

## **BSA Theory Studies Group Annual Report (2022/23)**

**Name:** Theory Study Group (THE)

**Appointment of Conveners:** August 2020 & July 2022

**Number of members:** 457 on JISCmail and 7095 followers on Twitter.

**Income:** closing balance at 31/12/22 is £420.

**Aims:** key aims of THE include:

- provides a forum for those interested in sociological and social theory
- host events on current debates in the field of sociological theory
- coordinates the organisation of the Theory stream at the annual BSA conference
- facilitate research on and about sociological theory and its history

### **Review of the year:**

Over the past year, we organised three events discussing social theory in relation to conflict and elite capture (October 2022), the social theory of W.E.B. Du Bois and B. R. Ambedkar (April 2023), and theorising with art and music (June 2023).

#### **20<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 3pm**

Moving Beyond Deference Politics: A conversation about Theory, Politics, and Solidarity with Nathan Rochelle DuFord and Olúfẹ́mi O. Táíwò - an event sponsored by the BSA Theory Study Group (25 registered, and 17 attendees from US, UK, Greece, and Poland)

- **Chair:** Christian Morgner
- **Discussant:** Ioana Cerasella Chis
- **Organiser:** Ioana Cerasella Chis

Video recording [link](#); audio recording [link](#).

#### **4<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 4pm**

- Karida Brown and Scott Stroud in Conversation: Pragmatism, Critical Social Theory, and the Alternative Trajectories of W.E.B. Du Bois and B.R. Ambedkar (16 attendees from the UK, Ireland, India, and Greece)
  - **Chair:** Sebastian Raza-Mejia
  - **Discussants:** Kumud Ranjan
  - **Speakers:** Karida Brown and Scott Stroud
  - **Organiser:** Sebastian Raza-Mejia

21<sup>st</sup> June 2023, 4pm

Theorising with art and music (in collaboration with BSA Sociology of Art Study Group) – on **21 June 2023**

- **Chair:** Lisa McCormick
- **Speakers:** Fiona Greenland, Laura Harris, Alexander C. Sutton, Dominik Zelinsky
- **Organiser:** Lisa McCormick

These events were recorded and some have been archived on the BSA website.

One of the conveners of the Study Group, Ioana Cerasella Chis, has also secured funding from the BSA to organise a PGR Forum event that will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023, called 'Approaching Rest, Work, and Activism through the Lens of Disability Politics' [[link](#)].

Two potential events are currently being planned for Autumn 2023.

**Concluding remarks:**

In 2023 – 2024 the plan is to organise further events on the relevance of sociological theory in contemporary society.

The Theory Study Group agreed with the New Materialisms group to alternate turns organising the theory stream plenary speaker and theory sessions at the annual conference. This arrangement should be revisited with the new convenors and updated as needed.

**Convenors:**

Co-convenors Prof. Barry Gibson, Dr Lisa McCormick, and Dr Christian Morgner are stepping down in June 2023.

Co-convenors (who joined the team in July 2022) Ioana Cerasella Chis ([icc108@student.bham.ac.uk](mailto:icc108@student.bham.ac.uk)), Sebastian Raza-Mejia ([slr75@cam.ac.uk](mailto:slr75@cam.ac.uk)), and Joe Davidson ([joed35@ymail.com](mailto:joed35@ymail.com)) will continue to organise events and other activities on behalf of the BSA Theory Study Group, including being involved in the Annual BSA Conference 2024.

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