

The London French: A Temporal and Spatial Mapping of the French Presence in the British Capital from the Seventeenth Century to the Present Day

Institut Français du Royaume Uni, Queensberry Place, London SW7

Dialogues du Centenaire

Friday 2 July 2010 14.00 – 19.00

Speakers: Professor Debra Kelly and Professor Martyn Cornick (Project Co-ordinators); Professor Robert Tombs; Professor Maire Cross; Professor Philippe Lane; Dr David Drake; Ms Elizabeth Randall; Ms Saskia Huc-Hepher.

Together with Representatives of London's French Communities; French Associations in London; French Press in London; French Chamber of Commerce; Alliance Francaise; City of London; French Business, Industry and Sport; Cultural Organisations; Educational Institutions; French Alumni Associations in London; Museum of London; BBC.

This Round Table event provides an opportunity to engage with initial discussions for a project that aims to bring together for the first time a social and cultural history of the French in London, exploring the multiple ways in which the presence of French citizens has contributed to the life of the city. It begins by outlining historical traces of the French in London: the capital often provided a place of refuge, for example, for the Huguenots in the late 17th century, various exiles following the French Revolution and throughout the 19th century, to the Free French in the Second World War. It also provides insights into the contemporary French population, particularly young French people seeking new opportunities in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. The project analyses the marks the French have made historically and continue to make on the contemporary life of London, in the arts, business, industry, education, the leisure and creative industries, and beyond. Within a dual historical and contemporary focus, it reviews and provides new research on the many intellectual and cultural exchanges that characterise the relationship between French migrant and host city.

PROGRAMME:

<i>Time</i>	<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Title</i>
14.00	Debra Kelly and Martyn Cornick	Introduction to 'The London French': a project in development
14.20	Elizabeth Randall	The Huguenots in

		London
14.40	Máire Cross	The July Monarchy and the Second Republic: Exiles and Gender
15.00	Robert Tombs	The Terrible Year and after: refugees and exiles after 1870
15.20	<i>Questions</i>	
15.40-16.00	<i>Break</i>	
16.00	Philippe Lane	Early Twentieth-Century Franco-British Cultural Diplomacy
16.20	Martyn Cornick	The French in London in the Second World War
16.40	David Drake	Raymond Aron and <i>La France Libre</i>
17.00	Debra Kelly and Saskia Huc-Hepher	Contemporary London French Lives and Experiences
17.30	<i>Questions/discussion</i>	
18.00-19.00	<i>Wine reception</i>	
19.00	<i>Close</i>	