British International Studies Association

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Feminist critical engagements with culture, art and world politics

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Increasingly, international relations scholars have come to recognize that understandings, policy prioritizations and performed practices of world politics come about through a range of cultural expressions and artefacts, with many people gaining their insights into world events through TV, film, the arts and propaganda material. This panel brings together a range of feminist papers that all acknowledge the dynamics, performativity and constitutive power of culture in the construction of world politics, exploring such things as art, fashion, propaganda and TV. The authors specifically unpack the gendered, colonial and capitalist logics of cultural production and expression, which in turn produce constitutive effects on the actual conduct of world politics and foreign policy practice. There is also some attentiveness to the emancipatory and empowering properties of cultural production across the papers, for example in relation to curation and artistic production. By centring the investigation on culture the papers seek to contribute to new forms of knowledge production, taking issue with orthodox IR approaches and offering intersectional and cultural analysis of contemporary global issues.

Track Classification: Gendering International Relations Working Group