The Society for the History of Emotions (SHE) is an international and interdisciplinary professional organisation. SHE promotes a deeper understanding of the changing meanings and consequences of emotional concepts, expressions and regulation over time and space. The Society is committed to fostering interdisciplinary international dialogue on all aspects of humanities-based emotions research. The historical and cultural conditioning of emotions – including their expression, regulation, performance and their gendered, ethnic, class-based and contingent nature – has become a methodologically rich field.

This conference encourages discussion across disciplines, cultures and historical periods, with a particular focus on broadening emotions history beyond its hitherto largely Western context. Participants are invited to address one or more of the following questions:

Emotions of Cultures – Comparative Perspectives

- How can we extend the cultural and geographical scope of current emotions research? In what ways can we develop our methodologies, especially with regard to comparative studies? How can postcolonial perspectives, indigenous positions and North-South dialogues be better integrated into historical emotions research?

Cultures of Emotions – History of Emotions and Contemporary Issues

- How can comparative studies in the history of emotions further our understanding of contemporary issues and problems? How can such comparative perspectives contribute to public debates about cross-cultural and cross-religious issues? What issues do we encounter when teaching the history of emotions, and how can we ensure our teaching is cross-disciplinary?
Keynote speakers:

Jakelin Troy, The University of Sydney

Jakelin Troy is a Ngarigu woman from the Snowy Mountains of New South Wales, and Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research at The University of Sydney. Her research and academic interests focus on languages, particularly endangered Aboriginal and ‘contact languages’, language education, linguistics, anthropology and visual arts. She has extensive experience developing curriculum for Australian schools, focusing on Australian language programs. She studied in Mexico and Japan, developing her interest in those countries’ art, culture and languages. Professor Troy is Editor in Chief of ab-Original: Journal of Indigenous Studies and First Nations’ and First Peoples’ Cultures.

Kathryn Prince, University of Ottawa

Kathryn Prince is a theatre historian with a particular interest in early modern drama. Her current work focuses on the intersections of space, bodies, objects and emotions in early modern performance, as well as ‘performance’ in a broader sense relating to early modern accounts of cross-cultural contact. Her recent publications include the edited collections Performing Early Modern Drama Today (Cambridge University Press, 2013) and History, Memory, Performance (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), as well as several book chapters on emotions and drama.

Paper and panel topics for the conference may include:

- reading emotional understandings and practices in different temporal, cultural or regional locations
- reading emotional understandings and practices within cross-cultural contact and conflict
- translations of emotion across geographical, cultural and religious boundaries
- emotions and the migration of images
- emotions in the literary, historiographical and cultural creation and reception of Otherness
- emotions and tolerance/intolerance in culture, race and religion
- imperial and anti-imperial emotions
- history of emotions and indigenous research methodologies

Individual papers and themed panels are invited. For individual papers, please send a title, abstract (c.250 words) and a short bio (max. 150 words) to societyhistoryemotions@gmail.com.

For panels, please send a panel title, brief description and outline of panel format, and titles, abstracts and short biographical statements for each presenter, to societyhistoryemotions@gmail.com.