

UNESCO RILA  
**SPRING SCHOOL 2024**

THE ARTS OF  
INTEGRATING

*Word Springs*



TUE-FRI **14-17 MAY 24** LANGUAGE  
TASTER SESSIONS

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MON-THU **20-23 MAY 24** CONFERENCE

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**PROGRAMME**

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## Dates

This year, the Spring School will take place over 4 days, from Monday 20 May until Thursday 23 May. On top of that, we have a 3-day fringe section happening the week before, on Tuesday 14 May, Thursday 16 May and Friday 17 May. The fringe days are reserved for language taster sessions. More information on page 8. Every day, the programme starts at 9am and finishes at 5pm. We encourage you to come for a full day (or more) if possible.

## Venue

Most of the sessions will take place in the Clarice Pears building, home of the School of Mental Health and Wellbeing of the University of Glasgow. The address is 90 Byres Road, Glasgow, G12 8TB, Scotland. We have four rooms booked and will also be using the common area. Please be aware that the common area is publicly accessible and will be used by others as well. Be a courteous guest and keep your belongings with you. The Clarice Pears building is the only dog-friendly building of the whole University campus. This means you might encounter dogs in the common spaces and you are allowed to bring your own dog (on a lead). However, dogs are not allowed in the teaching spaces, so you will need to keep that in mind if you are planning on bringing your dog and want to join sessions as well.

On Monday 20 May, we also have some sessions outside. Check the weather in the morning and maybe bring an umbrella/waterproof clothing if it looks like it might rain. That same day, we also have a reflective vigil in the University Chapel. For those who would like to join, we will all be walking over together.

## Access

The venue is a 5-minute walk from Hillhead subway station and a 7-minute walk from Kelvinhall subway station. The nearest train station is Partick station, which is a 14-minute walk away. There is covered bicycle parking along the side of the building. If you are travelling by car, the nearest parking is Bunhouse Road parking (paid).

The building is fully wheelchair accessible. If you have a blue badge and require parking closer to the venue, there are designated parking spaces on University Place, right next to the Clarice Pears building.

## Food

Our catering this year will be supplied by MILK café. MILK is a social enterprise, set up to support women from a migrant background, including refugees and asylum seekers. They host a number of workshops, classes and events that are well worth having a look at: <https://www.milkcafeglasgow.co.uk/>

They try to cater for all diets, including vegan and gluten free, but if you have a specific diet that needs special attention, please state so clearly when you register for your ticket and we will make sure there will be food for you. There will be coffee/tea/water and snacks available throughout the event.

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## Language

We welcome the use of languages other than English, especially with the focus of this year's iteration on words. 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 space where you might not understand everything that is going on.

## Organisers

This event is organised by the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts. 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-rila@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:unesco-rila@glasgow.ac.uk). She is assisted by intern Chantelle Boyle, by the UNESCO RILA team (Tawona Sitholé, Esa Aldegheri, Hyab Yohannes and Alison Phipps) and by the numerous volunteers who help run the event. Thank you all!

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# THEME

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## WORD SPRINGS

*What happens when words fail?  
Where do new words lead us?  
How do words give us a spring in our step?  
What are the words for words and the words for spring in many languages?  
How can words be a springboard?  
How do words describe spring as now?  
Where is the refuge in words?  
Who makes refuge in words?  
What do spaces and silences offer?  
Where are the word springs, the sources of newness?  
How can words spring us into action?  
When do words well up?  
How can words work miracles?*



**We have invited proposals for  
workshops/presentation/performances/creative  
interventions for the UNESCO RILA Spring School 2024  
which connect with the theme of “word springs”**

The UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts is working on five key ideas. One of those is “enhancing and replicating models for refugee integration by intentional multilingual learning with refugees and with new host communities, in order to foster creativity, diversity of cultural expressions and intercultural capabilities”.

This year, the UNESCO RILA Spring School links to that idea and focuses on words and languages, on communication and on discourse, on repertoires and on silence. We have curated sessions that explore, showcase, celebrate, experiment, teach and share integration practices and research that have language at their heart.

Together we will find out more about intercultural communication, about language hierarchies, about discourse and changing meanings of words. We will learn about new words and language learning, about language loss, about language revival and about multilingual integration processes. We will hear the word ‘welcome’ in many languages, but we will also explore what it means when words fail us. We will learn about the power of poetry, of words that comfort, of the solace of silence. We welcome the languages of music, of dance, of theatre.

At this year’s Spring School, we will examine our words and work with all of our languages and repertoires, or ways of finding meaning and making meaning together. We share with you sessions that bring in linguistic creativity and diversity to inform or learn from multilateral integration and intercultural initiatives.

## **Sub-topics**

This year’s sessions will touch on or address:

- Intercultural capabilities, cultural expressions and linguistic diversity
- Language hierarchies, discourse, meaning making and meaning changing
- Language learning, language loss and language revival
- Silence, words of comfort and finding words
- Intercultural communication through the arts





# TASTER SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

**14-17 May 2024**

New this year: language taster sessions in the languages of New Scots! Join us for a selection of hour-long taster sessions, to learn a few words in a language you don't speak (yet)!

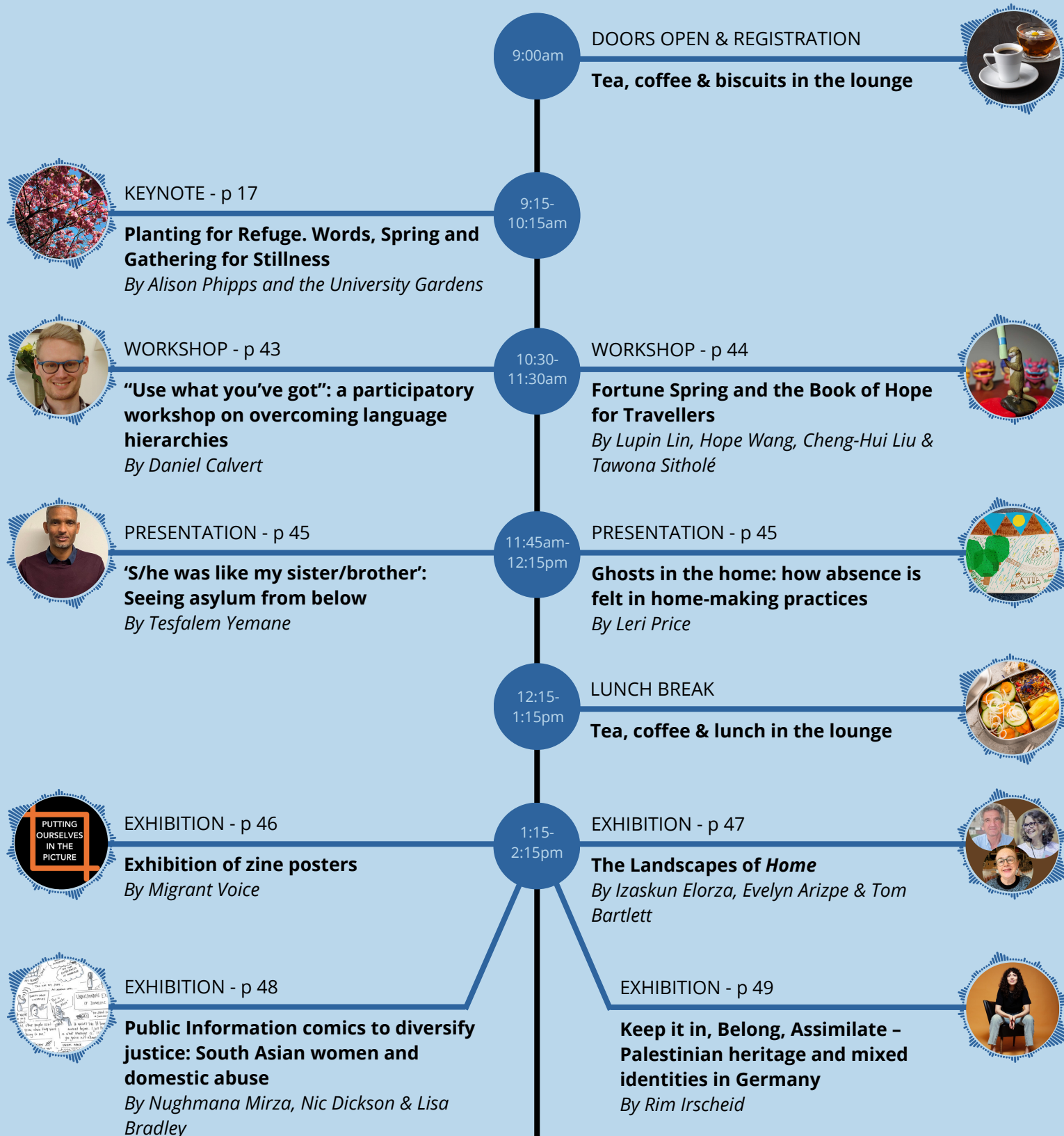
These are fun, informal workshops, where we will look at words, at languages, at communication and at culture, to see if we can demystify some of the languages you are likely to encounter in Scotland and further afield. Expect to come out of these classes, knowing a few basic words and sentences such as greetings, how to introduce yourself, thanking people, welcoming people etc.

No previous knowledge required, just bring an open mind and a willingness to learn something new. The languages on offer are:

Time	Tuesday 14 May	Thursday 16 May	Friday 17 May
9:00am - 10:00am	Tunisian Arabic with Bochra		Romanian with Daniela
10:30am - 11:30am	Traditional Chinese with Hope & Lupin		Brazilian Portuguese with Andreza
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Yorùbá with Beatrice	Ndau with Tawona	Azerbaijani with Samira
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Tigrinya with Hyab	Turkish with Erdem	Gaelic with Gillebrìde
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Arabic with Esa	Ukrainian with Olga	Dance with Phyllis

# PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

## Monday 20 May 2024



PRESENTATION - p 50

**Gaelic and the Refugee experience**  
By Gillebríde Mac 'IlleMhaoil / Gilbert MacMillan

WORKSHOP - p 51

**Reading and writing stories of Migration**  
By Marzanna Antoniak

2:15-  
2:45pm

WORKSHOP - p 50

**Mazwi**  
By Tawona Sitholé

3:00-  
4:00pm

2 PRESENTATIONS - p 52 & 53

**Culturally sustaining pedagogies through the use of migrant-themed children's books**  
By Deniz Ortaçtepe Hart & Kathryn DePietro

**It could have been worse**  
By Brice Catherin

4:00-  
4:15pm

SNACK BREAK

**Tea, coffee & snacks in the lounge**

KEYNOTE - p 27

**Keynote listener poem**  
By Erdem Avşar

4:15pm

KEYNOTE - p 18

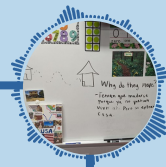
**When Words (Nearly) Fail: Honoring over 10 years of collaboration with colleagues in the Gaza Strip, Palestine**  
By Giovanna Fassetta & Maria Grazia Imperiale

4:15-  
5:00pm

WALK & VIGIL - p 54 & 55

**Peace walk & vigil of peace**  
By Heidi & Peter Gardner, Rachel Morley & Carolyn Kelly

5:00-  
6:00pm



# Tuesday 21 May 2024

9:00am

DOORS OPEN &amp; REGISTRATION

Tea, coffee &amp; biscuits in the lounge



KEYNOTE - p 19

**Images of hope for intercultural empathy**

*By Prue Holmes & Dalya Saleh*

9:15-10:15am

PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP - p 55

**Using Readers' Theatre to examine professional language hierarchies and meaning making for immigrant professionals in Canada**

*By Bonnie Slade & Nic Dickson*

10:30am-12:00pm

WORKSHOP - p 56

**The (he)Art of a Scribe**

*By Rachel Salzano*



12:00-1:00pm

LUNCH BREAK

Tea, coffee &amp; lunch in the lounge



PERFORMANCE VIDEO - p 57

**Here to Make a Mess: Writers Reading Their Own Works**

*By Erdem Avşar, Delal Şeker, Eylem Ejder, Gian Maria Cervo, Miray Çakıroğlu, Nejdet Babat & Ümit Ünal*

1:00-2:00pm

WORKSHOP - p 58

**Prompt - What do Spaces and silences offer?**

*By Erin Turner & Rachel Backshall*



WORKSHOP - p 59

**Representation and silence**

*By Francisco Llinas Casas & Erick Moreno Superlano*

2:15-3:15pm

WORKSHOP - p 60

**Experience the Spring of Words through Sensation Stimuli**

*By Cheng-Hui Liu, Hope Wang & Han Wu*



3:15-3:30pm

SNACK BREAK

Tea, coffee &amp; snacks in the lounge



PRESENTATION & WORKSHOP - p 61

**Welcoming Languages. Including a language spoken by children and families from refugee backgrounds in Scottish education.**

*By Giovanna Fassetta, Sahar Alshobaki & Maria Grazia Imperiale*

3:30-  
4:00pm

PRESENTATION - p 62

**Language brokering at home and abroad**

*By Kate Ferguson*



KEYNOTE - p 27

**Keynote listener poem**

*By Heidi M. Perez-Cordero*

4:15pm

KEYNOTE - p 20

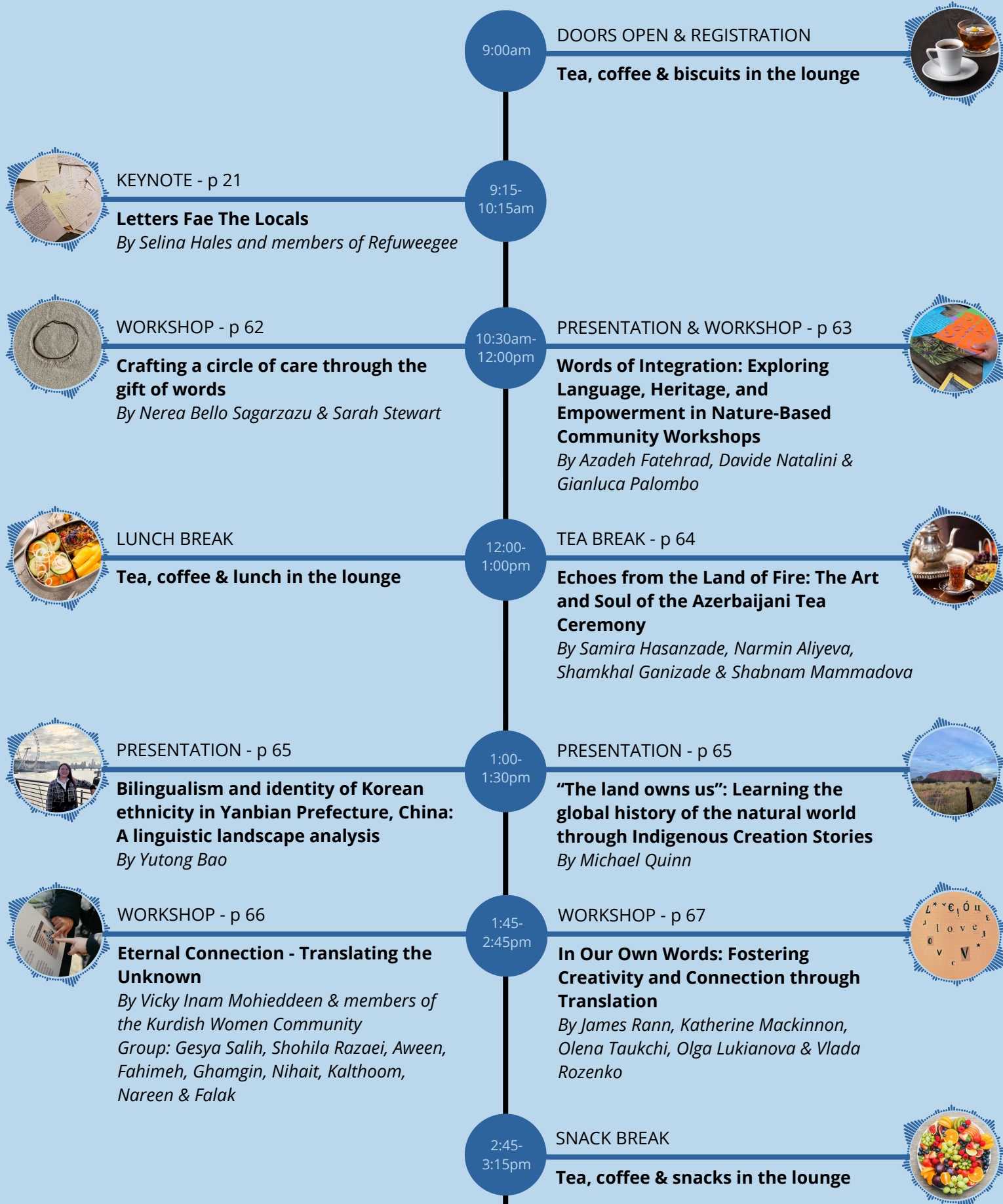
**Losing my words, finding your words: community in grief and solidarity**

*By Ala Sirriyeh*

4:15-  
5:00pm



# Wednesday 22 May 2024



PRESENTATION & PERFORMANCE - p 68

**Exploring the concept of walls**  
By Frank O'Hagan

3:15-  
3:45pm

PERFORMANCE - p 68

**Margaret Elphinstone/Lost People**  
By Margaret Elphinstone

Lost  
People

KEYNOTE - p 27

**Keynote listener poem**  
By Adrienne Kalfopoulou

4:00pm

KEYNOTE - p 22

**Soundwalks: Meditations on language encounters with(in) the world**  
By Lavinia Hirsu, Dobrochna Futro, Karen Faulds & Fhiona Mackay

4:15-  
5:00pm

# Thursday 23 May 2024

9:00am

DOORS OPEN &amp; REGISTRATION

Tea, coffee &amp; biscuits in the lounge



KEYNOTE - p 24

**Asking the right questions***By Livia Vitalino*

9:15-10:00am

WORKSHOP - p 71

**Language of the Law***By Pinar Aksu*

10:15-11:15am

WORKSHOP - p 69 &amp; 70

**Playing the RoundView: translating sustainability learning into action***By Joanne Tippett, Matt Rabagliati, Fraser How, Jamie Farrington & Tawona Sitholé*

WORKSHOP - p 71

**Multilingual Expressions: Bridging Cultures through Art***By Yamam Salman*

PRESENTATION - p 72

**THE FELT SPACES, Communicating with Refugee Communities Across Language Barriers***By Adrienne Kalfopoulou*

11:30am-12:00pm

PRESENTATION - p 73

**University Modern Foreign Language Teachers in Scotland: Exploring Living Experiences and Beliefs about Multilingualism, Integration Matters and Language Teaching and Learning***By Argyro Kanaki & Susana Carvajal*

PRESENTATION - p 72

**From 'open wound' to 'scar'***By Hyab Yohannes*

12:00-1:00pm

LUNCH BREAK

Tea, coffee &amp; lunch in the lounge



PRESENTATION - p 74

**Across and against borders: shifting hierarchies of language, migration and travel***By Esa Aldegheri & Aila Spathopoulou*

1:00-1:45pm

PRESENTATION - p 76

**'Talking culture(s)': conversational reflections on hospitality, integration, and co-creating 'cultural presentations'***By Jane Wilkinson, Yuliia Vasylieva & Christine Penman*

PRESENTATION - p 75

**Fàilte dhan chèilidh (Welcome to the Cèilidh)***By Chrissie Gillies & Nadine Malcolm*



WORKSHOP - p 77

**Effective communication when there is a language barrier**

*By Marzanna Antoniak*

WORKSHOP - p 79

**Articulating Potentiality and Dynamic Creativity – Dreaming our Life into Being**

*By Edugie Robertson & Tawona Sitholé*

2:00-  
3:30pm

PERFORMANCE - p 78

**Depositions: Anton Floyd. A multi-disciplinary presentation of my poetry collection Depositions (Doire Press, 2022)**

*By Anton Floyd*

3:30-  
3:45pm

SNACK BREAK

**Tea, coffee & snacks in the lounge**

3:45pm

PERFORMANCE - p 80

**Songs of Ukraine**

*By Solo Way Choir*

4:10pm

KEYNOTE - p 28

**Keynote listener poem**

*By Herberth Cea*

4:15-  
5:00pm

KEYNOTE - p 25

**Call and No Response**

*By Alison Phipps*

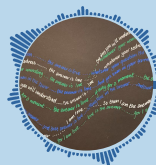
## Bonus evening programme

7:30-  
11:00pm

OPEN STAGE in the CCA - p 81

**Seeds of Thought**

*By Tawona Sitholé*



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# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

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## Planting for Refuge. Words, Spring and Gathering for Stillness

*Alison Phipps and the University Gardens*

Monday 20 May 9:15-10:15am



This session will be co-presented by the University's gardens and Alison Phipps, and involve a foraging and sensory walk with Alison to explore the way they offer inspiration, new designs, different spaces of shelter, refuge and greeting, of wild space and for foraging. It will take place out of doors and you can expect to handle plants and maybe get your hands dirty. Check the weather forecast in the morning and **dress for the weather!**

**Alison Phipps** is UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts at the University of Glasgow and also proud holder of a Permaculture Design Certificate. She is presently exploring the local and global potential of working with plants, past and present, in sustainable ways and as part of gift economies. In particular she is interested in the language used in folklore and science to describe plants and their behaviours.

**The University Grounds:** carefully gardened by Davie Jamison, Lead Horticulturalist with 31 years of experience and a team of gardeners. Through his care the University Gardens have been renovated, a wild space developed and Urban design and gardens are now part of the new Campus. She are also host to many events and species and this year feature NOMOWMAY. The University Grounds will co-present with Alison.

## When Words (Nearly) Fail: Honoring over 10 years of collaboration with colleagues in the Gaza Strip, Palestine

*Giovanna Fassetta & Maria Grazia Imperiale*

Monday 20 May 4:15-5:00pm

Collaborations with colleagues in Gaza began in 2011. Since then, we have been working with our colleagues in/from Gaza on a series of research projects on language teaching, intercultural education, peacebuilding, refugee integration, etc. Our presentation honours our collaborative work and the professional and personal relations we established while doing this. Amid dehumanizing language that incites violence, we use this presentation to tell the story of long-lasting collaborations and trusting relationships —stories we have been privileged enough to be a part of.

**Dr Maria Grazia Imperiale** is a Lecturer in Adult Education in the School of Education (University of Glasgow). Her research interests focus on language education for adult refugees and migrants, multilingualism, and intercultural education. She conducted research in several contexts, including Palestine, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Italy and Scotland. She also worked as a language teacher and a teacher trainer. She is a member of the Glasgow Refugee Asylum Migration Network (GRAMNet) and part of the network's steering committee.

**Dr Giovanna Fassetta** is a Senior Lecturer in Social Inclusion in the School of Education (University of Glasgow) and one of the co-conveners of the Glasgow Refugee Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet). Giovanna's background is in language teaching and primary education, and her teaching and research focus on: linguistic and cultural diversity; culture and arts for peacebuilding; inclusion of children and young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds; and inclusion of marginalised groups in educational settings.



Credit: Gift from S.A.

## Images of hope for intercultural empathy

Prue Holmes & Dalya Saleh

Tuesday 21 May 9:15-10:15am

Bringing young people together to understand experiences of conflict, forced migration, and precarity—to learn about one another and develop a culture of peace and non-violence (SDG4)—can become more meaningful when non-traditional forms of communication are introduced. By non-traditional, we mean going beyond words to use visual experiences, senses, our bodies, our environment to promote intercultural empathy (Freire, 1970). We offer two presentations, two complementary ways of going beyond language to explore intercultural empathy.

Dalya will discuss the use of photography to enable students in Palestine and England to develop understandings of intercultural empathy (Freire, 1970) and peace building (Mac Ginty, 2021) (her proposed doctoral research). The research seeks to explore notions of empathy, considering it as a transformative process intertwined with socio-political contexts.

Prue will show examples from her research of refugee/UK student engagement through creative activities that decentre language, and promote embodied and relational communication. The emergent intercultural pedagogy delocates formal methods of teaching and learning away from the classroom, promotes intercultural learning, and encourages responsibility and participation among young people in society.

**Prue Holmes** is Professor of Intercultural Communication and Education, and Director of Research in the School of Education, Durham University, United Kingdom. Her research and publication areas include critical intercultural pedagogy for intercultural communication and education, language and intercultural education, and multilingualism in research and doctoral education. Prue has been principal- and co-investigator on several international and UKRI-funded projects; she was former chair of the *International Association for Languages and Intercultural Communication* (IALIC); she co-edits the *Researching Multilingually* book series, published by Multilingual Matters.



**Dalya Saleh.** With a background in education and international development, Dalya is dedicated to fostering empathy across cultures. From teaching in Palestine to pursuing a master's in the UK, she has honed skills in intercultural dialogue. Now, as a Ph.D. candidate, her focus lies in using photography to bridge divides and promote understanding. Inspired by Freire's principles, she aims to amplify local voices for real change. Through conferences, volunteering, and academic pursuits, she is committed to creating a more inclusive world. She believes that this journey is just beginning, driven by a passion for research, teaching, and building connections across diverse communities.

## Losing my words, finding your words: community in grief and solidarity

*Ala Sirriyeh*

Tuesday 20 May 4:15-5:00pm

As we watch in horror at Israel's continued genocidal destruction of Palestinians and Palestinian life in Gaza, words fail us. Words feel empty and small. Words fall flat. Sometimes we lose our words. In this (interactive) presentation I reflect on the failure of words but also on the new languages and communities that have sprung up - that we have made - to fill this void, to bear witness and stand with Palestinians in these times, to hold each other in grief and solidarity and to find new words together.



**Ala Sirriyeh** is a British Palestinian sociologist living in Leeds, Yorkshire and working at Lancaster University. She is a sociologist of migration with a primary focus on child and youth migration. Her first monograph *Inhabiting Borders, Routes Home: Youth, Gender, Asylum* (Routledge 2013) explore refugee young women's experiences of home in the context of their transitions to adulthood. Her second monograph, *The Politics of Compassion: Immigration and Asylum Policy* (Bristol University Press, 2018) drew on fieldwork in the UK, US, and Australia to explore immigration enforcement and resistance, investigating the central and nuanced role of emotions in this context.

## Letters Fae The Locals

Selina Hales

Wednesday 22 May 9:15-10:15am

Selina Hales, founder of Refuweegee, will talk about connecting, aligning to the Spring School's theme of Silence, words of comfort and finding words.

The very heart of Refuweegee's operations have been the 'letters fae a local' included in the welcome packs given to newly arrived people. These are letters of welcome, written by someone from the established community to someone arriving: from one stranger to another.

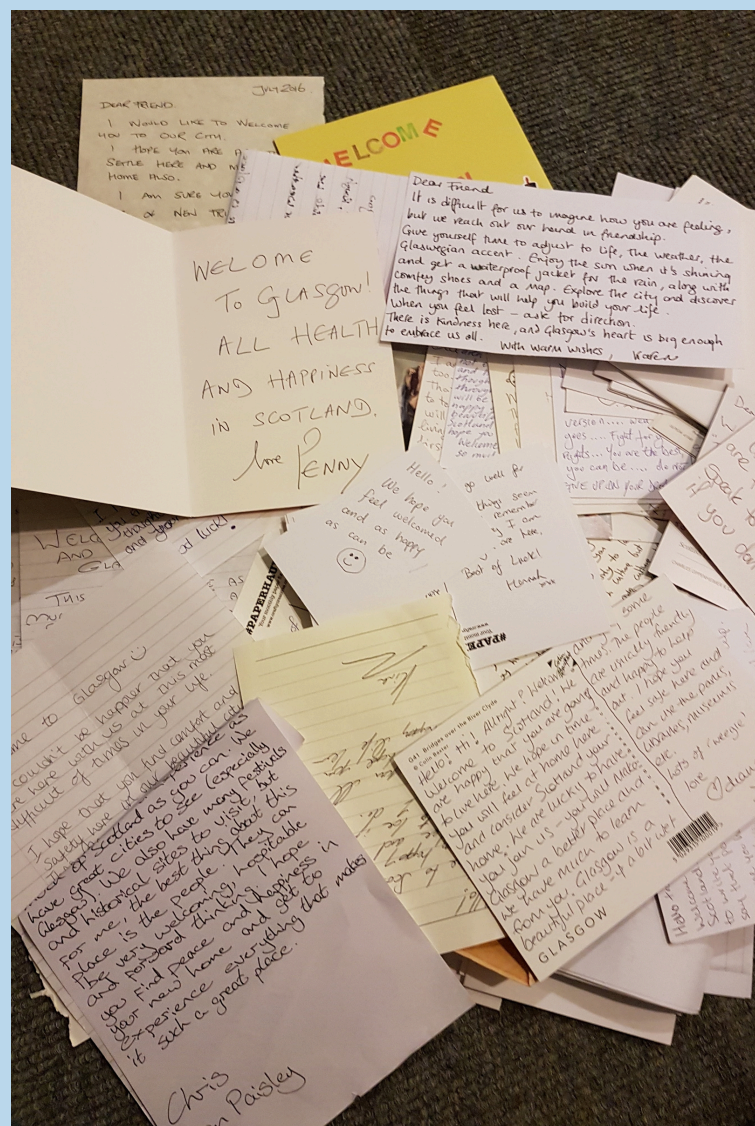
These letters connect strangers through words and deeds. Sometimes funny, sometimes poignant these letters are daily reminders that public opinion does not align with current UK government policy.

This keynote address from Selina will be supported by letter readers of various languages.

**Selina Hales** set up Refuweegee in December 2015, gathering and collating donated items from the established community to give to forcibly displaced people arriving in Glasgow.

As a result of the amazing response from people in Glasgow and beyond, Selina shortly resigned from her role at Glasgow Chamber of Commerce to dedicate herself to Refuweegee. Eight years later, she now manages a team of 14 staff and sets Refuweegee's strategic direction.

Selina has amassed many accolades and awards since 2015 notably including World Changing Alumni award winner at Glasgow University and Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society in recognition for her work establishing and running Refuweegee.



## Soundwalks: Meditations on language encounters with(in) the world

*Lavinia Hirsu, Dobrochna Futro, Karen Faulds & Fhiona Mackay*

Wednesday 22 May 4:00-4:45pm

Szczebiot. Ciripit. Szelest. Susur. Grzmot. Tunet.

What are words, if not sounds? And what are sounds, if not words? What other languages come in between? We invite you to soundwalk with us, to reflect on how we experience and relate to the environment through all our senses, how we use our languages to give meaning to our relationships, how we decide to name the things we experience or how we leave them unnamed. We want our learners to learn through their bodies and minds, to take advantage of all the learning opportunities that surround us, of all the resources that we can tap into.

This session will involve a guided audio journey with audience participation and the presentation of a project in which soundwalks are embedded: The Multilingual Approaches through Art, developed in collaboration with Scotland's National Centre for Languages, Bilingualism Matters and primary school teachers in 2023.



Dr **Lavinia Hirsu** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Education at the University of Glasgow. She has recently been involved in national and international projects which have supported the development of innovative translingual practices in the UK, Kazakhstan and Viet Nam. Dr. Hirsu aims to make visible, honor and enrich learners' multilingual experiences through the use of art-based methods and the creation of multi-dimensional language learning experiences. Recent collaborations with creative artists have led to the development of professional development workshops for language educators in multilingual contexts. Her research and teaching are interdisciplinary as she works at the confluence of theories of cultural diversity and social inclusion, translingual pedagogy, emergent digital practices, and rhetoric studies.

Dr **Dobrochna Futro** is a Lecturer in the School of Education at the University of Glasgow. She is an interdisciplinary scholar with a background in art, education and language teaching. Her research focuses on translanguaging, multilingualism, art-based inquiry, language learning, teaching, and language use in multilingual, often migratory contexts. She has led and supported several research and KE projects exploring the relationship between art practice and language learning, most recently on the Multilingual Approaches through Art project. She co-leads the ELINET Language Education and Multilingualism strand, the ENROPE (European Network for Junior Researchers in the Field of Plurilingualism and Education) Language Teachers Development SIG, and convenes a Multilingualism Reading Group.



**Karen Faulds** is a Professional Development Officer at Scotland's National Centre for Languages (SCILT) based in the University of Strathclyde. As a highly experienced primary practitioner with a languages background, she has extensive knowledge of working in the primary sector, particularly in relation to language learning. Her key role within SCILT involves working in close collaboration with colleagues in SCILT and external partners to develop, facilitate and evaluate various professional learning opportunities offered to educators across Scotland.

**Fhiona Mackay** in her capacity as director of SCILT, advises and informs Scottish Government language policy and supports its implementation in schools. Fhiona works with a wide range of national and international partners and is a well-known advocate of language learning. Joining SCILT in 2012 from her previous role at Education Scotland, Fhiona works with a range of national agencies and international partners to promote and support language learning across Scotland in schools and communities.



## Asking the right questions

*Livia Vitalino*

Thursday 23 May 9:15-10:00am

This interactive session shows how progress can be made by subverting the norm through the art of asking questions. It draws on my experience as a secondary school teacher leading young people to create, embrace, and foster a culturally rich and diverse environment that can enable their voices to be heard. We will explore the ways that different questions can lead to places where new doors are opened.

**Livia Vitalino** works to empower the next generation to make their voices heard by developing inquisitive and thoughtful thinkers. What best way to do this than in her role as a secondary school teacher that loves to ask questions to make environments inclusive and creative.



A selection of photos taken from the year encompassing the focus of diversity and inclusion:



## Call and No Response

*Alison Phipps*

Thursday 23 May 4:15-5:00pm

*Praise be for the two green ticks  
That say the starving eyes are still reading  
Praise be for quiet care behind the glare that asks how to help and give  
Praise be for thinkers who ask the questions that open our hearts  
Praise be for the nausea that fills the throat at what we witness.  
It tells us our hearts are breaking  
(Phipps, 2024)*

We are living through times and with experiences that our Human Rights frameworks and our human hearts and minds say should never happen and when they happen must never happen again. Yet never again happens again and again and when it does, when we experience or hear of torture, trafficking, detention, destitution, deportation, when we hear of war, of war crimes, of the breaking of international humanitarian law, and of genocide, we are lost for words. Words stop spring forth out of our mouths and hearts and minds. Words cease their flow of life, of banality and of poetry. Words fail.

In such times it beholds us to examine our words and work with all of our languages and repertoires, or ways of finding meaning again and making meaning again together. The Philosopher Martin Heidegger, a problematic figure, said “Dichterisch wohnt der Mensch” (Heidegger, 1959) – Poetically, the human dwells”

What does it mean for words of poetry to be how we live, or find life, again, when faced with atrocity, when faced with persecution? What happens when defiantly, we work together beyond words, and with those springing from the natural well of loving greeting, to be with words that work miracles, healing, that wrap us around in the silence that can be a comfort of no words.



Drawing on the inspiration of the healing wells and word springs of poets ancient and new, and minded of Seamus Heaney's 'The Cure at Troy' (Heaney, 1990) and on my own recent collection of 'cries' – Call and no Response focused on Gaza I'll offer a reflection on words and their limits, and more words and their springs.

*What happens when words fail?  
Whose work is the restoration of words  
When they are lost, or nearly lost?  
What does it mean to bear witness  
Against false witness  
How do we 'care for words  
In a culture of lies'  
(McEntyre, 2009*



**Alison Phipps** holds the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts at the University of Glasgow where she is also Professor of Languages and Intercultural Studies. Along with Professor Rebecca Kay, she co-founded Glasgow Refugee, Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet). Alison has twenty years of research experience in using creative and intercultural methodologies, including participant observation in multilingual communities, work across mobilities (international students, modern linguists, tourists, migrant, refugee communities, international NGOs) and overseas. She is a published playwright, poet, author of numerous books and articles, a regular international keynote speaker and broadcaster.

# KEYNOTE POETS



**Erdem Avşar** is a playwright, poet, researcher, and translator. He is an affiliate artist at UNESCO RILA. He is also a PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow researching queer politics of theatremaking in Turkey. His plays have been shown in Scotland and Italy. He was the 2019 recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award (University of Bristol Theatre Collection). He was also one of the four winners of the 2017 EU Collective Plays! International Playwriting Competition. His work has recently appeared in *clavmag*, *Lune Journal*, in the anthology *The Book of Bad Betties* (Bad Betty Press), and in *Collaborative Playwriting* (Routledge).

**Heidy M. Perez-Cordero** is a Puerto Rican-Dominican poet, educator, drama artist, dancer and researcher. Very early, at the age of 7, she started processing her feelings, trauma and understanding of the world using poetry and drama. She has been an educator for over 19 years in Puerto Rico, US and UK. She has worked with charities, community groups, and heritage language schools in Cambridge since 2017. Currently, she is using poetry to analyse and explain the findings of her PhD research where she explores the formation of the professional identity of the Heritage Language Teacher through drama. Her poetry stands out for translanguaging and portraying the immigrant experience.



**Adrienne Kalfopoulou** is the author of three poetry collections, most recently *A History of Too Much*, and three collections of prose including *On the Gaze: Dubai and its New Cosmopolitanisms*. Her work has appeared in journals, chapbooks and anthologies including *The Harvard Review* online, *World Literature Today* and *Slag Glass City*. The re in refuge, her fourth collection of prose, is forthcoming in spring 2025 from Red Hen Press. She currently teaches General Education courses at RIT in Dubai where she is Associate Professor of Creative Writing. More information: [www.adriannekalfopoulou.com](http://www.adriannekalfopoulou.com)

**Herberth Cea** is a published poet, bachelor's in psychology and an active MIN's voices member from El Salvador. He published the book *El Libro de las Plegarias* (2014), and a booklet called *El Adiós de los Barcos* (2019). His work has been included in bilingual anthologies and poetry magazines. Since his arrival to Glasgow his poetry works relate to migration experiences and the current situation in his native country.



# TASTER SESSIONS

## Tunisian Arabic with Bochra

*Bochra Kouraichi*

Tuesday 14 May, 9:00-10:00am

This language taster aims to introduce participants to Tunisian Arabic. It will present the Arabic alphabet and allow attendees to practice writing some words. There will be handouts to facilitate their practice. There will also be a short presentation on Tunisian culture with some folklore music played in the background. By the end of the session, participants will get access to an online file where they can find more resources.



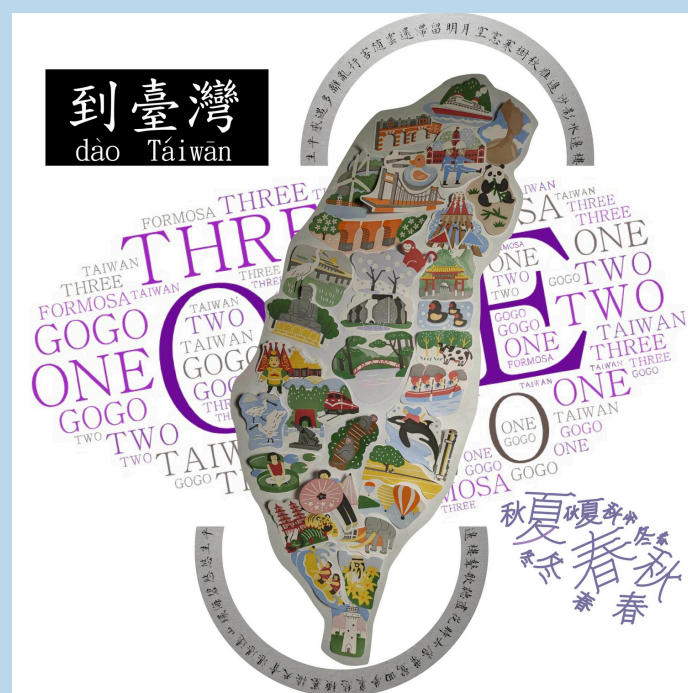
Dr **Bochra Kouraichi** is an early career researcher. She earned her PhD in Applied Linguistics in 2023 from the university of Szeged. Her main research interests include language learning motivation and translation. She has an MA in linguistics from the university of Sfax and an MA in translation and interpreting from the university of El Manar. She is a professeure agrégée of English and has a teaching experience of 11 years. She taught secondary and tertiary levels in Tunisia and Hungary. In 2014-2015, she served as a Fulbright foreign language teaching assistant at the university of Binghamton, where she taught Arabic to speakers of other languages.

## Traditional Chinese with Hope & Lupin

Hope Wang & Lupin Lin

Tuesday 14 May, 10:30-11:30am

This language taster session of Traditional Chinese invites everyone to step on a journey through a playful map that is full of some charismatic landmarks around Taiwan along with a catchy jingle. Prior to this 'wee geographically speaking wander' on the map, we will first start with a poem that depicts the four seasons in which we can focus on the reading and writing of those words as well as the mindfulness and cheerful message. Then we will continue to learn how to say twelve months with the help of Chinese characters material. Before we dive into the map and jingle, we will also immerse ourselves in the extravaganza vocal and music within the beautiful island that people called 'Formosa' in the past. We hope to share the gift of what language from nature and people provided in Taiwan can shed light on and enrich our lives. Meanwhile, we can still understand some basic vocabulary, including one fortune word from 'Formosa', and a colloquial practice related to 'visit Taiwan' and the famous sites of Taiwan through the session.



汪筱薈 **Hsiao-Chang (Hope) Wang**, a PhD student at the University of Glasgow, and 林彥廷 **Yen-Ting (Lupin) Lin** both undertook training in formal Chinese teaching from ICLP (International Chinese Language Program) in Taiwan. They acquire the teaching certificate focusing on the contemporary Chinese material and ICLP pedagogy approach to efficient language learning. They have embodied the appreciation of the traditional Chinese language and the passion of being Taiwanese cultural ambassadors through different activities, including participating in Migrant Voice's output of zine and presenting Chinese literature and creative writing at Verse Universe with talented artists in multiple languages, as well as sharing 'Tea a Cup of Heritage' in Spring School. Both of them completed a master's degree at the National Central University and later on another museum-related Post Graduate Taught master of science at the University of Glasgow.

## Yorùbá with Beatrice

*Beatrice Onashile*

Tuesday 14 May, 12:00-1:00pm

UCL puts it nicely: Yorùbá is one of the three main languages spoken in Nigeria; the most populous country in Africa. It is believed that the Yorùbá constitute about 30 million individuals throughout the region of West Africa. As a language of a people, and not of a single nation or continent, Yorùbá is also spoken in parts of Togo, Ghana, Republic of Benin, Sierra Leone, Brazil, Cuba, The Caribbean etc. It is the language of Yorùbá people all over the world – including those in the United Kingdom. Come along to learn a few words in this beautiful language!



**Beatrice Onashile's** background is in Nursing & Midwifery. She retired in 2010 when she was 62 years. She is an Activist for Justice & Equality, always challenging the status quo. Since retirement, she has been involved in many forms of activism. She volunteers with numerous charities and is always up and doing. This Language Taster Session will be her first, but given her drive to action, it is sure to be a fun one!



## Tigrinya with Hyab

Hyab Yohannes

Tuesday 14 May, 1:30-2:30pm

Join Hyab for an introductory lesson in Tigrinya! Tigrinya is an Ethiopian Semitic language commonly spoken in Eritrea and in northern Ethiopia's Tigray Region by the Tigrinya and Tigrayan peoples. It is also spoken by the global diaspora of these regions. The earliest written example of Tigrinya is a text of local laws found in the district of Logosarda, Debub Region in Southern Eritrea, which dates from the 13th century. Come along to learn some Tigrinya with Hyab!



**Hyab Yohannes** is a research associate with the UNESCO RILA team at the University of Glasgow. His work involves conducting research and synthesising findings to provide insights into theoretical, methodological, and policy-related questions. Recently, Hyab co-edited a Special Issue on Intercultural Knowledge Production for the Journal of Language and Intercultural Communication. He is also currently co-editing a Handbook of Cultures of Sustainable Peace for Multilingual Matters. Additionally, he has signed a book contract with Routledge for his upcoming publication entitled “The Refugee Abyss”. Hyab’s research interests include (b)ordering (physical, onto-epistemic, spatio-temporal, juridico-political, etc.), (de)coloniality, and political theories.

## Arabic with Esa

*Esa Aldegheri*

Tuesday 14 May, 3:00-4:00pm

In this session we will learn how to say words and phrases of greeting and welcome in Arabic and make beautiful calligraphy from the word for 'Peace'. First we will explore and practice formal and informal greetings, and next talk about what images we associate with 'peace' from the different cultures and languages of all participants. We will then turn to calligraphy, an ancient art form deeply tied to the Arabic language. Participants will learn how to write out the word 'peace' in Arabic, and then can elaborate on the images previously shared, incorporating these into their own calligraphy artworks.



Dr **Esa Aldegheri** is a Research Associate with the UNESCO RILA team at the University of Glasgow. She works multilingually to research and support refugee integration, with particular focus on the development of the New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy and on how integration relates to different experiences of journey and peacebuilding. Esa is also a poet and the author of *Free to Go* (John Murray 2022), a travel book exploring the limits of freedom and non-freedom, motorbike journeys, motherhood and more.

## Ndau with Tawona

*Tawona Ganyamatopé Dzapasi Sitholé*

Thursday 16 May, 12:00-1:00pm

Ndau (also called chiNdau, Chindau, Ndzawu, Njao, Chidanda) is a Bantu language spoken by 1,400,000 people by Zimbabwe, Mozambique, South Africa and the diaspora. Join me for a playful introduction to this beautiful language and learn how to say a few common words and short phrases.



Better known as **Ganyamatopé Dzapasi**, my ancestral family name inspires me to connect with other people through creativity and the anticipation to learn. A poet, mbira player, storyteller, and playwright, I am co-founder of Seeds of Thought, a non-profit arts group and UNESCO artist-in-residence at the University of Glasgow. As I continue to write, teach and perform, mostly I appreciate my work for the many inspiring people it allows me to meet.

## Turkish with Erdem

*Erdem Avşar*

Thursday 16 May, 1:30-2:30pm

In this language taster session, Erdem will introduce the basics of Turkish language. The session also has a special focus: constructing a language of friendship, love, and solidarity. Being able to ask for tomatoes in a grocery store is, of course, important. What seems to be more important in today's wounded world, however, is perhaps extending a hand to a stranger and saying: 'İyi ki varsın, iyi ki buradasın.' I am glad you exist. I am glad you are here. While this is a quick introduction of basics of Turkish, the promise of this taster session is also amplifying a sense of solidarity in another language.



**Erdem Avşar** is a playwright, poet, researcher, and translator. He is an affiliate artist at UNESCO RILA. He is also a PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow researching queer politics of theatremaking in Turkey. His plays have been shown in Scotland and Italy. He was the 2019 recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award (University of Bristol Theatre Collection). He was also one of the four winners of the 2017 EU Collective Plays! International Playwriting Competition. His work has recently appeared in *clavmag*, *Lune Journal*, in the anthology *The Book of Bad Betties* (Bad Betty Press), and in the edited collection *Collaborative Playwriting* (Castagno, P., Routledge).

## Ukrainian with Olga

*Olga Lutsyshyn*

Thursday 16 May, 3:00-4:00pm

Ukrainian (українська мо́ва, ukrayins'ka mova) is a language of the East Slavic subgroup of the Slavic languages. It is the official state language of Ukraine. Ukrainian uses a Cyrillic alphabet. The Ukrainian language traces its origins to the Old East Slavic language of the ancient state of Kievan Rus'. The language has persisted despite two bans by Imperial Russia and political persecution during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Ukrainian has survived mainly due to its broad base among the people of Ukraine, its folklore songs, kobzars, and prominent poets. On the language tester, you will learn the basic phrases for everyday use and famous Ukrainian song "Stefania" by Kalush, the Winner of Eurovision 2022.



**Olga Lutsyshyn** holds a Master's degree in Ukrainian Language and Literature from Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University. She is fluent in four languages, including Ukrainian, Russian, English and German. She is currently working as a community coordinator at the Glasgow branch of the Association of Ukrainians, so she can share her linguistic knowledge and cultural expertise with the participants of the language tasting.

## Romanian with Daniela

*Daniela Martinas*

Friday 17 May, 9:00-10:00am

Salut! We'll learn some Romanian words together, so get ready to unleash your inner Romanian as we dive into the land of "Bună!" and "Ce mai faci?" (How are you?). Did you know Romania is home to the heaviest building in the world, the Palace of Parliament? Talk about a hefty heritage! Don't forget our friend, Vlad the Impaler, the grand grandfather of Dracula. So grab your garlic and your sense of humor as we navigate the linguistic labyrinth of Romania. By the end, you'll be cracking jokes and rolling your "r's" like a native! Să începem! (Let's begin!)



I am **Daniela Martinas**, sharing the magic of Romanian language and literature in a land where kilts reign supreme. As a Romanian language teacher and tutor, I've embarked on a mission to prove that the Romanian Language is easy and fun. Armed with a whiteboard, I am here to share the joy of my language and culture with a side of humor and a touch of dry wit. Let's embrace the quirks and connect cultures, one "r" at a time! Ready to join me?

## Brazilian Portuguese with Andreza

Andreza Lima Pavão

Friday 17 May, 10:30-11:30am

Brazil's official language is Portuguese, a legacy of colonization and domination by Portugal, whose native language is Portuguese. Linguists argue that Brazilian Portuguese has evolved biologically from European Portuguese, though it developed independently after arriving in Brazil in the 15th century. Brazilian Portuguese was profoundly influenced by indigenous languages and, notably, African languages brought by enslaved Africans. While maintaining its roots in European Portuguese, Brazilian Portuguese has evolved over time, reflecting the dynamic nature of all languages (Junior, R. de O., 2022). On the language tester, you will learn basic greetings and common words for daily use and a beautiful/cute Brazilian song, "Brilho do Sol" by Sebastião Mota, representing valuable symbols in our country.

### Reference List:

Junior, R. de O. (2022) Português ou Brasileiro – qual é o nome da nossa língua?, Roseta. Available at: <http://www.roseta.org.br/2022/05/11/portugues-ou-brasileiro-qual-e-o-nome-da-nossa-lingua/> (Accessed: 23 April 2024).

Brilho Do Sol	Brilho Do Sol
Eu sou brilho do sol	I am the shine of sun
Sou brilho do lua	I am the shine of moon
Dou brilho as estrelas	I give shine to the stars
Porque todas me acompanham	Because they all accompany me
Eu sou brilho do mar	I am the shine of sea
Eu vivo no vento	I live in the wind
Eu brilho na floresta	I shine in the forest
Porque ela me pertence	Because she belongs to me
☀️ 🌙 ⚙️	☀️ 🌙 ⚙️



**Andreza Pavão** is a Brazilian Portuguese speaker learning to communicate in English. Andreza loves dancing, travelling and discovering new landscapes and delicious food. She has lived in Glasgow for just over four years. She currently works as a healthcare support worker and is studying her first year of Nursing at Glasgow Caledonian University. Since the beginning of this year, once a week, she has been teaching conversation classes in Portuguese to a group of English people who are going on vacation in Brazil. She feels flattered to participate in this event and to share a bit of Brazilian culture with all of you.

## Azerbaijani with Samira

*Samira Tahir Qizi Hasanzade*

Friday 17 May, 12:00-1:00pm

### "Azerbaijani Adventures: Navigating the Joyful Jumble of Language and Culture"

Embarking on the delightful journey of teaching Azerbaijani, PhD student Samira Hasanzade will create an engaging lesson that highlights the unique charm and humorous quirks of the language. From navigating the adventurous alphabet to mastering pronunciations, our journey will be filled with laughter and light-hearted moments. We'll explore the rich idiomatic expressions and proverbs that lend Azerbaijani its cultural depth. Through this enjoyable learning process, we'll not only uncover the linguistic intricacies of Azerbaijani but also embrace the cultural nuances and occasional faux pas that make learning a new language an unforgettable adventure.



**Samira Hasanzade** joined the scholarly world from magic country Azerbaijan, armed with her Master's from UofG and starting her PhD journey there with a cape of multilingual superpowers. By day, she's a mild-mannered education reformer; by night, she's a globe-trotting diplomat creating peace, beauty and understanding with the finesse of a seasoned artist.

With over two decades under her belt, she's a wizard in educational magic. Fluent in Azerbaijani, English, Russian, and Turkish, she can charm an owl in four languages—though, she sticks to humans for the serious talks. Whether she's boosting global education or scaling the heights of peacebuilding efficiency, Samira does it with a twinkle in her eye, proving every day that if education is the key, she's got a whole keyring jangling with possibilities.



## Gaelic with Gillebrìde

*Gillebrìde Mac 'IlleMhaoil / Gilbert MacMillan*

Friday 17 May, 1:30-2:30pm

Join Gillebrìde for this introduction into Scottish Gaelic - one of the official languages of Scotland. It is spoken by around 65,000 people in Scotland. Most of Scotland was once Gaelic speaking, but in the Middle Ages, it lost ground to Scots, which came up from the South-East. Today, Gaelic is enjoying a revival, not in the least because of the release of the Gaelic language course by Duolingo, but also because of the success of Gaelic-medium education and the popularity of Gaelic Arts, most notably Gaelic traditional songs. Come along to this taster session to learn your first few words in this fascinating language!



**Gillebrìde MacMillan** is a Senior-lecturer in Celtic & Gaelic as well as being a renowned Gaelic singer and songwriter. He has released 2 albums of self-penned songs dealing with a range of social and political subjects as well as personal stories. He has performed his music at festivals throughout the world. In Celtic & Gaelic, he delivers lectures on Gaelic language, grammar and Gaelic song and poetry and translation practice.

## Dance with Phyllis

*Phyllis McNally*

Friday 17 May, 3:00-4:00pm

This session focuses on Turkish oryantal dance movements, cultural contexts and how dance can express what words may fail to communicate. Exploring identity in relation to migration experiences through dance offers new ways of learning and understanding. Dance as communication and expression medium brings a novel dynamic to the development of intercultural competencies (ICC) and intercultural humility (ICH). ICC and ICH help us learn about ourselves and others in the world and empathise with people's different life experiences. Participants should bring comfortable clothing and you are welcome to share any music, dances and stories within the workshop.



I grew up dancing as an essential part of my identity, having grown up as a migrant, in Central Europe, trilingual, between three cultures and two religions. Finding belonging and identity through dance for those impacted by migration and displacement. My workshop is based on my PhD research titled 'A case for social innovation in development education' which engages women from different migration backgrounds in dance as a research method. When words fail us the language of dance can help overcome the limitations of verbal expression. New ways of expressing and understanding can spring from dance, often in unexpected ways.

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# EXHIBITIONS

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The following four exhibitions will be on display throughout the event (apart from Rim's exhibition). On Monday 20 May between 1:15 and 2:15pm, the artists will be there to tell you more about their work.

**Public Information comics to diversify justice: South Asian women and domestic abuse - see page 48**

*Nughmana Mirza, Nic Dickson & Lisa Bradley*

20-23 May, but with artists present on Monday 20 May 1:15-2:15pm

**Keep it in, Belong, Assimilate – Palestinian heritage and mixed identities in Germany - see page 49**

*Rim Irscheid*

Exclusively on Monday 20 May 1:15-2:15pm

**The Landscapes of *Home* - see page 47**

*Izaskun Elorza, Evelyn Arizpe & Tom Bartlett*

20-23 May, but with artists present on Monday 20 May 1:15-2:15pm

**Exhibition of zine posters by Migrant Voice - see page 46**

*Members of Migrant Voice*

20-23 May, but with artists present on Monday 20 May 1:15-2:15pm

# PROGRAMME DETAILS

## “Use what you’ve got”: a participatory workshop on overcoming language hierarchies

*Daniel Calvert*

Monday 20 May 10:30-11:30am

This workshop is a chance to come together and share our experiences of (overcoming) language hierarchies in our lives and work. The session will draw on the facilitator’s research in the field of refugee and migrant support. Initial research findings suggest that the status of English can shift when organisations better reflect the linguistic diversity of community members. You’ll hear some examples of how third-sector organisations in Glasgow have countered language hierarchies by valuing and drawing on the multilingual resources of staff, volunteers and participants. After that, the group will have the chance to collectively reflect on your own experiences and understanding of the topic.



**Daniel Calvert** is completing an ESRC-funded PhD in Education at the University of Stirling. The PhD builds on sociolinguistic research showing that speakers communicate by fluidly drawing on all their meaning-making resources, a practice known as translanguaging. Using linguistic ethnography, Daniel’s research seeks to understand how communication occurs between participants in refugee- and migrant-support groups in Scotland, and what effect this communication has on the inclusion of new speakers of English. The goal of the research is to increase the participation of language-minoritised speakers in support services.

## Fortune Spring and the Book of Hope for Travellers

*Yen-Ting Lin, Hsiao-Chang Wang, Cheng-Hui Liu & Tawona Ganyamatopé Dzapasi Sitholé*

Monday 20 May 10:30-11:30am



In our shared human experience, words weave the threads of profound poetry and timeless classics, echoing through the ages and resonating across cultures. Language, the bridge between hearts, has the power to be a vessel of hope, peace, and wisdom, transcending boundaries and connecting souls on the journey of life. This workshop explores the traditional way of sharing hope and confidence among Taiwanese through the Lucky Word Dip. It aims not only to introduce the wisdom behind the words but also to distil and disseminate the collective literary mentality of the past, which makes life more resilient.

**汪筱薈 Hsiao-Chang (Hope) Wang** is the UNESCO RILA PhD Scholarship holder. She is currently researching the topic of 'Co-creating the Values of World Heritage Sites with Refugees.' Her primary goal is to ensure that refugees have the right to participate in cultural life. She has a background in Chinese literature, education, and museum studies. She believes that when a person reads and creates, he can fly and be free.



**林彥廷 Yen-Ting (Lupin) Lin**, a team member of the customer experience department at the Glasgow Science Centre and a UofG museum education PGT graduate places the 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership) at the heart of every practice. He has presented at ICOM-CECA Singapore and organizer museum/heritage workshops, hoping to promote well-developed participatory tools. He believes worldview is transferable and expandable.

Better known as **Ganyamatopé Dzapasi**, my ancestral family name inspires me to connect with other people through creativity and the anticipation to learn. A poet, mbira player, storyteller, and playwright, I am co-founder of Seeds of Thought, a non-profit arts group and UNESCO artist-in-residence at the University of Glasgow. As I continue to write, teach and perform, mostly I appreciate my work for the many inspiring people it allows me to meet.



**劉政暉 Cheng-Hui Liu**: I am a PhD student at the University of Glasgow and love sharing and learning from different cultures. The charm and beauty of traditional Chinese characters exist in most Sinophone citizens. Indeed, I am one of them. I also got the inspiration from this spiritual trial to help me decide to come to Glasgow. I look forward to meeting and getting to know you in the workshop.

## 'S/he was like my sister/brother': Seeing asylum from below

*Tesfalem Yemane*

Monday 20 May 11:45am-12:15pm

In this talk, I discuss the lived experiences of Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers in the UK. First, I briefly highlight the polymorphous form of violences they face as they navigate the asylum process and the 28 days 'move-on' period. Then I follow this by discussing their acts of subalternity and solidarity in caring for one another in the face of the violences. In the same context, I also examine acts of solidarity from ordinary UK citizens and reflect on how those acts of solidarity can help build the world of reciprocal giving and receiving.



**Tesfalem Yemane** works as a Post-doctoral Research Associate at the University of Liverpool. He works on an ESRC-funded Channel Crossings research project that aims at examining and understanding the small boat crossings in the English Channel. Tesfalem completed his PhD at the University of Leeds. For his PhD research, Tesfalem built on postcolonial and decolonial scholarship on migration and examined the case of Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers in the UK.

## Ghosts in the home: how absence is felt in home-making practices

*Leri Price*

Monday 20 May 11:45am-12:15pm

This 30 minute presentation aims to explore how Syrian women use narratives to construct ideas of home (or lack of home), paying particular attention to how these narratives are shaped by silences, gaps, and the unspoken. The unspoken – which does not necessarily refer to a traumatic or painful history – appears like a ghost, an absence that leaves a material effect on the present. The outline of these gaps are made visible not in words, but in artistic creations solicited by the researcher. The presentation will trace some of these outlines in fieldwork conducted as part of my doctoral research, exploring the effect of silence on materialities and temporalities of home.

**Leri Price** is a PhD student at Heriot-Watt University. Her research focuses on ideas of home as experienced by Syrian women living in Scotland, with particular reference to embodied and material home-making practices. Aside from her doctorate, Leri is Research Assistant at Migration Policy Scotland, and a translator of Arabic literature.



## Art perusal!

*Various, see below*

Monday 20 May 1:15-2:15pm

### Exhibition of zine posters by Migrant Voice

Explore Migrant Voice's exhibition of posters from their 'Putting Ourselves in the Picture' zine series showcasing migrants' heritage, experiences, and contributions to Scotland. Each poster was designed by a different local artist with experience of migration. The zines feature short stories and poems in English and other languages. There are also quizzes, photographs and illustrations centred around topics such as languages, ethnic names, refugees, migrant women, traditions, perseverance, human rights, our countries of origin, and more. Come along, meet some of those who contributed their artworks and stories, and pick up a copy of your favourite zine and poster.



PUTTING  
OURSELVES  
IN THE  
PICTURE

Exhibition of zine posters  
by Migrant Voice

**Migrant Voice** is a migrant-led organisation with regional hubs in London, Birmingham and Glasgow which builds a community of migrant voices to speak for ourselves and call for justice for all. We develop the skills and confidence of migrants, including asylum seekers and refugees, to speak out in the media and on public and political platforms to create positive change. We facilitate spaces for community discussion, run campaigns, deliver training, host cultural events and exhibitions, and tell our own stories in our own way. Working together across different communities we aim to transform the debate around migration, campaign to protect migrants' rights, and challenge racism, xenophobia and discrimination.

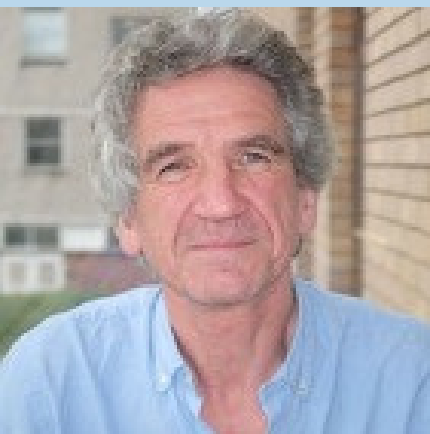
## The Landscapes of *Home*

*The Landscapes of Home* is an interactive activity inviting people to write/draw words evoked by the idea of *home* on three panels. By making visible our language associations with the word *home*, reflection is fostered on *home* as past, *home* as present, and *home* as timeless, helping us connect around a core idea which brings us from our individual diverse trajectories to our shared humane experience. *What words smell like the home you left behind? What words of your new home are sweet, spicy or bitter? In what words do you see home wherever you are?*



**Izaskun Elorza** is Principal Investigator of the project MIAMUL “Children’s picture books about migration: Multimodal analysis and applicability to multicultural and multilingual environments”, financed by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation and the European Union. She is Associate Professor of English Language and Linguistics (University of Salamanca, Spain), Affiliate to CLIP (School of Education, University of Glasgow), and the leader of LINDES Research Group, dealing with linguistic descriptions of English from a variety of approaches and perspectives. Her research focuses on multimodal discourse analysis, systemic functional linguistics and corpus linguistics.

Professor **Evelyn Arizpe** holds the Chair of Children’s Literature at the School of Education, University of Glasgow and is the Programme Lead for the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master’s Degree programme, “Children’s Literature, Media and Culture”. She has taught and published widely, both nationally and internationally, on a range of topics related to children’s literature, especially picturebooks and young reader and has co-authored, among other publications, *Children Reading Picturebooks: Interpreting visual texts* (2003/2016/2023). Her research examines the role of books for children alongside themes of displacement, conflict and peacebuilding.



**Tom Bartlett** is Professor of Functional and Applied Linguistics at the University of Glasgow. His research areas are Systemic Functional Linguistics (including descriptions of Scottish Gaelic), Critical Discourse Analysis and Cultural Linguistics. Tom’s research focuses on the dynamics of language from the clause through to ideological formations; the sociolinguistic concept of voice; and the discourses of sustainability.



## Public Information comics to diversify justice: South Asian women and domestic abuse

This session will be a presentation of 2 posters covering images from the comic, research process and overview of project.

Poster 1: Introduction to the original project, and what the PICs aim to do.

Poster 2: Overview of marriage patterns

The posters will include texts and images and will capture the main essence of the theme. There will be physical copies of infographics capturing the key findings of the project. The posters will be accompanied by an audio reading of the booklet in Urdu.



**Nic Dickson** is an adult educator, visual artist and researcher. She gained her Ph.D. from the School of Education at the University of Glasgow in 2023, where she now works as a Research Associate at the School of Health and Wellbeing and the School of Social and Political Sciences. Nic specialises in using participatory arts-based research approaches to capture the lived experiences of seldom heard communities. Outside of academia, Nic facilitates art groups with marginalised adult learners, is a visual note-taker and co-produces Public Information Comics.

**Nughmana Mirza** is a Lecturer in Social Research Methods in Sociology at the University of Glasgow and convenes PGT Qualitative Research Methods. Her research focuses on South Asian women's experiences of gender-based violence in Scotland, with a particular focus on migration and marriage patterns, and kinship structures. Most recently, Nughmana has completed a Scottish Government project exploring women's experiences of justice, domestic abuse and help-seeking through the medium of collage making. This reimagining of justice has led to the production of public information comics which showcases and centralises women's voices and experiences through imagery and words.

**Lisa Bradley** is a Lecturer in Creative and Interdisciplinary Studies in Education at the University of Glasgow and leads the MSc in Education for Sustainable Futures. Her work focuses on practices of knowledge, reality and meaning-making across disciplines and topics. Guided by post-qualitative theories, as well as auto-theoretical encounters that often exceed the academy, she draws on an ever-evolving constellation of performative and transformative methodologies, to prise apart dominant knowledge practices, towards realities unseen, and towards more just and undisciplined modes of thinking and doing. She is just as at home (re)imagining, (un)learning and restor(y)ing worlds through quilting, pottery and crochet, connecting the head, the heart, the hand and the other.

## Keep it in, Belong, Assimilate – Palestinian heritage and mixed identities in Germany

The mixed media installation delves into the nuanced lived experiences of German citizens with Palestinian heritage. It portrays "Palestinianness" as an identity category delicately nestled within the private sphere, simultaneously subject to censorship and shielding from the public eye. The visual elements and textures embody symbols of comfort, memory, and the familiar ambiance of Palestinian households in Germany. Meanwhile, the sonic elements woven into this immersive environment encapsulate the intricate struggles faced by Germans of mixed heritage as they navigate the complex terrain of reconnecting with the Arabic language and embracing the rich cultural tapestry of the Palestinian diaspora, all within the backdrop of the current dynamic social and political landscape.

Dr **Rim Irscheid** is a German-Palestinian researcher, curator and artist based in London. Her research focuses on collaborative sound production, artist-led curation and the social and political environment in which artists create and consume sound. Her artistic work explores ambivalent feelings of alienation, belonging and racial imposter syndrome of migrantised Germans. She holds a PhD in Ethnomusicology & Curatorial Practice from King's College London, a MSt in Musicology from the University of Oxford and a BA in Music and Psychology from the University of Heidelberg.



## Gaelic and the Refugee experience

*Gillebrìde Mac 'IlleMhaoil / Gilbert MacMillan*

Monday 20 May 2:15-2:45pm

This presentation will look at issues dealing with immigration and refugees through a Gaelic language perspective. Many Gaelic songs and poetry deal with historical migration and the impact that this had on communities and individuals. In the modern context, Gaelic literature poetry and song deals with many aspects of refugee's experiences and can give insight and a minority language voice to refugee issues.

**Gillebrìde MacMillan** is a Senior-lecturer in Celtic & Gaelic as well as being a renowned Gaelic singer and songwriter. He has released 2 albums of self-penned songs dealing with a range of social and political subjects as well as personal stories. He has performed his music at festivals throughout the world. In Celtic & Gaelic, he delivers lectures on Gaelic language, grammar and Gaelic song and poetry and translation practice.



## Mazwi

*Tawona Ganyamatopé Dzapasi Sitholé*

Monday 20 May 2:15-2:45pm



Mazwi are words as sound, from kuzwa, to hear. In this ritual, Tawona invites you to collectively invoke the spirit of life-giving words. In a world that is often cruel, and in the face of events that defy logic, explanation, or words, what can be done? How do we remind ourselves of the same world with also beauty, love, wonderment, and joy?

Better known as **Ganyamatopé Dzapasi**, my ancestral family name inspires me to connect with other people through creativity and the anticipation to learn. A poet, mbira player, storyteller, and playwright, I am co-founder of Seeds of Thought, a non-profit arts group and UNESCO artist-in-residence at the University of Glasgow. As I continue to write, teach and perform, mostly I appreciate my work for the many inspiring people it allows me to meet.

## Reading and writing stories of Migration

Marzanna Antoniak

Monday 20 May 3:00-4:00pm



# READING AND WRITING STORIES OF MIGRATION

Since late 2022, Migrant Voice has been publishing monthly zines showcasing migrants' heritage, experiences, and contributions to Scotland. Come along, meet some of those who have been featured in the series, and listen as they read their stories and poems about belonging and being othered, struggle and perseverance, traditions they cherish, their hopes for the future, and pride of who they are. The readings will be followed by a group reflection and a short creative writing session. The participants will write a mini story or a poem centred around one of the suggested topics to be featured in the upcoming zines.

**Marzanna (Mana) Antoniak** is a culture animator, community development worker, language teacher, and trainer in effective communication when there is a language barrier. Her work revolves around strengthening community cohesion, accessibility of information, inclusive engagement, and capacity building amongst multi-ethnic communities. She has delivered several community development projects, curated exhibitions, and programmed cross-cultural festivals and events across Scotland, including the Glasgow Language Festival, multilingual Verse Universe performances of world poetry and song, and workshops and celebrations based on Slavic folk traditions. She can communicate in several languages and aspires to become a polyglot.

## Culturally sustaining pedagogies through the use of migrant-themed children's books

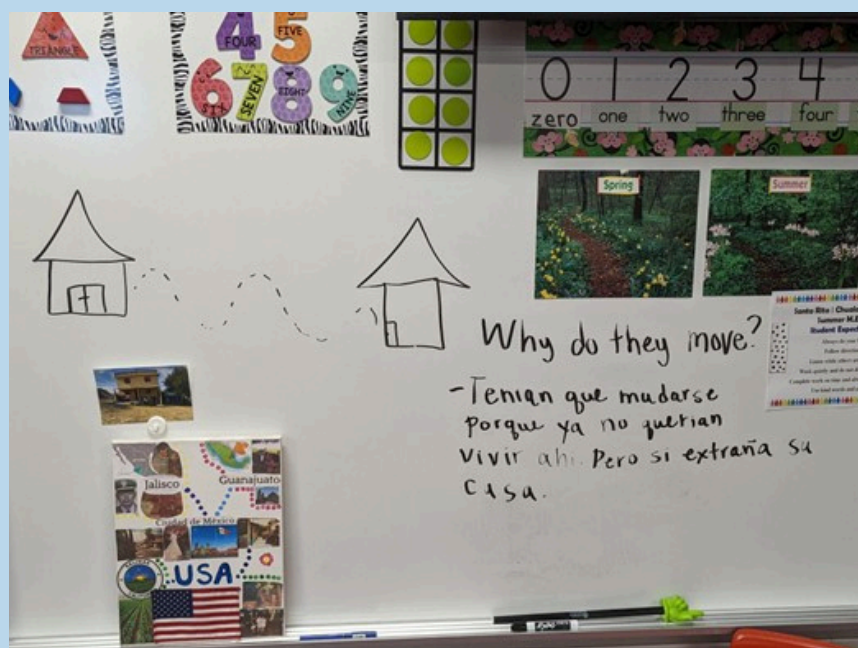
Deniz Ortaçtepe Hart & Kathryn DePietro

Monday 20 May 3:00-3:30pm

Migrant farmworker families in the US refer to those individuals who move to follow crop seasons in order to maintain financial income as well as improve economic mobility. This descriptive study has explored the unique needs of migrant children and the ways in which educators can support their multiliteracies. The presentation also includes insights from a culturally affirming literacy academy (CALA) that was conducted in Monterey, California, using migrant-themed children's literature. Preliminary results will be shared in regard to learners' multimodal products and the ways in which CALA promoted culturally sustaining pedagogies with migrant learners.

**Deniz Ortaçtepe Hart** is a Lecturer in the TESOL programmes at the University of Glasgow. Her research interests are intersectionality, critical pedagogies and social justice education. She has published in *Language Teaching*, *Teaching and Teacher Education*, *Journal of Language Identity and Education*, *System*, *TESOL Quarterly*, and *Language and Intercultural Communication*. Her book entitled *Social justice and the language classroom: Reflection, action and transformation*, is published by Edinburgh University Press. Dr. Ortactepe Hart is the convener of the British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL) Language and Education for Social Justice SIG and leads the language and social justice strand for Education, Language and Internalization Network (ELINET).

**Kathryn DePietro** earned her masters degree in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in 2020 with a specialization in Language Program Administration. A Fulbright scholar, her background in multilingual instructional design and educational research is colored by nearly a decade of cross-cultural experiences teaching languages both domestically and internationally in locations such as Costa Rica and Brazil. Her areas of scholarly interest and expertise include culturally sustaining pedagogy, sociolinguistics, mobile assisted language learning, and language teaching for social justice. Currently, she resides in Monterey, California and teaches Spanish at the Robert Louis Stevenson School.



## It could have been worse

Brice Catherin

Monday 20 May 3:30-4:00pm

I offer the concept of blossoming as a tool and aim in participatory action research (PAR) projects. Using the *It could have been worse project* (2021-2022) I will discuss how blossoming was applied to enhance participants' feelings of well-being and ethical safety, and how it benefited the art itself. The project involved working with six refugees in Geneva to create intermedia portraits that emphasised their freedom of speech and self-curation. I will screen some of the portraits, discuss the nuts-and-bolts of creating them, and comment on the process using the concept of blossoming and a PAR lens.

I am **Brice Catherin**, an artist and doctor in music composition (university of Hull). I have 18 years of experience as an independent musician, intermedia artist and performance artist, and 7 years of experience as an art researcher.

My transversal and international approach to art practices has led me to collaborate with artists from all over the world. I also develop art projects across disciplines with non-artists from the Global Majority as well as under-represented and/or marginalised populations in Europe and southern Africa.



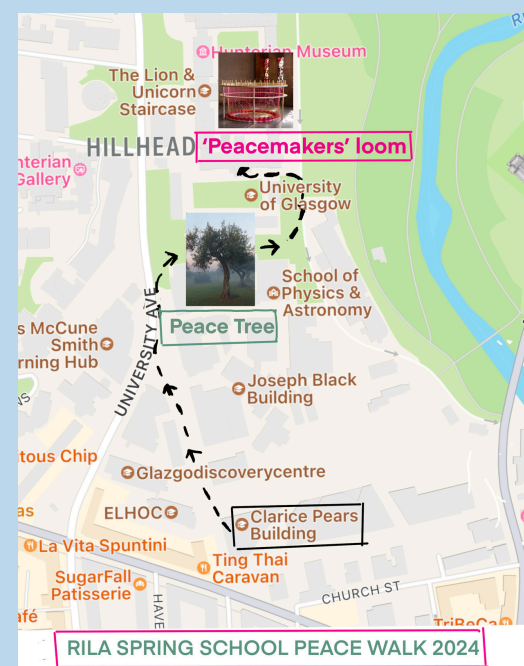
## Peace walk & vigil of peace

Heidi & Peter Gardner, Rachel Morley & Carolyn Kelly

Monday 20 May 5:00-6:00pm

At the end of this first full day of Spring School, please join us on a short peace walk to the University Chapel, for some moments of quiet and reflection. Gardner & Gardner's work 'Peacemakers' will be there, allowing us to 'walk the loom' and knit together. University of Glasgow chaplains invite you to a vigil for peace, which will be led by Peter and Heidi Gardner, the artists who created the loom.

This session, which is open to all, irrespective of faith or background, will offer a gentle, reflective space and a time for contemplative silence.



## Peacemakers

*Peter & Heidi Gardner*

Monday 20 May - Friday 24 May 10:00am-4:00pm

Glasgow-based artists Gardner & Gardner invite students and staff to join them in the simple action of knitting on the 'Peacemakers' loom, a 181cm circular French knitting loom.

'Peacemakers' offers a quiet, hospitable space, where attentive listening is offered by the artists and where the communal action of knitting on the loom produces a beautiful, single textile piece, symbolic of the temporary community of peacemakers and the conversations shared.

Bringing together elements of contemporary art practice, craftivism and Christian spiritual accompaniment, the installation focusses on peacemaking at a personal and relational level, building peace through many small actions and kind words.

20th-24th May 2024, 10am-4pm, University of Glasgow Memorial Chapel

Everyone is welcome...

**Gardner & Gardner** are a husband-and-wife visual artist duo, based in Glasgow. Coming from different disciplines – Heidi from History of Art, Peter from Theology – they have built up over two decades a contemporary art practice in temporary, site-specific installations and interventions, often set within the context of worshipping communities and their buildings, introducing a conceptual element into the sacred architecture. They combine their art practice with Peter's role as Church of Scotland Minister to the visual art communities of Glasgow.

[www.gardnerandgardner.co.uk](http://www.gardnerandgardner.co.uk)



## Using Readers' Theatre to examine professional language hierarchies and meaning making for immigrant professionals in Canada

Bonnie Slade & Nic Dickson

Tuesday 21 May 10:30am-12:00pm

*From High Skill to High School* details the experiences of immigrant professionals in an adult education employment programme. This performance workshop connects to the main theme of Word Springs in two ways. First, the subject of the Readers' Theatre, deskilling, addresses the themes of language hierarchies, discourse, meaning making and meaning changing. Secondly, the Readers' Theatre is created from the words of migrant professionals who grappled with finding a language that would make them credible to their host community in Canada. Through the Readers' Theatre, the aim of the performance workshop is to humanise and detail the phenomenon of deskilling.



**Bonnie Slade** is Professor of Adult Education for Social Change at the University of Glasgow. She is interested in how adult education, across contexts (workplace, higher education, community) can work as a tool for social change and individual empowerment. Her interdisciplinary research draws on adult education, labour studies, migration studies, gender studies and arts-informed research traditions to explore issues related to informal learning, migration, STEM and the labour market. She is also the Programme Leader for the International Master in Adult Education for Social Change (Erasmus Mundus)

**Nic Dickson** is an adult educator, visual artist and researcher. She gained her Ph.D. from the School of Education at the University of Glasgow in 2023, where she now works as a Research Associate at the School of Health and Wellbeing and the School of Social and Political Sciences. Nic specialises in using participatory arts-based research approaches to capture the lived experiences of seldom heard communities. Outside of academia, Nic facilitates art groups with marginalised adult learners, is a visual note-taker and co-produces Public Information Comics.



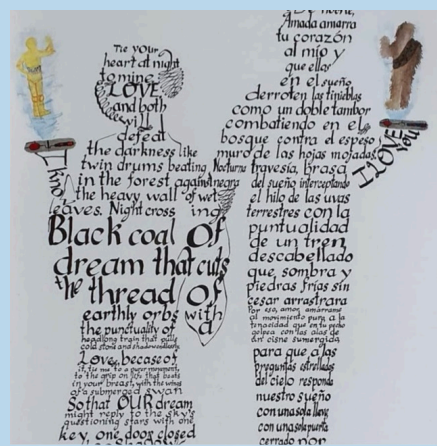
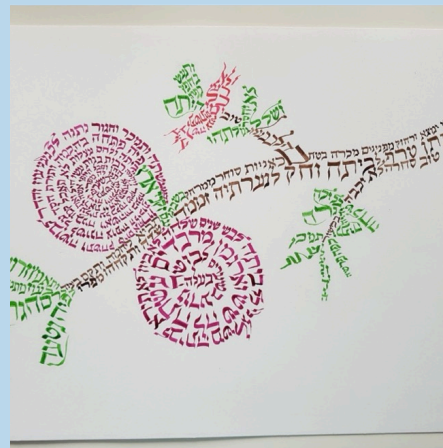
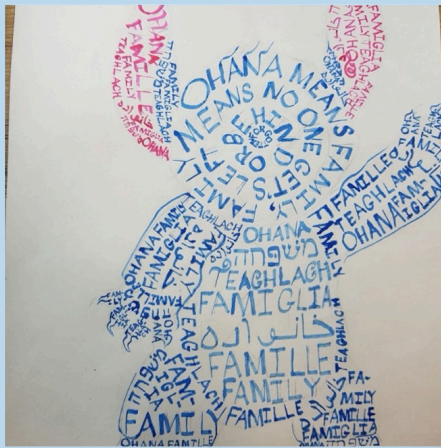


## The (he)Art of a Scribe

Rachel Salzano

Tuesday 21 May 10:30am-12:00pm

Calligraphy is the art of beautiful writing. One aspect of calligraphy is what I call calligraphy illustration, where the beautiful writing is used to create additional images. The creation of calligraphy illustrations can contribute to meaning making, meaning changing, and communication without the necessity of the written word. In this session, you'll have the opportunity to create your own calligraphy illustration. Words of a poem will be provided, and you can use them to create a calligraphy illustration that resonates with you. By the end of the session, we'll have a full poem of multiple illustrations.



Dr. **Rachel Salzano** is a lecturer at Edinburgh Napier University. She trained and worked as a librarian prior to acquiring her PhD in 'The influence of culture on perceived use of public libraries by forced migrants in Scotland and England'. Rachel is interested in looking at how information and cultural practices are, or are not, considered and incorporated into the offerings and policies of libraries. Her current research is focussed on the auditory environments of libraries, and how this affects library use in different communities. Rachel as an artist writes poems /stories, crochets, and practices calligraphy.

## Here to Make a Mess: Writers Reading Their Own Works

*Erdem Avşar, Delal Şeker, Eylem Ejder, Gian Maria Cervo, Miray Çakıroğlu, Nejdet Babat & Ümit Ünal*

Tuesday 21 May 1:00-2:00pm

Here to Make a Mess is a performance video bringing together seven 'international' theatre-makers, artists, and writers, reading from their works in English – either written in English as a secondary/foreign language or from a work that has been translated into English. The premise is simple. We have been giving our messy and transgressive words to theatres only to hear them back from familiar and trained voices and polished accents. Our own voices that often prompt a question of 'where are you from?' are with us every day but not on the stages. This performance video embraces the messiness of it all – we will get the intonation wrong, articulations will be all over the place, we will make a mess, but we will read our own works for once. Here to Make a Mess is the first instalment of a long-term performance video archive. Developed as a response to UNESCO RILA's most recent call, the first performance video brings voices from an international community of writers from Italy, Sweden, Scotland, USA, and Turkey, with the latter being the linchpin of this first instalment.

Performances by:

Delal Şeker, writer, artist, editor

Erdem Avşar, playwright, poet, educator, translator

Eylem Ejder, writer, poet, scholar, editor

Gian Maria Cervo, playwright, curator, translator

Miray Çakıroğlu, poet, writer, researcher, translator

Nejdet Babat, artist, writer

Ümit Ünal, screenwriter, film director

The performance video will be followed by a conversation/Q&A with UNESCO RILA Affiliate Artist and curator of the project, Erdem Avşar.



**Erdem Avşar** is a playwright, poet, researcher, and translator. He is an affiliate artist at UNESCO RILA. He is also a PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow researching queer politics of theatremaking in Turkey. His plays have been shown in Scotland and Italy. He was the 2019 recipient of the Kevin Elyot Award (University of Bristol Theatre Collection). He was also one of the four winners of the 2017 EU Collective Plays! International Playwriting Competition. His work has recently appeared in *clavmag*, *Lune Journal*, in the anthology *The Book of Bad Betties* (Bad Betty Press), and in the edited collection *Collaborative Playwriting* (Castagno, P., Routledge).

## Prompt – What do Spaces and silences offer?

*Erin Turner & Rachel Backshall*

Tuesday 21 May 1:00-2:00pm

Words can be a barrier, whether it is in a different language or has a hurtful undertone. Museums can be places where language can often be a barrier...but what if we can start to pull down those barriers by looking to the people of the past and reenvisioning the language that is used?

Connect with the Crannog Dwellers from 2500 years ago and look at how these traditional barriers in museums and language can be transformed into an inclusive space where positive language can allow connections to grow.



**The Scottish Crannog Centre** is an Iron Age Museum on Loch Tay, rooted in traditions dating back 2500 years to the Iron Age. The Centre opened a new site on April 1st, complete with immersive Iron Age village and state of the art museum.

**Erin Turner** is the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the Scottish Crannog Centre. She has worked in the heritage sector in Canada and Scotland for 6 years and comes from a history and anthropology background.

Being a First Nations/Metis person, EDI work in heritage is very important to her. Working at the Scottish Crannog Centre, she can aim to support a diverse museum that welcomes diverse audiences, a sustainable place where people can grow, that cares for landscape and people, and tells the story of Scottish Crannog dwellers to all, alongside the rest of the Crannog team.

**Rachel Backshall** is the Assistant Director at the Scottish Crannog Centre, responsible for Collections and Engagement. She has worked within the heritage sector for 7 years, coming from a background in art and archaeology.

Working with the communities the museum serves, alongside our strategic partners, her work aims to support a diverse museum that welcomes diverse audiences, a sustainable place where people can grow, that cares for landscape and people, and tells the story of Scottish Crannog dwellers to all.

## Representation and silence

*Francisco Llinas Casas & Erick Moreno Superlano*

Tuesday 21 May 2:15-3:15pm

Inspired by a recent trip to humanitarian shelters in New York City, where Francisco Llinas (University of Edinburgh) and Erick Moreno Superlano (University of Oxford) researched the narratives around Venezuelan's migration journeys, this workshop explores the role of representational language in processes of victimisation and empowerment. Using photographs and media representations gathered by the researchers, the group will engage with creative writing and collage techniques, while discussing concepts like Othering, space reclamation and criminalisation. This activity will radically engage with Spring School 2024's themes of language hierarchies meaning making and changing, and silence, while engaging participants in a discussion on the power and repercussion of representational language.

**Francisco Llinas Casas** is an artist and a doctoral candidate at the University of Edinburgh. As part of his artistic practice, he has done residencies and facilitated socially engaged projects on displacement. He is a fellow artist at the University of Glasgow's UNESCO Chair Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts. His current research builds on his MScR thesis, where he examined the representation of Venezuelan migrants. Funded by the UK Research Council, his doctoral project approaches the Venezuelan migration through an interdisciplinary lens, focusing on how the intersection and performance of gender, race and class shapes the cultural production and migratory experience of Venezuelans.



**Erick Moreno Superlano's** work examines how public and political discourses consolidate social categories and boundaries that shape the lived experience of (would-be) migrants. His interests lie in the intersection of cultural anthropology, human geography, and social theory. Erick's current research focuses on how the interplay of extractionist politics and modernising agendas mediated by the state in Venezuela inform social relations among diasporic Venezuelans beyond the national territory. Erick's doctoral project is funded by a Clarendon Scholarship and the German Academic Scholarship Foundation. He holds an MSc in Migration Studies from the University of Oxford, funded by an Oxford Refugee Scholarship.

## Experience the Spring of Words through Sensation Stimuli

*Cheng-Hui Liu, Hsiao-Chang Wang & Han Wu*

Tuesday 21 May 2:15-3:15pm

Migrants and immigrants are the main forces making the world diverse and dazzling. However, we may encounter different challenges due to the need for clarification. This workshop aims to enhance people's empathy and awareness of cultural rights through spoken words and derived sensory stimuli. Our words can hurt and be like a spring with healing ability.

Storytelling with sensation stimuli to share our stories and feelings with each other will be adopted in this workshop, and from that, compassion can be generated within us as the spring surrounds us. Participants will be blindfolded to help heighten the other senses. Meanwhile, with the help of mutual understanding through positive and warm words, strength and hope will come out and flow upon us.

**劉政暉 Cheng-Hui (Andreas) Liu:** I am a PhD student at the University of Glasgow, and I have always been fascinated by migrants and immigrants because they are the main force that makes the world diverse and dazzling. Sometimes the environment still gives them a hard time. Hence, I created an easy and fun drama approach with sensory stimuli to help people stand in others' shoes. After six years of trials with high school teachers and students, I would like to share it with more people to make the 'movement' turn back to creative and fabulous.



**吴晗 Han Wu:** My PhD study focuses on Drama in Education, curriculum, and assessment design. Years of studying and practicing traditional Chinese drama- Peking Opera, sparked my interest in the relationship between drama and learning, as well as the application of use of drama as a teaching approach in many curricula. To this end, in my research, I delve deeper into the application of drama as an assessment method in other disciplines and develop innovative thoughts on developing localized Drama in Education in China.



**汪筱菁 Hsiao-Chang (Hope) Wang** is the UNESCO RILA PhD Scholarship holder. She is currently researching the topic of 'Co-creating the Values of World Heritage Sites with Refugees.' Her primary goal is to ensure that refugees have the right to participate in cultural life. She has a background in Chinese literature, education, and museum studies. Connection is the key concept in her research and life. She believes a bridge across the difference can be built when one can empathize with others' plights and share emotional truths.



## Welcoming Languages. Including a language spoken by children and families from refugee backgrounds in Scottish education.

*Giovanna Fassetta, Sahar Alshobaki & Maria Grazia Imperiale*

Tuesday 21 May 3:30-4:00pm

In this session, we illustrate the findings from the *Welcoming Languages* projects (WLs) which have the following aims: to include Arabic as a refugee language in Scottish education, to enact the promise of integration as a two-way process at the heart of the *New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy* (Scottish Government, 2018); and to provide proof of concept for language diversification in education as a crucial context of integration. As part of the session, we also offer a little Arabic language taster.



**Maria Grazia Imperiale** is a Lecturer in Adult Education in the School of Education (University of Glasgow, UK). Her research interests focus on language education for adult refugees and migrants, multilingualism, and intercultural education. She conducted research in several contexts, including Palestine, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Italy and Scotland. She also worked as a language teacher and a teacher trainer. She is a member of the Glasgow Refugee Asylum Migration Network (GRAMNet) and part of the network's steering committee.

**Sahar Alshobaki** is a researcher, doctoral candidate and Arabic Language course designer/teacher. Sahar has worked as a researcher on several projects, both as part of teams based at the Arabic Center (Islamic University of Gaza, Palestine) and as part of the School of Education (University of Glasgow, UK). Sahar's research focuses on the role of imagination and identity in language learning.

**Giovanna Fassetta** is a Senior Lecturer in Social Inclusion in the School of Education (University of Glasgow, UK) and one of the co-conveners of the Glasgow Refugee Asylum and Migration Network (GRAMNet). Giovanna's background is in language teaching and primary education, and her teaching and research focus on: linguistic and cultural diversity; culture and arts for peacebuilding; inclusion of children and young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds; and inclusion of marginalised groups in educational settings.

## Language brokering at home and abroad

*Kate Ferguson*

Tuesday 21 May 3:30-4:00pm

Based on findings from preliminary interviews conducted as part of my PhD research, this work-in-progress presentation will take a look at attitudes towards and lived experiences of 'language brokering' (informal translation for family members) within Kurdish families from Turkey. My PhD project aims to investigate issues of linguistic identity among language brokers via perspectives on and experiences of brokering at home (i.e. in Turkey) and abroad (in the UK).



**Kate Ferguson** is a second-year PhD student in the Centre for Translation and Interpreting Studies in Scotland (CTISS) at Heriot-Watt University. An off-campus student based in Istanbul, Kate is also a freelance Turkish-English translator, working mainly in the field of minority and human rights. Her research interests centre around linguistic rights, language access and linguistic identity.

## Crafting a circle of care through the gift of words

*Nerea Bello Sagarzazu & Sarah Stewart*

Wednesday 22 May 10:30am-12:00pm

Join us for an intimate session, in which participants receive the gift of ring-making skills in exchange for words imbued with care, love, or beauty. We forge rings and we forge connections as the gifted words will be engraved on the rings of strangers as we create a chain of care. Every word spoken and every ring formed becomes a testament to the power of human connection and the beauty of genuine exchange. Numbers are limited.

**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.

Dr **Sarah Stewart** is a knitter, forager, gardener, researcher, writer, jam-maker, and bookbinding magpie. Originally from Aotearoa New Zealand, she now makes her home in Scotland where she helps run FOSS, a befriending charity for newcomers to Falkirk.



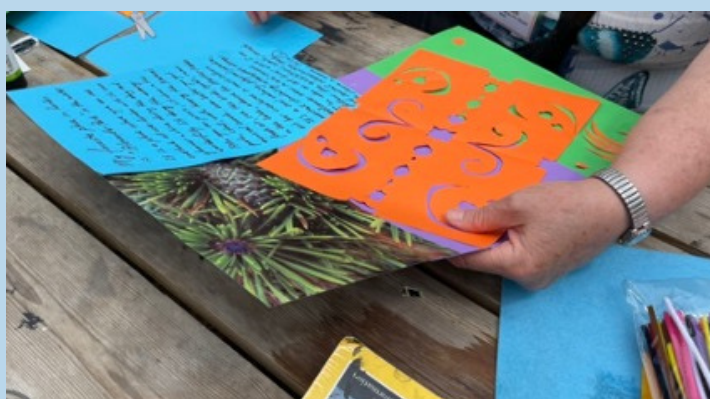
## Words of Integration: Exploring Language, Heritage, and Empowerment in Nature-Based Community Workshops

*Azadeh Fatehrad, Davide Natalini & Gianluca Palombo*

Wednesday 22 May 10:30am-12:00pm

This 90-minute session highlights the significant role of language in intercultural communication, focusing on participatory workshops from the Nature-Based Integration project across various UK locations. We explore how nature-related terminology and activities enhance community bonding, with discussions on plant names bridging cultural divides, gardening promoting empowerment and ownership, and translation fostering understanding across diverse communities. The session, consisting of a paper presentation and an interactive workshop, demonstrates the impact of linguistic engagement, heritage appreciation, and creative expression on community integration and dialogue. Our findings will contribute to the discourse on multilingual integration, underscoring the interconnectedness of language, identity, and community through nature.

**Gianluca Palombo** has worked recently for both Anglia Ruskin University and Queen Margaret University, researching and teaching topics such as integration, nature engagement, human rights and health systems. Gianluca has also worked extensively in the third sector in Scotland, managing a vocational training programme for CodeYourFuture and organising refugee rights campaigns for Maryhill Integration Network.



Dr **Davide Natalini** is Senior Research Fellow at the Global Sustainability Institute based at Anglia Ruskin University. Davide is an interdisciplinary environmental social scientist. He studies complex social-ecological systems, where people and nature interact in different ways. He focusses on community development and systemic risk, with specific attention to environmental conflict. He co-leads the Nature-Based Integration project funded by the Nuffield foundation and the British Academy.

Dr **Azadeh Fatehrad** is a Senior Lecturer and International Research Lead at Kingston University. As an interdisciplinary scholar in the fields of migrant homemaking and the politics of integration, Dr. Fatehrad combines research, artistic, and curatorial practices to explore these dynamic areas. Her extensive participatory research, developed in collaboration with diverse communities across the UK, Sweden, and Denmark, delves into the complexities of societal integration. Dr. Fatehrad co-leads the Nature-Based Integration project, funded by The British Academy and The Nuffield Foundation, demonstrating her commitment to academic excellence and societal impact. Additionally, she contributes her expertise as an executive board member of the European Artistic Research Network. For further insights into her work, visit [www.azadehfatehrad.com](http://www.azadehfatehrad.com).



## Echoes from the Land of Fire: The Art and Soul of the Azerbaijani Tea Ceremony

*Samira Hasanzade, Narmin Aliyeva, Shamkhal Ganizade & Shabnam Mammadova*

Wednesday 22 May 12:00-1:00pm

In the heart of Azerbaijan, tea ceremonies unfurl as tapestries of tradition, woven through with the threads of ritual and the colours of hospitality. These ceremonies, steeped in history, are governed by an etiquette that transforms the simple act of serving and savouring tea into an art form. It is a custom steeped in the ethos of hospitality, compelling the host to extend a warm invitation of tea to every visitor, no matter how brief their stay may be. This tradition is born of a belief that tea symbolizes warmth and camaraderie, making it a cardinal sin to allow a guest to depart without the comforting embrace of at least one cup.

The Azerbaijani tea ceremony is an ode to the senses, featuring tea that is freshly brewed to perfection, robust in flavour, and known affectionately as “purrengi” (“velvet”). It is traditionally served in “armudu” glasses, whose pear-like contours are as pleasing to the eye as to the touch.



Curated by **Samira Hasanzade, Narmin Aliyeva, Shamkhal Ganizade** and **Shabnam Mammadova**, the ceremony invites you to step into the timeless ambiance of a “chaykhana” (teahouse) and to be regaled with tales of the traditions and culture of a magical land known as Azerbaijan. Here, amidst an aura of ancient hospitality, one can indulge in the rich flavours of Azerbaijani tea, delicately spiced with thyme, cinnamon, or ginger, and complemented by an array of traditional sweets and jams. To partake in this experience is to fall in love with the heart and soul of Azerbaijani culture, transforming you into a “chaykhor” (a tea connoisseur), forever captivated by the spirit of Azerbaijani hospitality.

## Bilingualism and identity of Korean ethnicity in Yanbian Prefecture, China: A linguistic landscape analysis

*Yutong (Paula) Bao*

Wednesday 22 May 1:00-1:30pm

My study focuses on Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture (hereafter Yanbian), the largest community of Korean ethnicity in China, where Korean as a minority language shares legally equal status with Chinese. Although the factors contributing to the concentration of the Korean ethnic group in this region are notably intricate, Yanbian has historically served as a resettlement area for migration and refugees from the Korean Peninsula. My research uncovers how local people in Yanbian nowadays perceive governmental language policy and planning on the Korean language and their identification through the lens of the linguistic landscape.



I'm **包雨桐 Yutong (Paula) Bao**, a PhD student in Languages at Heriot-Watt University. My research interests mainly include language policy and planning, and multilingualism. My PhD research project is funded by the China Scholarship Council, which focuses on the interactions between the Cervantes Institute in China and Chinese language policy and planning.

## "The land owns us": Learning the global history of the natural world through Indigenous Creation Stories

*Michael Quinn*

Wednesday 22 May 1:00-1:30pm

This presentation challenges the rise of knowledge-based, content-heavy approaches in education which deprives students opportunities to reflect on 'the products of human cultures ... equally as products of nature' (Barnhart, 1997, p.427). My presentation addresses intercultural communication through the arts in emphasising the importance of understanding stories from minority groups, especially for children learning about the natural world. This exploration relates to my PhD thesis which explores the capabilities of literature to learn about philosophy, drawing from my experiences in Australia.



**Michael Quinn:** I am currently undertaking a PhD project in the Philosophy of Education at the University of Glasgow. Speculative fiction and film (fantasy and neo-noir) and traditional philosophical discourse "do" philosophy but in radically different ways. I make the case that there are situations when speculative fiction, a mode particularly interested in philosophical conundrums in its "thought experiments", can offer alternative, and effective, methods of teaching foundational and complex philosophical concepts. I've taught English in high schools in Scotland, Spain and Australia and I'm interested in exploring intersections between literature and philosophy as well as how they complement one another.

## Eternal Connection - Translating the Unknown

*Vicky Inam Mohieddeen & members of the Kurdish Women Community Group: Gesya Salih, Shohila Razaei, Aween, Fahimeh, Ghamgin, Nihait, Kalthoom, Nareen & Falak*

Wednesday 22 May 1:45-2:45pm

In 2022 and 2023, Vicky Inam Mohieddeen delivered a unique creative heritage wellbeing project with interpreters and participants from Glasgow's Kurdish community alongside artists, scientists and historians from Historic Environment Scotland, to explore the themes of history, migration and identity prompted by the discovery of an 800-year-old fragment of Islamic glass, found in the grounds of Caerlaverock Castle near Dumfries.



In this interactive session, we will share creative work produced through this project, before Vicky guides us in some reflective exercises. Together we will explore and share the experience of translating the symbolic - from the imagination of the artist, into image and figurative words, into spoken language, into other spoken language(s), and into imagination once more.

**Vicky Inam Mohieddeen** is a Scotland-based creative wellbeing practitioner with 20 years experience working with communities around the world. Vicky has worked as a teacher, facilitator, manager and curator in Scotland, China, North Korea and India, and is a HCPC registered Drama Therapist. In 2021 Vicky designed and produced the lockdown exhibition *Life in the Time*, in 2016 she curated and produced North Korea's first foreign art-photography exhibition, and in July 2022 and March 2023, Vicky worked with Historic Environment Scotland on a pilot project, bringing together heritage sites and those who have experienced displacement through forced and voluntary migration.

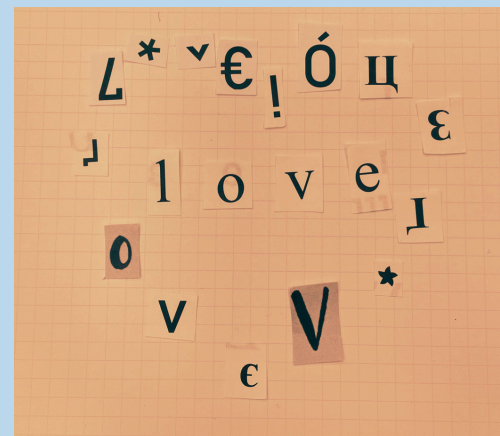
**The Kurdish Women Community Group:** The main purpose of this group is to reduce isolation and to promote integration of asylum-seeking/refugee women, in particular, women coming from Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Iran. We provide a platform for women to come together to share information, to talk about issues that matter to them, to receive mutual support from each other and to learn more about their host community. We organise social and educational activities for our members to promote health and wellbeing and to reduce isolation. We encourage members to take on voluntary tasks within our group such as helping in organising activities or becoming a member of the management committee in order to learn new skills and build up their confidence.

## In Our Own Words: Fostering Creativity and Connection through Translation

*James Rann, Katherine Mackinnon, Olena Taukchi, Olga Lukianova & Vlada Rozenko*

Wednesday 22 May 1:45-2:45pm

In Our Own Words is a project that seeks to improve the lives of refugees by transforming translation from a practical necessity into an opportunity for creativity and connection. This session will showcase its innovative methods in two ways. First, participants from the project's first iteration – Ukrainians new to Glasgow – will share their experience of the multilingual translation workshops they did with other Glaswegians. Then everyone will be invited to collaborate on remaking a fragment of a poem in multiple languages, exploring the way this challenge can help us share our words and our worlds, turning language 'barriers' into bridges.



**James Rann** is Lecturer in Russian at the University of Glasgow. Among other things, his research focuses on experimental poetry, translation and multilingualism, as well as the interaction of all those things, with a particular emphasis on cultural connections between Eastern Europe and Scotland. When he can find the time, he is also a translator from Russian. He is currently learning Ukrainian.

**Katherine Mackinnon** is a part-time PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow, working on an oral history of refugee lives in Scotland from the 1970s to the present day. Her professional background includes work in refugee integration, prison education and community development. Alongside her PhD, Katherine is a writer and workshop facilitator, working with groups to read and write poetry and explore creative ways of documenting everyday life. She is also a founding member of Radical Glasgow Tours, a collective that runs radical history walks around Glasgow.

**Olena Taukchi** is a Ukrainian national currently living and working in Glasgow. She is a dedicated teacher with extensive experience teaching English in Ukrainian universities and an influential researcher with a particular interest in psycholinguistics and second-language acquisition. Her PhD is from Donetsk National University. She also has expertise in project management and team leadership and is constantly seeking opportunities for growth and for making a positive impact in her field.

**Olha Lukianova** is originally from Kharkiv, Ukraine. She has a PhD in literature from H. Skovoroda Kharkiv National Pedagogical University and, having moved to Scotland with her 11-year-old son after the outbreak of war, has been continuing her work as a lecturer in Ukrainian literature remotely. She also has experience in proofreading and literary editing and last year passed her ESOL Advanced Exam.

**Vlada Rozenko** is originally from Kyiv, Ukraine, where she worked as a copywriter. She currently lives in Greenock and is studying English at West College Scotland.

## Exploring the concept of walls

Frank O'Hagan

Wednesday 22 May 3:15-3:45pm

We will explore the concept of xenophobia by looking examples of walls, both fabricated walls e.g. the Berlin Wall, Belfast Wall, the wall in Bethlehem and the wall between USA and Mexico. Together, we will then think about attitudinal walls such as prejudice, racism, sexism, and ways in which such walls might be removed. I will sing the song "Another Wall" with acoustic guitar accompaniment and will share a short video of images related to the lyrics of the song. We will finish with a short discussion and critical debate.



**Frank O'Hagan** was a Lecturer in History in the School of Education within the College of Social Sciences in the University of Glasgow and now writes, records, and produces music. He has recorded and released five albums of original music. Much of Frank's music is concerned with social and political issues. Frank has performed in various countries including Norway, Azerbaijan, USA, Ireland, Poland, Spain, Holland and Canada, and recently performed in his home town of Glasgow at the Celtic Connections Festival in the Glasgow Concert Hall. More info: [www.frankohagan.com](http://www.frankohagan.com)

## Margaret Elphinstone/Lost People

Margaret Elphinstone

Wednesday 22 May 3:15-3:45pm

*Lost People* is a timeless yet disturbingly relevant story of finding healing and refuge in a world ravaged by war and desolation. The child Rue has lost identity, family and home to conflict but finds sanctuary in the garden of a mysterious community. Adult-hood requires a courageous journey through a landscape of fear and despair. Rue experiences loneliness, isolation and memories of past trauma. Ultimately - fortified by music, animal companion and the responses of strangers - Rue draws hope from unexpected sources.

There will be a short reading from *Lost People* followed by discussion of the issues raised in the book.

**Margaret Elphinstone** is the author of eight novels as well as poetry and short stories. Her writing has focused on the experiences of people living 'on the edge' - geographically or at times of great so-cial upheaval. She is an Emeritus Professor of Strathclyde Univer-sity. She has now returned to Galloway where she wrote her first novel, published in 1987. For many years she has led a community writing group inspiring writers of varied experience to express themselves through writing.



## Playing the RoundView: translating sustainability learning into action

*Joanne Tippett, Matt Rabagliati, Fraser How, Jamie Farrington & Tawona Ganyamatopé Dzapasi Sitholé*

Thursday 23 May 10:15-11:15am

The RoundView is a big-picture, positive framework for sustainability learning and communication. It gives a simple set of guidelines to redesign our systems so we don't cause environmental problems in the first place. Hands-on learning tools do the heavy lifting of teaching the science in an enjoyable and engaging way. They can be used by anyone and have already allowed for engagement with over 133,000 participants.

The tools incorporate poetry into the learning process (poetry as pedagogy), and we are translating them into multiple languages, to develop a truly global learning resource. This interactive workshop will introduce the tools and insights emerging from this multilingual work.

**Dr Joanne Tippett:** I am Senior Lecturer in the School of Environment, Education and Development. My research is driven by two questions: how do we imagine a sustainable future, and how can we work together effectively to achieve systemic change? I was granted a British Academy Innovation Fellowship with the UK National Commission for UNESCO to catalyse transformative sustainability learning with the RoundView. I began working in the field of community participation and ecological planning in the mid 90s in Southern Africa. I invented Ketso, a hands-on toolkit for creative engagement and learning, which is now used in over 80 countries.



**Fraser How:** Co-creator of the RoundView sustainability framework and experienced facilitator of engagement activities with communities and organisations, I am a design-thinker committed to the transformation of society towards thriving health and wellbeing - for all people and for nature - globally. I am currently working as a Research Associate at the University of Manchester, fostering interdisciplinary research and building an innovative platform for learning and collaboration that seeks to enhance our collective intelligence. I create music and am looking forward to a saner, more conscious world.

**Dr Jamie Farrington:** I am a Research Associate in the School of Environment, Education and Development, The University of Manchester, seconded to Manchester UNESCO City of Literature. I am helping to develop the RoundView games and embed them across libraries in Greater Manchester. My PhD thesis focused on the medical and environmental history of Quarry Bank Mill, and examined the impact of mill work on the mill owners the Gregs, the workers and the apprentice children. I explored the impact of the environment, living and working conditions, diet and nutrition on health, looking into the injuries and infections which they suffered.

**Tawona Sitholé:** I am better known as Ganyamatopé Dzapasi, my ancestral family name inspires me to connect with other people through creativity and the anticipation to learn. A poet, mbira player, storyteller and playwright, I am co-founder of Seeds of Thought, a non-profit arts group; Research Associate for MIDEQ Global Migration Hub and UNESCO Artist-in-Residence at the University of Glasgow. As I continue to write, teach and perform, mostly I appreciate my work for the many inspiring people it allows me to meet.



**Matthew Rabagliati:** I am the Head of Policy, Research and Communications at the UK National Commission for UNESCO (UNESCO UK). I lead the organisation in developing and delivering its policy advice and research to the UK Government, Devolved Administrations, Overseas Territories and UNESCO. I am leading on UNESCO's input to developing the RoundView learning tools and strategy for roll-out to UNESCO networks. I have extensive experience in policy analysis and synthesis in relation to UNESCO sites, and a track record of leading successful flagship projects and campaigns, including the National Value of UNESCO to the UK (2020) and Scotland's UNESCO Trail.

## Language of the Law

*Pinar Aksu*

Thursday 23 May 10:15-11:15am

This workshop will explore the language used to describe migration, headlines from newspapers, language used in and by lawyers and unpack and untangle the law. From NABA and the Rwanda Bill, we will explore some of the words used within these legislations. Bringing the language of the law and policies to life and creating an alternative.



**Pinar Aksu** is a third year PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow, a theatre maker and community worker. Her research explores 'Art and Law in migration: using art practices for social change and access to Justice'. She is interested to find connections between solidarity, art, justice, and the law. Within her various roles, Pinar is involved with campaigns and projects supporting people seeking asylum and refuge, promoting integration and human rights. Currently looking at Right to Work-Lift the Ban, ending hotel detention and community connections. Pinar is also involved in using theatre and creative methods to create social change.

## Multilingual Expressions: Bridging Cultures through Art

*Yamam Salman*

Thursday 23 May 10:15-11:15am

This interactive workshop delves into the intersection of art, language, and intercultural communication. Led by Yamam Salman, it draws on her experience as a migrant artist navigating language barriers. Participants will engage in hands-on activities, creating artworks that transcend linguistic boundaries and foster a deeper understanding of diverse cultures. Also included is a discussion on the impact of art in breaking down language hierarchies and promoting cultural inclusivity. Yamam will share practical examples of projects she has been involved with, including the 2022 partnership project and exhibition 'Cartoneras': Artist Cardboard Stories from Multilingual Families in Glasgow' (with Glasgow University Modern Languages Department), highlighting successful community integration initiatives which utilise artistic expression.

**Yamam Salman** is part of the **Maryhill Integration Network (MIN)**, a grassroots community organization based in Glasgow, established to bring people seeking asylum, refugees, migrants and the settled inhabitants of the city together. Since 2001, MIN has been developing projects which support positive social change by investing in communities and providing a welcoming space with opportunities for collaboration and connection.





## THE FELT SPACES, Communicating with Refugee Communities Across Language Barriers

Adrienne Kalfopoulou

Thursday 23 May 11:30am-12:00pm

For this presentation, I will reference my experience as a volunteer at a squat in Athens, Greece, where a refugee community sheltered during the peak of the refugee flows into Europe from the Middle East. Through WhatsApp messages, physical gestures, emojis, and other kinds of informal messaging we managed to communicate over a period of some three years in which mothers expressed their children's needs, teenaged kids let us know the kinds of clothing they wanted, and people informed us, or sought help from us, in their various asylum-seeking journeys.



**Adrienne Kalfopoulou** is the author of three poetry collections, most recently *A History of Too Much*, and three collections of prose including *On the Gaze: Dubai and its New Cosmopolitanisms*. Her work has appeared in journals, chapbooks and anthologies including *The Harvard Review online*, *World Literature Today* and *Slag Glass City*. *The re in refuge*, her fourth collection of prose, is forthcoming in spring 2025 from Red Hen Press. She currently teaches General Education courses at RIT in Dubai where she is Associate Professor of Creative Writing. More information: [www.adriannekalfopoulou.com](http://www.adriannekalfopoulou.com)

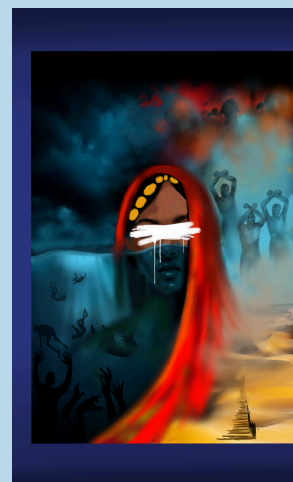
## From 'open wound' to 'scar'

Hyab Yohannes

Thursday 23 May 11:30am-12:00pm

In this presentation, Hyab reflects on the refugees' abyssal journeys from "open wounds" (a profound injury to human dignity, a "racial trauma") to a "scar" (a healed wound, a tainted past). He reflects on (de)coloniality to trace the possibilities that coloniality and raciality of (b)ordering have rendered unknowable, disposable, or even nonexistent.

**Hyab Yohannes** is a research associate with the UNESCO RILA team at the University of Glasgow. His work involves conducting research and synthesising findings to provide insights into theoretical, methodological, and policy-related questions. Recently, Hyab co-edited a Special Issue on Intercultural Knowledge Production for the *Journal of Language and Intercultural Communication*. He is also currently co-editing a *Handbook of Cultures of Sustainable Peace for Multilingual Matters*. Additionally, he has signed a book contract with Routledge for his upcoming publication entitled "The Refugee Abyss". Hyab's research interests include (b)ordering (physical, onto-epistemic, spatio-temporal, juridico-political, etc.), (de)coloniality, and political theories.



## University Modern Foreign Language Teachers in Scotland: Exploring Living Experiences and Beliefs about Multilingualism, Integration Matters and Language Teaching and Learning

*Argyro Kanaki & Susana Carvajal*

Thursday 23 May 11:30am-12:00pm

In this session, we explore the lived experiences and beliefs of university language teachers in Scotland about multilingualism, integration and language teaching and learning. We use phenomenology as an analysis tool to investigate teachers' lived experiences and beliefs. Polyphonic and heteroglossic messages come from their experiences of their self-development as well as their teaching practice allowing us to think that concepts such as 'multilingualism', 'multilingual identity', 'integration' and 'language learning' could be experienced and interpreted in different ways despite the new paradigm of 'a multilingual turn' in language education.



**Argyro Kanaki** is a lecturer in Language Education at the University of Dundee, Scotland. She holds a PhD in language education. Her current teaching focuses on the pedagogy of modern foreign languages, TESOL, issues around culture, and debates in international education. Argyro currently researches language, identity and migration and their relations with language policy and language practices.

**Susana Carvajal** is a Lecturer in Spanish at the University of Dundee. She has worked on several editorial projects related to the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language. In terms of research, she has collaborated with Argyro Kanaki in research studies on metalinguistic awareness and language identities. She is also engaged in projects related to the decolonization of the curriculum and the teaching of languages to migrants and refugees.



## Across and against borders: shifting hierarchies of language, migration and travel

*Esa Aldegheri & Aila Spathopoulou*

Thursday 23 May 1:00-1:45pm

Not all those who travel are equal. This presentation considers how language connected to travel manifest the hierarchies of differently permitted journeys. Specifically, we will look at places and practices of bordering to show how the control of who gets to cross borders is reflected in the language of travel, expressing hierarchies of deserving/undeserving, welcome/unwelcome, legal/illegal. Drawing on our own research, as well as on our identities and experiences as bilinguals and dual citizens, we will use images of ferries and maps as examples of different bordering practices applied to different categories of travelling human. Questions and discussions are welcome!

**Aila Spathopoulou** is a Lecturer in Criminology and Sociology and a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Stirling. She is also co-coordinator at the Feminist Autonomous Centre for research (FAC research). Since 2015, she has been engaged in research and activist work that interrogates border violence in the context of the Aegean (Greece) and more recently offshore detention and accommodation in the UK. Central to her research is understanding how borders shape our most intimate relationships and our relationship to our very self.



Dr **Esa Aldegheri** is a Research Associate with the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts (UNESCO RILA) team at the University of Glasgow. She works multilingually to research and support refugee integration, with particular focus on the development of the New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy and on how integration relates to different experiences of journey and peacebuilding. Esa is also a poet and the author of *Free to Go* (John Murray 2022), a travel book exploring the limits of freedom and non-freedom, motorbike journeys, motherhood and more.

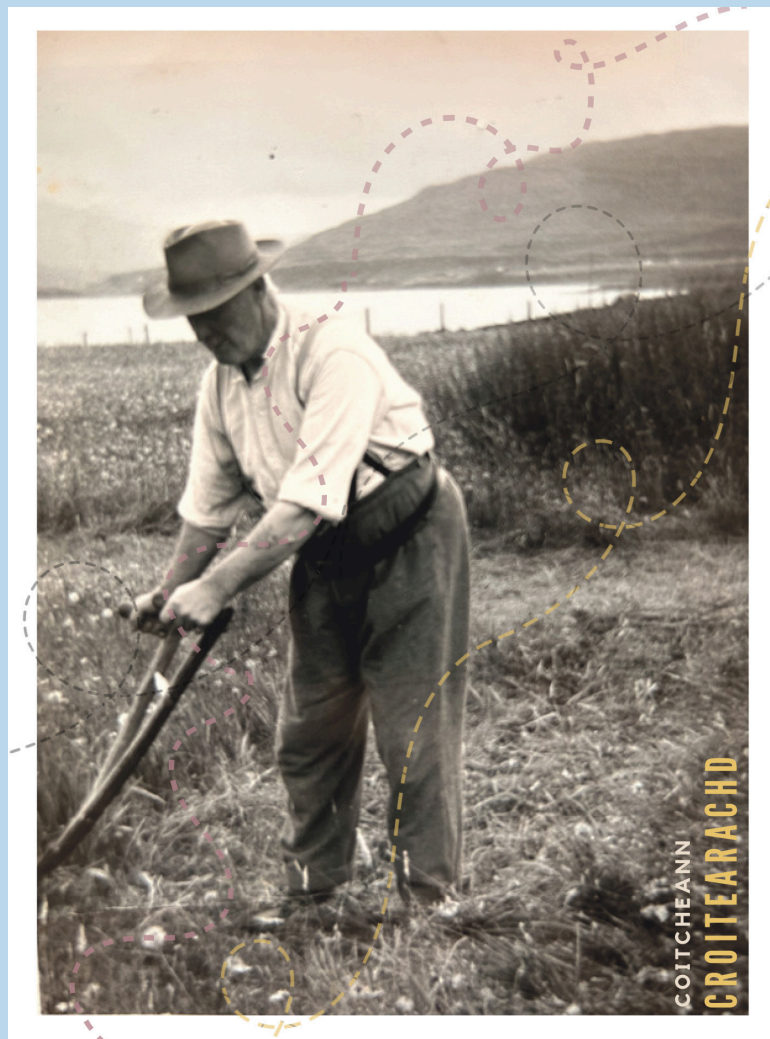
## Fàilte dhan chèilidh (Welcome to the Cèilidh)

*Chrissie Gillies & Nadine Malcolm*

Thursday 23 May 1:00-1:45pm

We will look at the decline, maintenance, and revival of Gaelic in the Highlands, through the lively and accessible format of the cèilidh, in it's most authentic sense. Beginning with the original meaning of the word "cèilidh", we will trace how the changes impact both the language and the people using the term. Focussing on the Gaelic language, from diaspora to current development, through the lens of community; we will explore notions of indigeneity, the Cleared, the newly settled and the dis-placed.

The cèilidh will be interactive and participant driven, with facilitators creating fun and engaging ways make the topics of discussion accessible, through the use of simple Gaelic words, storytelling and games.



Initiated by **Chrissie Gillies** and **Nadine Malcolm**, **Cruinneachadh Croitearachd (the Crofting Collective)** is an emerging collective that seeks to bring people into kinship and connection, through the traditional art of ceilidh-ing.

## 'Talking culture(s)': conversational reflections on hospitality, integration, and co-creating 'cultural presentations'

*Jane Wilkinson, Yuliia Vasylieva & Christine Penman*

Thursday 23 May 1:00-1:45pm

In this session, we pick up and continue an intercultural conversation about co-creating a 'cultural presentation' to share with host families, volunteers, and others who support Ukrainians in the Forth Valley area. In re-living our experiences, we reflect on questions of integration, hospitality, and reciprocity, as we consider ways in which the host-guest relationship typical of migratory settings was inverted as those of us 'at home' in Scotland became 'guests' in Ukrainian culture(s), and in which we all participated in 'integration as a multilateral, multimodal, intercultural and dynamic process' (Phipps, Aldegheri & Fisher, 2022), by talking, listening, sharing, learning and 'making place' together (Gilmartin & Dagg, 2023). We focus on the presence of multiple languages and the role of 'translanguaging' in our interactions.

**Yuliia Vasylieva**, originally from Ukraine, currently serves as an Employability Advisor and HR Administrator at Forth Valley Welcome. With nine years of HR experience spanning various sectors and a Master's degree in Psychology from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Yuliia brings a unique perspective to her role. Prior to her current position, she actively volunteered with the organization and made a significant contribution to the 'cultural presentations' project. In this capacity, Yuliia acted as an interpreter, facilitating communication between Edinburgh Napier staff and Ukrainian participants, and delivered engaging presentations with the project's findings to audiences of volunteers and wider local communities.

**Christine Penman** is a Senior Lecturer in Languages and Intercultural Communication at Edinburgh Napier University. Her research and teaching interests have spanned various aspects of intercultural communication mediated through language including advertising and translation. She recently led a public engagement project involving Forth Valley Welcome and colleagues in the preparation of cultural briefings giving a central voice to groups of refugees. She looks forward to sharing and reflecting on being part of that communal experience.



**Jane Wilkinson** is Lecturer in Languages and Intercultural Communication at Edinburgh Napier University. She has research and teaching interests in migration and hospitality, cross-border cultural projects, and intercultural experiences of international students. She has recently been involved in public engagement work with the third sector organisation Forth Valley Welcome in Stirling and is looking forward to sharing reflections on that work at the Spring School.

## Effective communication when there is a language barrier

Marzanna Antoniak

Thursday 23 May 2:00-3:30pm

This interactive workshop will take you through a series of communication scenarios and engage you in a conversation in a language you don't speak - all to prove that it is possible to communicate and make each other comfortable when there is willingness and when we have some handy tools at our disposal. Participants will have a chance to share good practice and discuss the real-life challenges they face when communicating when there is no shared language. In addition to the discussion and the immersive experience of translanguaging, workshop attendees will learn several useful techniques that will help them have better interlingual exchanges with others.



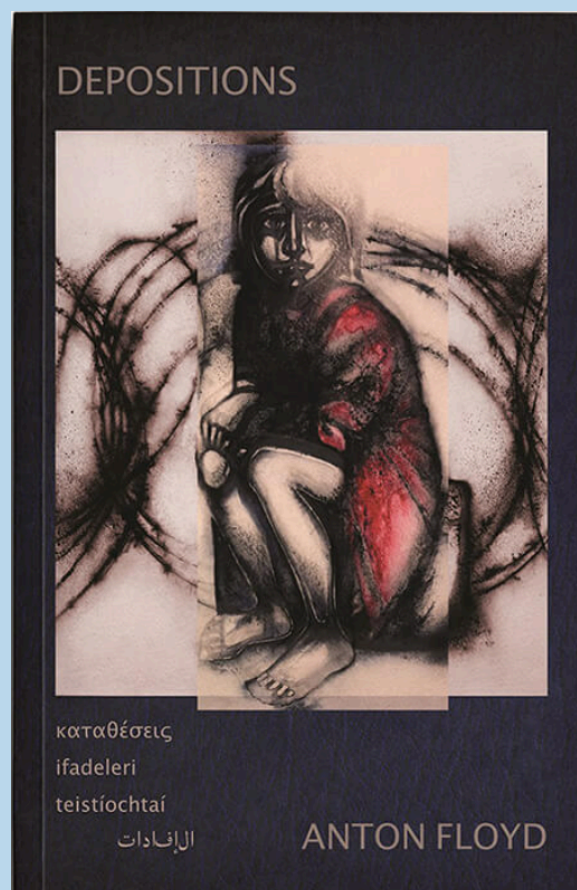
**Marzanna (Mana) Antoniak** is a culture animator, community development worker, language teacher, and trainer in effective communication when there is a language barrier. Her work revolves around strengthening community cohesion, accessibility of information, inclusive engagement, and capacity building amongst multi-ethnic communities. She has delivered several community development projects, curated exhibitions, and programmed cross-cultural festivals and events across Scotland, including the Glasgow Language Festival, multilingual Verse Universe performances of world poetry and song, and workshops and celebrations based on Slavic folk traditions. She can communicate in several languages and aspires to become a polyglot.

***Depositions: Anton Floyd. A multi-disciplinary presentation of my poetry collection *Depositions* (Doire Press, 2022)***

*Anton Floyd*

Thursday 23 May 2:00-3:30pm

The *Depositions* poetry collection treats of the worldwide refugee crisis with selections translated into 21 languages. It was prompted by a family history of forced displacement in the eastern Mediterranean and experiences, direct and indirect, of the traumas of wars in the region and the Troubles in Ireland. The presentation incorporates narrative, poetry, music, short docu, dance and poetry films. It makes the case for empathy; to show how poetry and the arts can provide a poignant, timely reminder that the refugee crisis is above all a human story and that we are all part of that story.



**Anton Floyd** is a Levantine living in West Cork. Poems published and forthcoming in Ireland and elsewhere. His poetry film *Constant* was selected for Cadence Poetry Film Festival (Seattle, 2023) and the Bloomsday Film Festival (James Joyce Centre, 2023). Another film, *Woman Life Freedom* dedicated to the women of Iran, (IUAES\*, 2022). Several times prize-winner of International Haiku Competitions. Awarded the DS Arts Foundation Prize for Poetry (Scotland 2019). His debut collection is *Falling into Place* (Revival Press, 2018) followed by *Depositions* (Doire Press, 2022). Two new collections *On the Edge of Invisibility* and *Singed To Blue* are in preparation.

More information: [antonfloyd.ie](http://antonfloyd.ie)





## Songs of Ukraine

*Solo Way Choir*

Thursday 23 May 3:45-4:05pm

Immerse yourself in the soulful melodies of Ukrainian folk songs with Solo Way. The Ukrainian song is the shrine of our people, our most valuable spiritual treasure, reflecting our pride, beauty, and centuries-old history. Since ancient times, Ukraine has been renowned for its songs, carefully handed down from generation to generation like precious relics. Our performance embodies the essence of these eternal melodies, showcasing the depth and richness of the Ukrainian musical heritage. Join us on a journey through the countless songs created by the Ukrainian people, a heritage so vast that learning one new song every day would not exhaust its treasure trove in a human lifetime. Experience the power of music to tell the story of a nation that reverberates through the ages.



The story of the Ukrainian choir **Solo Way** began more than a year ago. On a winter evening, in the cozy atmosphere of the cruise liner "Ambition", which housed over 1000 Ukrainian displaced people, a group of Ukrainian ladies from different corners of the country decided to bring some joy with their singing. Starting with performances on the cruise ship, these musical moments became part of Christmas concerts, fostering a sense of unity. As time passed, more members joined the ensemble. One of the most unforgettable moments was performing at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall alongside professional and well-known singers and bands.

"Solo Way," echoing the Ukrainian word for nightingale, draws inspiration from the bird, a symbol of Ukraine. It refers to our language as "nightingale -like" due to its melodiousness, and the phrase "nightingale's voice" is used to denote particularly pure, melodic, and pleasing singing.

**BONUS: Seeds of Thought open stage in the CCA***Tawona Sitholé*

Thursday 23 May 7:30-11:00pm

Seeds of Thought poetry night is a fun relaxed evening of spoken word and music. An open mic session which invites those who want to join in the fun, or just sit back and take in the performances. No two events are the same on this platform for seasoned and new performers.

Seeds of Thought is held monthly at the Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA), 350 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow G2 3JD, and is led by poet, playwright, researcher and educator Tawona Sitholé.

Entrance is free and there will be slots available for those Spring Schoolers who would like to share some of their work. Speak to Tawona at the Spring School or email him at [Tawona.Sithole@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Tawona.Sithole@glasgow.ac.uk) to book your slot.



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# SAVE THE DATE

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Next year the Spring School will be back to 3 days and we are aiming to host it on:



Mark your calendars and we hope to see you there!