The artists of *The Moving Matters Traveling Workshop* (MMTW) were born and have lived in different countries. Yet they share a common story of serial migration. While a cosmopolitan may evolve from provincialism toward global consciousness and an immigrant may feel torn between two countries, the “serial migrant” is shaped by her implication in successive environments and the effort to make herself of them all. In her book, *Moving Matters Paths of Serial Migration*, Susan Ossman documents these subjective struggles with the accumulation of ways of being oneself in varied contexts. She probes the conceptual implications of taking a mobile, path oriented approach to conceptualizing emerging forms of social and cultural diversity. Since 2013, the artists of the MMTW have taken her analysis as a springboard for further research, fashioning themselves as a collective to examine their common experience of serial migration by producing works of art, exhibitions and performances to probe the politics of movement, migration and sequestration.

The workshop develops in the image of the serial migrant; it evolves by linking one place to another in a process of progressive habitation. To date, the MMTW has met in California, France, the Netherlands and Romania, producing 4 original performances, three exhibitions and a participatory intervention. Each meeting focuses on a specific theme, involving a new mix of participants. Each workshop is recorded in photos, videos and texts, creating a record of both performances and off-stage life. Some of these will be screened during the conference. An exhibition of work inspired by the workshop will also be on view at the CIS.

The MMTW will also perform on March 10 at the Culver Center for the Arts, where the “memory books’ artists produce to commemorate each workshop will be exhibited.

Conference participants will examine the MMTW’s format, forms of collaboration and art from the perspective of art worlds, academic disciplines and their experiences of serial migration. Talks, panels and performances examine the connection of geography to subjectivity and mobility to politics at a time of global communication flows and reinforced borders.
March 10

9:30 Introduction
Georgia Warnke, CIS Director, Milagros Peña, Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Welcome
Susan Ossman: *Paths of Migration and the Making of the MMTW*

10:15 Session I: MMTW Art and Archives
Blanca Casas Brullet: *Roots on the Move*
Alexandru Balasescu: *The Art of Migration*
Beatriz Mejia-Krumbein: *Names, Faces, Genes*

11:15 Coffee break - projection of MMTW films

11:30 Session II: Locations and Configurations
Moderator Juliette Levy
Guillaume Lasserre: *Curating Moving Matters: How a workshop was nested in an exhibition and an exhibition in a workshop: Clichy*
Olga Sezneva: *Objects in/of Migration: Amsterdam*
Ioana Paun and Alec Balasescu: *My History / Your Memory: Bucharest*
Commentary and Discussion: Stephen Foster, Rayed Khader

12:30-1:15: Lunch Break

1:15 Session III: Life Path/ Research/ Art:
Moderator Ariane Dalla Dia
Lydia Nakashima-Degarrod: *Nostalgia, Art and the Serial Migrant*
Fariba Zaribane: *Writing exile in History and Memoire*
Priya Srinivasan and Natalie Zervou: *Art Making in Between Indigeneity and Migration*
Commentary and Discussion: Cathy Gudis, Maj Hasager

3:15 Snack and departure for Performance at the Culver Center for the Arts
9:30 Viewing: Flying Saucer by Aurélie Slonina

9:45 Session IV: Migration: Serial, Impossible, Virtual
   Moderator: Stephen James
   Juliette Levy: Moving-not Moving: exploring migration in the digital age
   Adam Berg: The Traveling Body
   Felip Martí-Jufresa: Petite logique de l’exil/ Little Logics of Exile
   Commentary: Trangdai Glassey-Tranguyen, Ioana Paun

11:15 Coffee break

11:30 Session V: Borders, Limits, Losses
   Moderator: Shabnam Piryaei
   Olga Sezneva: Serial Migration and War
   Paulo C. Chagas: Melancholy and Serial Migration
   Andreea Campeanu: Still Moving
   Commentary and Discussion: Christina Schwenkel, Peter Leese

12:45-1:30 pm lunch break

1:30 Session VI: Words, Sound, Motion
   Moderator: Alec Balasescu
   Hyejin Nah: Moving Languages: What Serial Migration Sounds Like
   Elzbieta Wójcik-Leese: Conducting Cacophony
   Jeffry Sacks: Language Disruption: A History of Noise
   Commentary: Blanca Casas Brullet, Sally Ness

2:30-2:45 Break

2:45 Session VII: Crossing (Migratory) Paths
   Moderator: Olga Sezneva
   Racheal Adair and Alondra Clemente: Views from the MMTW Archive
   Matt McCray and Erith Jaffe-Berg: Making Sea-Seed
   MMTW artists: Art and Social Life of the MMTW
   Commentary: Ariane Dalla Dia, Rickerby Hinds

3:45 - 4:30 Session VII: Conclusion and Perspectives
   Moderator: Erith Jaffe-Berg
   Surprise
Participants

Racheal Adair is an anthropology major at the University of California, Riverside who transferred from Victor Valley College in 2014. She is the web developer and designer for The Moving Matters Workshop. Racheal is interested in combining multimedia and academia into digital works of art, and her interests in human genetics and medical anthropology have led her to enjoy examining the diverse physical and cultural factors that influence the development and treatment of disease.

Kayde Anobile draws inspiration from whatever country she currently calls home. She is interested in paradoxical outcomes and in the cognitive dissonance caused by presenting contradictory ideas simultaneously. The notion of “the other” and the uncanny space created where opposing ideas overlap are reoccurring themes in her work. She is currently represented by Tintype gallery, London, and has worked in the Zabludowicz collection. She received a BFA from SAIC (the school of the art institute of Chicago) and an MA from Chelsea College of Art and Design in London. She lives and creates in Istanbul.

Alexandru (Alec) Balasescu is an anthropologist, writer, curator and art critic who has also worked as a cultural diplomat and performance producer. He was born in Romania and lived in France, the USA, Bahrain, Iran and Turkey. He now lives in Canada. His work is centered on the relational aspects of human body in both its cultural and material manifestations, economy, and the environment – natural, built, cultural, lived. He is a founding member of The Moving Matters Traveling Workshop and directed the MMTW projects in Bucharest in 2015. He is co-founder of Nature, Art and Habitat artist residency, and has published books and articles on art, Islamic fashion, urbanism, and finance, notably Paris Chic, Tehran Thrill. Aesthetic Bodies, Political Subjects, ZETA Books 2007.


Andreea Campeanu is a photojournalist, specializing in both news and documentary photography. She recently finished an MA in Visual Anthropology at the Free University in Berlin. She has lived and worked in Romania, Sudan, South Sudan, Madagascar, Lebanon, Central African Republic and Spain and is passionate about issues related to displacement, migration and the effects of conflict. She also covers stories about arts, fashion and sports in marginalized countries or communities. Andreea’s work has appeared in among others, in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Time, Paris Match, The Guardian and Newsweek. She has also worked regularly for Reuters, AFP, and different NGO and UN agencies.

Blanca Casas Brullet probes the relationship between the body and the social and cultural environment and shifts between language and visual signs in her art. She is interested in the poetic charge of translation and the strangeness that results from literal translations of metaphors into images. Her work has been exhibited throughout Europe, in Latin America, South Africa, Taiwan, South Korea, the USA and Canada. She is the designer and coordinator for the MMTW memory book project.

Paulo C. Chagas is Professor of Music at UCR and a composer of international reputation. He has written over 140 works for orchestra, chamber music, electroacoustic music, audiovisuial and multimedia compositions. Chagas is also a prolific author of articles on musical semiotics, electroacoustic and digital music. His most recent book Unsayable Music (Leuven University Press, 2014) presents theoretical, critical and analytical reflections on contemporary music creativity.
Alondra Clemente is the main archivist for The Moving Matters Traveling Workshop. She gathered all the raw material and transposed it into a google doc that was accessible for everyone. Alondra is an anthropology major at UC Riverside, focusing on biological anthropology. She will graduate next year and hopes to take what she learned from this project as a way to enhance her future goals, for instance, working for the Smithsonian institution and/or helping to solve crimes.

Ariane Dalla Dia’s research is multi-sited and interpretive, with a focus on art in political resistance, and the arts as symbols of cultural expressions and collective experiences. She maps the use of cultural representations in maintaining, transforming, or breaking cultural patterns. Her primary research sites are Brazil, USA, and Canada. She is currently working on a book focusing on art as direct action that combines her previous study on Theater of the Oppressed and anarchist cultural aesthetics with the art of pranks, hoaxes, and jokes in political art. She holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from UCI.

Stephen William Foster taught anthropology at Smith College and at the University of California, Berkeley, and was clinical instructor in psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing. His publications include “The Past Is Another Country,” a study of the politics of culture in the Blue Ridge mountains, “Cosmopolitan Desire,” an exploration of intercultural dialogue in Morocco, a critical introduction to “Women of Marrakech,” stories by Leonora Peets, and scholarly essays and reviews. He was house supervisor for more than twenty-five years at San Francisco General Hospital and is an independent scholar living in Portland, Oregon.

Trangdai Glassey-Tranguyen is a syndicated journalist, a poet and an anthropologist. She has authored five books of bilingual poetry, and her poems have been translated into thirteen languages. Her research on the Vietnamese diaspora in the U.S., Europe, Australia, and Asia has appeared in scholarly journals as well as the international media. Trangdai has won many awards for her writing and research including a Fulbright grant to Sweden. She holds an M.A. in History from CSU Fullerton and an M.A. in Anthropology from Stanford University.

Catherine Gudis is Associate Professor of History at UCR and Director of the Public History Program. A specialist of US cultural history and a curator, her recent exhibitions include “Geographies of Detention: From Guantánamo to the Golden Gulag” (UCR ARTSblock’s California Museum of Photography); ”Junípero Serra and the Legacies of the California Missions” (Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens); and ”Deborah Sussman Loves Los Angeles!” (WUHO Gallery, Los Angeles, and Chicago Museum of Design). She is a co-founder of the public arts collectives Project 51 and Empire Logistics Group.

Maj Hasager is a Danish artist based in Copenhagen. Her work deals with power structures, identity, memory, the construction of history, and architecture, looking at how these interlinked phenomena are interpreted and represented culturally and spatially. Her artistic approach is research based and interdisciplinary, and she works predominantly with text, sound, video, and photography. She has exhibited her work throughout Europe and the USA. She is the program director of Critical & Pedagogical Studies (MFA) at Malmö Art Academy and is a guest lecturer at the International Academy of Art, Palestine; Dar al-Kalima College, Bethlehem; and the University of Ulster, Belfast.

Rickerby Hinds is a Professor of Playwriting at the University of California, Riverside and the creator and director of the Califest Hip-Hop Theater Festival and one of the pioneers of the theatrical genre know as Hip-Hop Theater. Among his works are Birthmark, an exploration of the social and cultural conflicts of a Spanish-speaking immigrant of African-descent forced to choose between the limiting racial categories of American society and One Size Fits All, that traces the life of an athletic sneaker from an Indonesian sweatshop, to an American ghetto, to the sugar cane fields of the Dominican Republic, and finally to the feet of a child soldier in Eastern Europe. Hind’s work has been performed across the USA and Europe.
Stephen James is an anthropologist, a poet and scholar of Southeast Asia. Born in the United States, Stephen began his migratory journey at the age of 18 months, spending the next 13 years in Vietnam and completing secondary school in Taiwan before moving the USA, the Philippines, Kazakhstan, the UK and Germany. His is currently completing a Ph.D. in anthropology at UCR.

Erith Jaffe-Berg is a professor of theatre history and performance at UC Riverside. In her work, she studies language and multilingualism in performance. Raised in Israel and Southern California, she later lived in Canada and the UK. She is a member of the Son of Semele Ensemble, a Los Angeles-based theatre company.

Rayed Khedher works on transnational migration, human rights, the North African diaspora, politics and the art of resistance, media, and Islam. His primary training and passion for those issues date back to his NGO career that started in the mid-1990s in Tunisia with organizations like Enda-Inter Arabe, Greenpeace and El Taller International.

Guillaume Lasserre is an art historian and curator. He trained in France and the USA before participating in the transformation of the Domaine de Chaumont-sur-Loire and working in the direction of the cultural office of the French Central region. He founded and directed the Pavillon Vendome, a contemporary visual arts and of heritage project in Clichy, France that opened in 2013.

Peter Leese is Professor of History at the University of Copenhagen. He is working on a history of migration from the late 18th to the 21st century focused on individual migrant narratives to explore the history of subjectivity, the creation of inequalities within the world system, and the emergence of ethnicity as a defining category. His publications include Shell Shock: Traumatic Neurosis and the British Soldiers of the First World War (2002) and The British Migrant Experience: An Anthology (Palgrave 2003).

Juliette Levy is associate professor of Latin American history at UC Riverside. Her work explores the historical formation of credit markets in Latin America within their legal, social, cultural and ethnic contexts. She has previous professional experience in finance and traditional media, and now uses computational methods both quantitatively and qualitatively in research and teaching. She is currently building a digital archive of Mexican civil contracts, records and wills at the Rivera Library at UC Riverside, and has developed two cross-campus online courses for the University of California. She applies gamification strategies in online and face-to-face learning experiences for undergraduates, and collaborates with graduate students at UC Riverside on Digital Pedagogy and Digital History projects.

Felip Martí-Jufresa is a philosopher who explores the metaphysics of modernity, revolutionary politics, and diverse conceptions of the artistic and musical avant-garde. He has produced records with his musical group Ivo Naïf and written several books, including Música desconcertada (2009), La possibilité d’une musique moderne. Logique de la modernité et composition musicale (2012), Vigir i badar. Ontologia de la dominació i anarquisme metafísic (2016). He co-edited Què se n’ha fet de la veritat? Què se n’ha fet de la revolució (2014). He holds degrees from the University of Barcelona(UB) and Paris-VIII University. He teaches theory at the Institut Supérieur des Arts de Toulouse.

Matthew MCCray is the Founding Artistic Director of the LA-based theatre company Son of Semele Ensemble, in its 13th season. For directing and producing he has received the LA Weekly Theatre Award, Ovation Award, LA Drama Critic’s Circle Award, SAGE Award. His past work includes productions at Deaf West, South Coast Rep (StudioSCR), Bootleg, Rogue Machine, Circle X, Odyssey Theatre, as well as College of the Canyons and Chapman University. Matthew is the recipient of EST/Sloan Science and Technology Grant, CCI/Durfee ARC Grant, and Finalist for the Sherwood Award, and currently serves on the board of the Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles. www.matthewmccray.com

Beatriz Mejia-Krumbein is an artist whose work art deals with emigration, displacement, exploitation, violence and abuses to implore viewers to confront the convoluted inequalities of our modern world. Her work has been widely exhibited in the US, Europe and South America and is in the collection of many museums. She directed the Brandstater Gallery at La Sierra University and was Professor and Chair of the Art department at La Sierra University before retiring to consecrate herself to her art practice.
Hyejin Nah is an anthropologist of language, media, indigeneity, sovereignty and Latin America. Born and raised in South Korea, she has called Santiago of Chile, Seoul and New York home, obtaining higher education degrees in three different languages across three continents. Having recently joined UC Riverside as an assistant professor, she is working on how to call Riverside home, along with a book manuscript on Urban Mapuche.

Lydia Nakashima Degarrod is both a visual artist and a cultural anthropologist who creates works that convey extraordinary experiences (shamanism, exile) and address issues of social justice. Her latest work, Geographies of the Imagination, explored the inner images of exile. Lydia has exhibited nationally and internationally. She is on the advisory board of the Asian American Women Artists Association, and is a member of the board of trustees of California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS).

Sally Ann Ness is Professor of Anthropology at UCR. Her work has focused on symbolic action in everyday life and in extraordinary ritual and secular performances. She has written on the semiotics of festival life, dance, sport and tourism. Her recent research focuses on choreographic aspects of visitor practice in Yosemite National Park to illuminate connections between place, embodiment, and motility.

Susan Ossman is an anthropologist and an artist who has explored globalization, migration, aesthetics and politics in sites that span North Africa, Europe, North America and the Middle East. She is the author of several books, including Moving Matters, Paths of Serial Migration (Stanford 2013), which inspired the creation of the Moving Matters Traveling Workshop. She directs the MMTW and “On the Line,” a Riverside, California based program of art-ethnography-outreach. Her paintings and installations have been exhibited in California and Europe. She is professor of anthropology and director of Global Studies at UCR.

Ioana Paun is a director who trained at Goldsmiths College, London and UNATC Bucharest. Her action-research looks at the possibilities of art democratization and the extension of participative forms into reality. She works on subjects related to the behaviors of turbo-capitalism, employing techniques from theatre, technology and the social sciences to challenge the presumably permanent aspects of reality. Her recent actions confront contemporary dystopias and imagine situations in which the participants end up negotiating attitudes and policies of co-existence. Since 2012, she has been working on a visibility platform for the “affection industry”, together with artists, journalists, nannies and housekeepers from Mexico, the Philippines, Romania and Porto Rico. Her work has been produced in Palestine, the USA, the UK, France, Austria, Romania, Czech Republic, Greece, Germany, Sweden and Italy.

Shabnam Piryaei is author of the books ODE TO FRAGILE (Plain View Press, 2010), FORWARD (MUSEUM Books, 2014), and NOTHING IS WASTED (forthcoming). She has also written and directed three award-winning short films that have screened at festivals and galleries the U.S. and internationally. She holds a BA from U.C. Berkeley, MA from N.Y.U., and is currently in the Comparative Literature PhD program at U.C. Riverside.

Jeffrey Sacks is Associate Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Riverside. He is the author of Iterations of Loss: Mutilation and Aesthetic Form, al-Shidyaq to Darwish (Fordham UP, 2015), and has translated a volume of poetry by Mahmoud Darwish, Why Did You Leave the Horse Alone? (Archipelago, 2006). He is presently writing two books: For Decolonization: the Lyric Poem and the Question of Palestine, and Simplicities: A Colonial Archive.

Hannah Schwadron is a dance researcher and performer whose creative and scholarly works address critical links between gender, race and sexy ruse. She is currently preparing a book manuscript for publication, entitled The Case of the Sexy Jewess: Dance, Gender and Jewish Joke-work in US Pop Culture, which uses historical, ethnographic, and choreographic means to mine questions of self-display. In the book’s multi-sited analysis of porn, burlesque, stand-up, swan parody, mainstream film and magazine spreads, Hannah makes a case for theory-practice methods that animate dance studies discourse, performance pedagogy, and choreographies of the stage and page. She is assistant professor at Florida State University.
Christina Schwenkel is Associate Professor of Anthropology at UCR. Her research focuses on transnationalism, historical memory, aesthetics and visual culture in Vietnam. She has studied encounters between U.S. and Vietnamese recollections and representations of the war. Her current project examines the legacies of socialist humanitarian practices between Vietnam and former East Germany, in particular, East German architectural/urban planning projects in Vietnam.

Priya Srinivasan is a performance studies scholar and dancer who has lived and performed in India, Australia, the USA, China and in the Netherlands. Her scholarly and artistic work uses critical feminist performance and ethnography to explore the connections between labor, migration, history, and dance. She works as an experimental dance/theatre choreographer who uses Indian performance practices to understand the effects of migration, history, and power on gendered bodies.

Olga Sezneva co-directs the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies at the University of Amsterdam and is visiting Professor at the European University of St. Petersburg. Her work focuses on migration, mobility and cultural encounters. She has written on forced migration and resettlement after World War II in Russia and Eastern Europe. Her artistic collaborations include the production of the film “The Wings of Migrants” with ‘Gluklya’ Pershina.

Aurélie Slonina is a French artist who lives and work in Los Angeles. She examines the ambivalent relationships that humans have with their environment in installations that explore the tension between mastery and control of nature. Aurélie studied at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Art de Paris Cergy and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs de Paris. Her work has been exhibited in Los Angeles by Isabelle le Normand, in Berlin with the support of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, at the Centre d’Art Contemporain of Belgian Luxembourg, at the Biennale of contemporary art of Anglet and at the Panorama exhibition at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris.

Elżbieta Wójcik-Leese writes between English, Polish and Danish. Her English translations of contemporary Polish poetry have appeared in various anthologies, journals, and on the London Underground. Nothing More (2013), her selection from Krystyna Miłobędzka, has been shortlisted for the 2015 Popescu European Poetry Translation Prize. She works at the Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Use, University of Copenhagen.

Fariba Zarinebaf is a historian whose research focuses on the history of gender and law in the Middle East, Urban and social history, pluralism and cosmopolitanism in Eastern Mediterranean cities. She attended the University of Illinois at Chicago and obtained her PhD in Islamic history from the University of Chicago, then taught at Bilkent University, Northwestern University in Chicago and the University of Virginia before coming to UC Riverside in 2008. Her books include Crime and Punishment in Istanbul, 1700-1800 (UC Press, 2010), and Women on the Margins: Gender, Charity and Justice in the Early Modern Middle East Istanbul, 2014) and Galata Encounters: Cosmopolitanism in an Ottoman Port, 1750-1850 (in press). She is writing a childhood memoir of growing up in pre-revolutionary Iran.

Natalie Zervou is a performer and dance scholar interested in the intersections between embodied practices and national identity construction. Her research focuses on dance practices during the recent sociopolitical and financial crisis in Greece and explores the ways that performances engage with the current European refugee crisis and respond to the shifting social landscape. Her choreographic work revolves around questions of belonging and migration and has been presented in Athens (Greece), Surrey (UK), Riverside (USA), and Amsterdam (Netherlands). She is a lecturer at the Dance Department of the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

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The Arts of Migration: The Moving Matters Traveling Workshop/CIS exhibition


0.2 “Visiting My Old House”. Lydia Nakashima Degarrod. Drawing, photo etching. 2016

0.3 “Memories in Patches and Stitches”. Barbara James. Textile. No year.


