

MERMAIDS

(En)Gendering Maritime Labour and Business Histories

University of Ljubljana
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SPEAKERS' BIO PROFILES

Helen Berry is Professor of History and a member of the Centre for Maritime Historical Studies at the University of Exeter, UK. She is the author of *Orphans of Empire: the Fate of London's Foundlings* (OUP, 2019) and numerous publications on the social history of Britain in a global context.

Anneli Blom is curator of the 19th- and 20th century collections at the Maritime Museum in Gothenborg. In charge of digitalization, registration and recording. An archeologist by trade. She has co-written with Tomas Nilson on SAL.

Monica Borrell-Cairol is Associate Professor in the Department of History and Archeology of the University of Barcelona. She is a research technician at the Interuniversity Institute for Women and Gender Studies (iiEDG). She is a member of the Research Group "Work, Institutions and Gender (TIG). She has specialized in the social history of work and gender. Her most recent publications include "La precarización del servicio doméstico en España 1900-1939. Factores institucionales", *Historia Social* núm.96, 2020: 113-128; "La feminización del servicio doméstico. Barcelona, 1848-1950", *Revista de Demografía Histórica*, Vol. 34, Nº 1, 2016: 25-62; "Trabajo y género: una visión de largo plazo", Fargas, Mariela (coord.): *Alternativas. Mujeres, género, historia*, Ediciones Universidad de Barcelona, 2020: 181-209; "Memòria, gènere i història. Catalunya, 1920-1960", Ed. Museu d'Història de Catalunya-Generalitat de Catalunya, 2018, Barcelona. Together with Jordi Ibarz, she has published "Las mujeres en la carga y descarga portuaria en España en el tránsito del siglo XIX al XX" *Revista de Historia Industrial*, núm.78, año XXIX, 2020: 45-83.

Valerie Burton has pursued a career as researcher, teacher and public historian on two sides of the North Atlantic, latterly and for the longest time at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada. There she was a Professor of Maritime History and Chair of the Maritime Studies Research Unit. The massive collection of nineteenth-century British imperial merchant seafarers' papers held on the University's campus is her major research resource inspiring, in 2011, an initiative in outreach pedagogy which can be viewed at "More than a List of Crew" <https://mha.mun.ca/mha/mlc/>. "Spanning Sea and Shore" is the method and approach that has organized her work over the past four decades, gender providing its most important element. Valerie commends to the conference's attention the historiographical article published in the *International Journal of Maritime History* <https://doi.org/10.1177/0843871419832300>, particularly when

read as context for the new maritime scholarship as represented in the articles contributed to this special forum by her students.

Peter Cole is a Professor of History at Western Illinois University (USA) and a Research Associate in the Society, Work and Development Institute at the University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa). He is the author of *Dockworker Power: Race and Activism in Durban and the San Francisco Bay Area* (University of Illinois Press, 2018), winner of the Philip Taft Labor History Book Prize, and *Wobblies on the Waterfront: Interracial Unionism in Progressive-Era Philadelphia* (University of Illinois Press, 2007). He co-edited *Wobblies of the World: A Global History of the IWW* (Pluto Press, 2017) and edited *Ben Fletcher: The Life & Times of a Black Wobbly* (2007; 2nd ed. PM Press, 2021). Cole is the founder and codirector of the Chicago Race Riot of 1919 Commemoration Project. He holds degrees from Georgetown University and Columbia University. He tweets from @ProfPeterCole

Justine Cousin holds a PhD in social and maritime History on extra-European seamen working for British imperial shipping companies (1860-1960). She also holds a Master's degree in maritime history. She focuses on imperial and urban history as well. She is a teaching fellow at the university of Caen in British civilisation and 19th century history. She has published on *Titanic* stewardesses and maritime colonial labour.

Ariana Domínguez García (Palma, 1992) holds a BA degree in Humanities by the Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona, 2016) and MA degree in Cultural Heritage: Research and Management by the University of the Balearic Islands (2020). She has been working for the Maritime Museum of Mallorca carrying out research on the museum collections and the management and diffusion of maritime heritage. In addition, she has been recently in charge of a research project, financed by the Institute of Balearic Studies, focused on the role of women in the contemporary fishing communities of Mallorca. She is currently conducting her PhD in the History, Art History and Geography doctoral program of the University of the Balearic Islands. Her PhD thesis fully addresses women's significance and agency among local fishing communities and the way gender roles are approached by silent maritime heritage. Ariana's main research interests are: Gender Studies, Maritime Anthropology, Oral History, Visual Anthropology and Maritime Heritage Management.

Pirita Frigren is a university teacher of Cultural Heritage Studies in the University of Turku, Finland. She specializes in relations of merchant seafaring and seafarers' families in the nineteenth and early 19th centuries. She defended her doctoral thesis (in English 'Merchant Sailors' Spouses, Household Economy and Female Agency in the Finnish Seaports, c. 1830-1870') at the Department of History and Ethnology, University of Jyväskylä, Finland in 2016. Frigren's publications about this topic include the chapter 'Maintaining the Family: Community Support for Merchant Sailors' Families in Finland, 1830-1860' in *Keeping Family in an Age of Long Distance Trade, Imperial Expansion, and Exile, 1550-1850*, edited by Heather Dalton (AUP, 2020).

In her postdoc Frigren has focused on seafarers' international mobility, still not leaving aside the families left behind. She has studied the archival collection of Mikko Airila, the chaplain of the Finnish seamen's mission in London in the 1910s. The archive includes letters from seafarers who were working on foreign ships all around the world and from families back in Finland. Frigren has also written about Finns as mobile maritime labor in coastal ports of the United Kingdom, 1850-1930. In 2019, she edited a volume (in Finnish) about the history of maritime-related migration in Finland, published by the Finnish Migration Institute. Currently she is a member of the EU COST Action Women on the Move (CA19112), which aims at unveiling women migrants' participation in the construction of Europe.

Gila Hadar teaches at the Jewish History department, University of Haifa. Hadar investigates the history and culture of the Sephardic Diaspora in the Ottoman Empire and Spanish Morocco with special emphasis on the Salonika Jewish Community, family, gender, marriage, divorce, conversion and emigration as survival strategies, and Socialism and Zionism in the context of social and national strife. She is author of many articles in Hebrew, English, Greek, Turkish and Ladino (Judeo-Spanish).

Jordi Ibarz Gelabert is a Professor of Modern History at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Barcelona and member of the research group "Work, Institutions and Gender" (TIG). His main research interests are in labour history, especially the history of dock and glass workers. Currently he participates in the SeaLiT project trying to understand the role of maritime labour in the emergence and reproduction of the capitalist system. He is the formal Research Head of SeaLiT Barcelona team, responsible for technical aspects of the research, while in the project his research focus is on dock workers in the port of Barcelona, 1850s-1920s. Recently he has published (in Catalan, with M. Iturralde), "People of glass. Cooperativism in the glass industry in Catalonia, 1893-2010" (2017) and in Spanish "End of the guild system, liberalism and development of capitalist labour relations in the port of Barcelona, 1834-1873" (2020) and with Mónica Borrell-Cairol "Women in loading and unloading in Spanish ports from the 19th to the 20th centuries" (2020).

John Odin Jensen has studied North American maritime frontier shipwrecks from the Grand Banks of Newfoundland to the edges of the Bering Sea. Born into a Norwegian-American seafaring family in Alaska, he began his maritime career working alongside his father and brother in the commercial fisheries in the 1970s, a time and place where shipwreck and death atsea were an accepted part of life. As a former crab boat captain and shipwreck survivor, Jensen brings deep professional experience and personal sympathy to the study of the North American mariners, ships and shipwrecks. In addition to his early sea-going education, Jensen earned a B.A. history from Lawrence University, a M.A. in maritime history and underwater archaeology from East Carolina University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degree in history from Carnegie Mellon University. He currently resides in Pensacola, Florida and is associate professor of history at University of West Florida. This paper is an outgrowth of the research for his book *Stories from the Wreckage: A Great Lakes Maritime History Inspired by Shipwrecks* published by the Wisconsin Historical Society in 2019.

Elin Jones is a Lecturer in Maritime History at the University of Exeter, and a member of the Centre for Maritime Historical Studies. She has published on gender, labour and protest at sea and is currently preparing a monograph based on her doctoral research titled *Tars: Naval Masculinity and Shipboard Society, 1756 – 1815*.

Dimitra Kardakaris is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Maritime history at Institute for Mediterranean Studies (IMS-Forth) in Rethymno (Crete) and at the Ionian University. She was born in Corfu in 1991 and is a graduate of the Department of History at the Ionian University. Her diploma thesis titled "*The rise of the Greek-owned shipping in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea in the 18th century. The action of Greek privateers under the Russian flag. The case of Ioannis Varvakis*" was awarded by the Academy of Athens -Kaftatzoglio Award-in February 2013. She is a PhD candidate of the department with the thesis "The Kasos ship owners' business group, late 19th - mid 20th century. The evolution of Greek shipping business from local to global". She has received a scholarship for the period 2014-2015 from the Fondation Le Cedre, Elias S. Kulukundis and A.S.M Carswell, in 2016-2017, 2017-2018 from the Leventis Foundation and for 2020-2021 from the Hellenic Short Sea Shipowners Association. Since January 2018, she is a researcher in the Institute for Mediterranean Studies (IMS-Forth) at the Center of Maritime History.

Kathy S. Mason is a Professor of History and Gender Studies and the Chair of the Department of History, Law and the Liberal Arts, and Gender Studies at the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio. She received her Master's Degree in early American History at the Ohio State University and her Ph.D. in U.S. History at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Her publications include *Natural Museums: U.S. National Parks, 1872-1916* (Michigan State University Press, 2004) and numerous articles, most recently, 'To Those Who Work from Behind the Scenes and Ask No Thanks': Notes from the Hancock County and the City of Findlay's Flood Recovery Thank You Project, 2007-2008" (*Northwest Ohio History* 86 [Fall/Winter 2020]), "Buffalo Soldiers as Guardians of the Parks: African American Soldiers in Yosemite, Sequoia, and General Grant National Parks," (*The Historian*, 81 [spring 2019]), and "National Recreation Areas and the Creation of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore," *Inland Seas*, 72 [winter 2016]). Her teaching and research interests include environmental history, women's history, U.S. popular culture, and the Great Lakes region. Currently, she is writing a book-length manuscript about the U.S. Cavalry's intervention of in the early western U.S. National Parks, particularly the involvement of African-American units ('Buffalo Soldiers') in Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks. She also is the chair of the Women's studies area of the Popular Culture Association and American Studies Association national conference.

Erica Mezzoli holds a PhD in East European History from the Università degli Studi di Trieste. Her research interests include economic, social and labour history from Early Modern to Modern times. Currently she is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at the University of Ljubljana with the project "We Can Do It! Women's labour market participation in the maritime sector in the Upper Adriatic after the two World Wars in an intersectional perspective" (acronym: WeCanIt; grant agreement: 894257).

Antònia Morey-Tous holds a PhD in History. She is a lecturer in Economic History and Economic Institutions in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of the Balearic Islands. Her research focuses on agrarian change in Mediterranean Spain (1836-1960/70), Balearic Island firms from a historical perspective, and economic groups and elites in 19th century Majorca.

Luisa Muñoz Abeledo has a PhD in Economic History from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (2003). She is senior lecturer at the History Department of the University of Santiago de Compostela. She has been a Visiting Researcher at several foreign universities (British Columbia University-Canada, Center for the History of Business, Technology and Society - USA, Universidade de Porto-Portugal, Centre de Recherches in Histoire Internationale et Atlantique (CRHIA).

Tomas Nilson, Ph.D. is Senior lecturer at Halmstad University. He does research in maritime history. Interested mainly in the 20th century. Have written on crime in port towns, the social debate on seafarers in Sweden 1900-1930, and the history of Swedish passenger traffic.

Tanja Petrović is research advisor at the Institute of Culture and Memory Studies ZRC SAZU and professor at the ZRC SAZU Graduate school in Ljubljana. She is interested in uses and meanings of socialist and Yugoslav legacies in post-Yugoslav societies, as well as in cultural, linguistic, political, and social processes that shape reality of these societies. She explores a plethora of issues, encompassing the role of language in forming ideologies, memory and identity, labor and gender histories in post-Yugoslav spaces, the relationship between memory, heritage, and historiographic narratives on Yugoslav socialism. She published numerous articles and monographs in the fields of anthropology of post-socialism, memory studies, masculinity, gender history, heritage studies, linguistic anthropology, and labor history. Among here recent publications are "Fish canning industry and the rhythm of social life in the North eastern Adriatic,"

Narodna umjetnost 57 (2020); "Agency, biography, and temporality: (un)making women's biographies in the wake of the loss of the socialist project in Yugoslavia," *Wagadu: a journal of transnational women's & gender studies* 21 (2020); "Political parody and the politics of ambivalence," *Annual review of anthropology* 47 (2018).

Sabine Rutar, Ph.D., is a Senior Research Associate at the Leibniz-Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg. She is Editor-in-Chief of *Comparative Southeast European Studies*. Recent publications include the chapter "Massengewalt östlich von Triest. Vom Grenzlandfaschismus zum Kalten Krieg (1920er bis 1950er Jahre)", in: Meinolf Arens / Martina Bitunjac, eds, *Massengewalt in Südosteuropa im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert. Motive, Abläufe und Auswirkungen* (2021); "Symbolic Geographies, Borderlands, and the Global Condition of Scholars", *Südosteuropa. Journal of Politics and Society* 68/3 (2020); and "Labor Protest in the Italian-Yugoslav Border Region During the Cold War. Action, Control, Legitimacy, Self-Management", in: Marsha Siefert, ed., *Labour in State Socialist Europe, 1945-1989. Contributions to a History of Work* (2020). She edited, in recent years, "The Second World War in Historiography and Public Debate", thematic issue *Südosteuropa. Journal of Politics and Society* 65/2 (2017); "The Wars of Yesterday. The Balkan Wars and the Emergence of Modern Military Conflict, 1912-13" (2018), and "The Balkan Wars from Contemporary Perception to Historic Memory" (2016, both with Katrin Boeckh); and "Violence in Late Socialist Public Spheres", thematic issue *European History Quarterly* 45/2 (2015).

Andreu Seguí-Beltrán holds a PhD in History. He is an assistant lecturer in Economic History and Economic Institutions in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of the Balearic Islands. His research focuses on analyzing the Majorcan maritime economy, with a particular emphasis on commercial and corsair enterprises, and port society. He has dedicated some of his last works to the role of women in the corsair business.

Shai Srougo is a lecturer in the Department of Jewish History and Biblical Studies at the University of Haifa, Israel. He is a social historian studying Mediterranean peoples from a bottom-up point of view. He focuses on the material culture of port Jews (Sephardic merchants), dock Jews (longshoremen, contractors in cargo-handling services, fishermen, port administrators, shipping agents, financiers of maritime projects, leasers of waterfront real estate, suppliers of equipment to port authorities, etc.), and Jewish artisans (Jewish niches in craft industry) in different parts of the Mediterranean at the turn of the 20th century—i.e., in the era of capitalism, colonialism, and the rise of nation-states.

Nadja Terčon (b. 1963) is a Museum Councillor at the Maritime Museum "Sergej Mašera" in Piran and specialises in recent maritime history. After graduating in history from the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana in 1987, she joined the Maritime Museum "Sergej Mašera" Piran in 1988. She supplemented her knowledge during her master's studies at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana and then during her doctoral studies at the Faculty of Humanities in Koper.

In her professional museum work, she is responsible for museum activities for recent maritime history, from 1797 to the most recent or present time. Her work is always a combination of research and museum professional work in recent maritime and coastal area history. She pays particular attention to the history of maritime economic activities and the connection between the Slovenian territory and the sea. In the museum, she carries out museum professional, managerial, research, journalistic and pedagogical work, and exhibition, project and popularisation activities. She has contributed to national and international symposia, round tables and other events. She is the author of several high-profile thematic exhibitions, exhibition publications and professional

articles in museum and historical journals and more popular magazines. In 2005, she was awarded the Valvasor Prize for her professional work in the Street Museum and Ship Modelling Collection project. She has been involved in several national and international research projects as a museum supervisor, museum worker or student mentor. She has also worked as an editor and reviewer for museum and other professional publications. Since 2001 she has been an active member of the editorial board of *Kronika*, a journal of Slovenian local history. Since 1998 she has been a member of the Commission for the work of historical circles at the non-governmental organisation SAFY - Slovenian Association of Friends of Youth. She is a member of Slovenian and international historical and museum associations and cooperates with local associations and various Commissions.

Alexandra Lee Yingst is a PhD student in Global Studies at the University of Iceland. Her PhD research focuses on migrant labor on cruise ships and how gender and nationality intersect to shape the experiences of crew. She came to Iceland in 2016 on a Fulbright Scholarship to attend the master's program in coastal and marine management at the University Centre of the Westfjords. Her thesis focused on the roles, perceptions, and hopes of women working in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in the Westfjords of Iceland. Previously, she obtained a Bachelor of Philosophy in biological sciences, sociology, and international and area studies from the University of Pittsburgh in the United States. Before starting her PhD, Alexandra worked as an expedition guide and anthropology lecturer on cruise ships, primarily in the polar regions. She also serves as the Gender Advisor for the Women on the Move COST Action, teaches a course called "Women and the Sea" at the University of Iceland, and works as a NAUI scuba instructor.

Jeremy Young PhD, French and British Historian, studied History in France at the University of Paris Saclay before studying political science at the ICES. Then moved to the United Kingdom to study Diplomacy at the University of Nottingham and a PGCE at the University of Southampton. Started his PhD at the university of Paris Saclay under the direction of Serge Benoit before moving to the University of South Brittany under the direction of Sylviane Llinares. He currently teaches International History at Valor International Scholars in Anseong, South Korea. He is also a member since 2017 of the Historical Society of Guadeloupe (Société d'Histoire de la Guadeloupe). He joined a work group on maritime labour hosted by Jordi Ibarz and Enric Garcia-Domingo of the university of Barcelona. This allowed me to participate in several conferences and publications. His thesis was a comparative study of maritime recruitment in France and Great-Britain (1756-1783). It focused on the method of recruitment and the chronic shortage of seamen, but it also touched upon questions of forced labour and the use of slaves and black seamen.