The African Critical Inquiry Programme (ACIP) is pleased to announce that the 2015 ACIP workshop will be *Red Assembly: Time and Work*. The workshop was proposed by organizers Gary Minkley (University of Fort Hare), Leslie Witz (University of the Western Cape), and Helena Pohlandt-McCormick (University of Minnesota) with Simon Gush (Independent artist) and will take place in East London, South Africa.

*Red Assembly: Time and Work*

This workshop revolves around the question of what it would mean to place art at the center of a historical reading. It is a response to three provocations, an art work by Simon Gush entitled *Red* inspired by the commitment of Mercedes Benz autoworkers to produce a (red) car for Mandela after his release from prison in 1990 and a nine-week wildcat strike and occupation of the factory by those workers later that same year ([http://www.simongush.net/works/red/](http://www.simongush.net/works/red/)); the dialog (and book) prompted by the restoration of a facsimile of Veronese’s *Wedding at Cana* to the Refectory at the Monastery of San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice 210 years after its removal by Napoleon; and the spirit of inquiry and debate into the role of public culture, cultural institutions and critical scholarship in the postapartheid era.

To initiate this project, the SARChI Social Change (University of Fort Hare), will facilitate the return of *Red* (the exhibition and its installations) to the Eastern Cape, and its exhibition at the East London Museum. We will host a 3-day conference workshop responding to this exhibition organized around invited presentations by an assemblage of artists, curators, public intellectuals, philosophers, historians, activists and postgraduate students in the humanities, humanistic social sciences and beyond. Workshop participants will be asked to respond to the different forms of expression invoked by the exhibition (film, photography, installation, sculpture, oral and written text, sound/the acoustic) to embark on a discussion around time, work and artwork that would return us to questions of how particular subjectivities (racial, gendered, classed) are established and contested in the modern social and how we move predictably and unpredictably – as art workers, historians, curators, activists, laborers – between assemblages of the aesthetic, the political, the social, the real (the material), the spatial, the modern and the historical. The workshop will take place in East London from 27-30 August 2015.

************

Founded in 2012, the African Critical Inquiry Programme (ACIP) is a partnership between the Centre for Humanities Research at University of the Western Cape in Cape Town and the Laney Graduate School of Emory University in Atlanta. Supported by donations to the *Ivan Karp and Corinne Kratz Fund*, the ACIP fosters thinking and working across public
cultural institutions, across disciplines and fields, and across generations. It seeks to advance inquiry and debate about the roles and practice of public culture, public cultural institutions and public scholarship in shaping identities and society in Africa through an annual ACIP workshop and through the Ivan Karp Doctoral Research Awards, which support African doctoral students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences enrolled at South African universities.

Information about applying to organize the 2016 ACIP workshop and for the 2015 Ivan Karp Doctoral Research Awards will be available in November 2014. Deadlines are 1 May 2015 for workshop applications and 1 June 2015 for student applications.

For further information, see http://www.gs.emory.edu/about/special/acip.html and https://www.facebook.com/ivan.karp.corinne.kratz.fund.