herbert Gans, “Symbolic Ethnicity” Ethnic and Racial Studies 2/1 (1979) and Anthony Shay, “Immigrant Dance” chapter from Choreographing Identities (2006)

Discussant: Andriy Nahachewsky

https://youtu.be/aVxbBIFL0_E

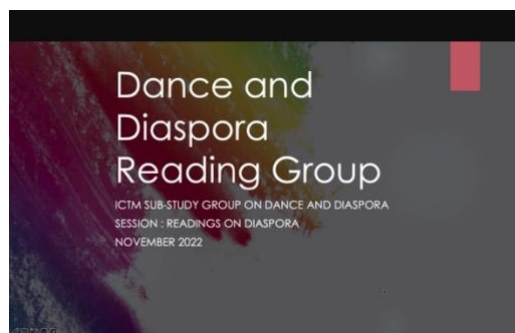
25 November 2022 Dance and Diaspora Book Club Reading #1

Theorization of diaspora: Looking at articles by Hem Raj Kafle, Khachig Tölölyan, and Ananya Jahanara Kabir

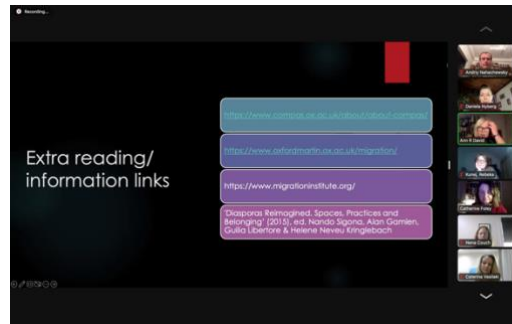
Discussant: Ann David

Host: Andriy Nahachewsky

<https://youtu.be/B16R6moQSQU>



Responsible for collecting references in a virtual library such as those below (from our first discussion) and from the subsequent meetings is Christos Papakostas, (University of Ioannina, Greece).



Our Dance and Diaspora Initial Discussion: Ideas for Collaboration was held on 21 August 2022:
<https://youtu.be/pKOLP6ZkQpQ>

Future activities will be discussed with the group members during the 33rd Symposium of the ICTMD Study Group on Ethnochoreology (21- 28 July 2024, Izmir, Turkey).

12 July 2024

Submitted by
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Dance and Diaspora Sub-Study Group within the ICTMD Study Group on Ethnochoreology