

Popular Music Studies at the Crossroads

Reflections on Popular Music and Ageing

15. Oktober 2013 | 17.00 – 18.30 Uhr
SR 35.K2/K3, Merangasse 18/KG, 8010 Graz



Dr. Ros Jennings

Music forms an important aspect of the cultural and social fabric of both individuals and nations (Clarke, 2012) and in the 21st century, popular music quite literally accompanies us from the cradle to the grave and constitutes a significant life-long relationship for many people.

As popular music studies begin to address the subject of ageing, it is a distinctive moment or turn for a subject area premised on notions of not just youth but also ideas of artistic rupture with the past and fear of ageing. In this presentation Dr. Ros Jennings will explore the following key ideas that converge at the crossroads that she is proposing.

- The social and cultural significance of music along the human life course;
- Ageing in/and in relation to popular music studies;
- Gender, genre, age and 'late style' performance;
- Life-long popular music practices.

Dr. Jennings argues that this crossroads marks the starting place of a meaningful dialogue between ageing studies and popular music studies.



Dr. Ros Jennings is Associate Professor/Reader in Cultural Studies at the University of Gloucestershire, where she is Director of the Women, Ageing and Media (WAM) research centre and is Head of the Postgraduate Research for the university. With Dr. Abigail Gardner, Dr. Jennings has recently published (2012) *Rock On: women, ageing, and popular music* (Abingdon: Ashgate) and has written on 'Popular Music and Ageing' for the forthcoming (2014) *Routledge Handbook of Cultural Gerontology* (edited by Julia Twigg and Wendy Martin).



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<http://interamerikanistik.uni-graz.at>
centeramericas@uni-graz.at | 0316/ 380 8213

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