

AN ERC-FUNDED PROJECT
2016-2021

Travel, Transculturality, and Identity in England, c. 1550-1700



INTRODUCING TIDE

TIDE is a 5-year (2016–2021) European Research Council-funded project that aims to investigate how mobility in the great age of travel and discovery shaped English perceptions of human identity.

The role of individuals and groups marked by transcultural mobility was central to this period. Trade, diplomacy and politics, religious schisms, and shifts in legal systems all attempted to control and formalise the identity of such figures. Our current world is all too familiar with the concepts that surfaced or evolved as a result: foreigners, strangers, aliens, converts, exiles, or even translators, ambassadors and go-betweens.

By examining how different discourses tackled the fraught question of human identity in this era, TIDE opens a new perspective on cross-cultural encounters. It places pressure on our understanding of cultural difference, transculturality and identity, and generates a new understanding of key terms, concepts, and debates.

The project also probes the unique role played by literature, illuminating how concepts of cultural difference and identity took shape in different ways in the imagination, at times challenging the dominant norms seen in the politics or law codes of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Through an engagement with TIDE's historical research, our annual visiting writers generate new literature about cross-cultural encounters and issues of migration and belonging today. This project therefore consolidates our fragmented understanding of transculturality and the idea of 'betweenness' in the early modern period with the ways mobility continues to have a significant impact on the contemporary world.





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MORE THAN JUST EXPLORATION

Human movements across borders increased under the combined impact of multiple political, economic, religious, and social factors throughout this period. As individuals migrated, the ways in which they thought about differences between countries and races, about one human being from this part of the world and one from another, developed rapidly as well, and began to take recognisable shapes and forms.

In a period marked by mobility, what did it mean to belong, or not to belong? What did it mean to move between cultures, countries, languages, faiths? How did you see yourself, and how did others see you? Were assimilation and segregation the only two options available? Or could one be both this and that, a third thing, both part of the world one had left and the world one occupied?

These questions seemed urgent enough when the idea of TIDE was formulated a few years ago, but against the backdrop of the unprecedented scale of crisis and anxiety about human mobility and migration that has unfolded since then, they seem even more important to ask and to understand today.



TIDE RESOURCES

What did it mean to be a stranger in sixteenth and seventeenth-century England? How were other nations, cultures, and religions perceived? What happened when individuals moved between languages, countries, religions, and spaces?

TIDE: Keywords, our first output, was a free, open-access resource designed to be used as a teaching and research tool. It used a selection of keywords to explore developing ideas of belonging and betweenness in early modern England. The selection of terms examined in *Keywords* reveal complex histories of usage: in many cases, the concepts, preconceptions, and debates that they embody came to play seminal roles in articulations of identity, rights, and power in subsequent periods. Our aim with *Keywords* was not to settle on a single definitive description, but to illuminate the multiplicity inherent in the usage of these terms in early modern English.

These keywords will be published as *Keywords of Identity, Race, and Human Mobility in Early Modern England* with Amsterdam University Press in 2021, and like the original database, this work will be freely open access.

Other resources available on the TIDE project website include:

- a blog showcasing ongoing research from the TIDE team and other scholars:

<http://www.tideproject.uk/blog>

- resource packs for KS3 teachers:

<http://www.tideproject.uk/ks3-level-sample-teaching-resources>

- a list of ongoing research and publications by the TIDE team, including recorded presentations and programmes:

<http://www.tideproject.uk/publications>

- the joint ‘TIDE-Runnymede Report on Teaching Migration, Belonging, and Empire in Secondary Schools’:

<http://www.tideproject.uk/tide-runnymede-report/>.



PUBLIC AND ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

The questions posed by the project possess a unique urgency in the present climate, where debates about the rights and identities of displaced peoples, nations, and groups rage not only in Europe but across the world. TIDE's public engagement strategy works with both local and national institutions, archival collections, and groups to impact the way transculturality and identity is taught and understood in England.

Our public engagement operates in three key areas:

• Education and Policy

We work with schools and policy makers to influence the national curriculum and collaborate with think tanks on their reports and publications. We are working with the Runnymede Trust and with school teachers across the UK, developing ways of using historical research to teach migration in the national curriculum. As part of this collaboration, we created the TIDE Beacon Fellowship, an innovative programme of professional development for secondary school teachers. This initiative resulted in a joint TIDE-Runnymede report on 'Teaching Migration, Belonging and Empire in Secondary Schools' which was launched on 4 July 2019 at a panel discussion in the Houses of Parliament. This work has led to the European Research Council (ERC) funded project TRACTION (Teaching Race, Belonging, Empire and Migration), which will produce a pioneering online platform of training, resources, and community network to equip schoolteachers to engage with issues of race, belonging, empire, and migration in the classroom.

• Literature and Culture

This involves exciting new writing initiatives; collaborative theatrical workshops with Liverpool's Everyman theatre and The Dolphin's Back company in London; local outreach through museum workshops and temporary exhibits; and larger networks of collaboration with national and international museums. Together with our 2018 visiting writer, Sarah Howe, and the World Museum (Liverpool), we have collaborated on a new permanent display of the museum's pre-modern Chinese porcelain.

• Community and Society

TIDE liaises with local trusts, higher education widening participation schemes, and community groups and programmes to confront ongoing issues around transculturality and belonging.

• Academic Outreach and Publications

Research conducted by members of the TIDE team includes our digital open-access *TIDE: Keywords* resource, blogs, articles, monographs, and our first printed output *Keywords of Identity, Race, and Human Mobility in Early Modern England*. Information about TIDE publications, talks and presentations can be found on our website at:


<http://www.tideproject.uk/research/>.



VISITING WRITERS


TIDE brings together academics and contemporary writers and poets, whose involvement provides a new context of exploration that opens up a new place of dialogue between literary-historical research and contemporary developments in literature.

TIDE's visiting writers are actively involved with the project. They attend project meetings, have access to the project's research material, respond to research and produce new writing through their work with the project.




In April 2017, TIDE welcomed the poet, novelist, essayist, and playwright, Fred D'Aguiar as its first visiting writer. Fred was born in London in 1960 to Guyanese parents and brought up in Guyana and London. His fiction and poetry have been translated into several languages, and he is currently Professor of English at the University of California, Los Angeles.


Visiting writer for 2018, Sarah Howe is a Hong Kong-born British poet, academic and editor. Lecturer in Poetry at King's College London, she has also held fellowships at Cambridge and Harvard, and a Leverhulme fellowship in English at University College London. Her first book, *Loop of Jade* (2015), won the TS Eliot Prize, and *The Sunday Times*/PFD Young Writer of the Year Award.



Nikesh Shukla was our visiting writer for 2019. He is the author of three novels, including *The One Who Wrote Destiny* (2018) and the award-winning bestselling essay collection, *The Good Immigrant* (2016). Nikesh has written for *The Guardian*, *Observer*, *The Independent*, BBC 2, and BBC Radio 4. He is the co-founder of the *Literary Journal*, *The Good Journal* and *The Good Literary Agency*.



In 2020, Preti Taneja joined the team as our visiting writer. Preti is a lecturer in Prose Fiction at the University of Newcastle, and teaches Creative Writing at HMP Whitemoor for Learning Together. Her novel *We That Are Young* won the 2018 Desmond Elliot Prize for the UK's best debut of the year, and was listed for awards including the Folio Prize, the Republic of Consciousness Prize for Small Prizes, and Europe's premier award for a work of world literature, the Prix Jan Michalski. Preti's academic research is on cultural rights in conflict-affected zones. She held a Leverhulme Early Career Research Fellow at Warwick University (2017-2019), was the UNESCO Fellow in Prose Fiction at the University of East Anglia (2019), and holds an honorary fellowship at Jesus College, Cambridge.



For 2021, Elif Shafak joined TIDE as our final visiting writer. Elif is an award-winning British-Turkish novelist who writes in both Turkish and English and has published 18 books, 11 of which are novels. Her work has been translated into 54 languages. Her latest novel *10 Minutes 38 Seconds in this Strange World* was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and RSL Ondaatje Prize; and chosen as Blackwell's Book of the Year. Her previous novel, *The Forty Rules of Love*, was chosen by the BBC among the 100 Novels that Shaped Our World. She holds a PhD in political science and has taught at various universities in Turkey, the US and the UK, including St Anne's College, Oxford University, where she is an honorary fellow. She is a member of Weforum Global Agenda Council on Creative Economy and a founding member of ECFR (European Council on Foreign Relations). Elif contributes to major publications around the world, was awarded the medal of Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL MEDIA

TIDE's work aims to widen public engagement across disciplines and institutions, and advance new ways of using the past to explore contemporary questions about English heritage and identity. Our activity has included our #GateOfAccess Twitter series, which offers curators and archivists in museums and libraries a means of disseminating objects from their local and international collections to new audiences through a series of curated tweets. The role of migrants and the beliefs, habits, and artefacts they carried with them in shaping English identity continues to have a significant role in contemporary debates about belonging and inclusion, and the project works closely with local groups, museums, and schools to explore the legacy of cultural 'betweenness' on the world today.

The series has included partnerships with the Liverpool Special Collections and Archives, the National Pipe Archive, National Museums Liverpool, and Winchester Cathedral. TIDE's partnership with the World Museum in Liverpool has led to an innovative, permanent redisplay of the Chinese porcelain case in the World Culture Gallery, featuring Sarah Howe's TIDE-commissioned poetry.

Aims of collaborations:

- To raise public awareness of objects in library and museum collections, whether new acquisitions, lesser-known treasures, or artefacts that do not appear on permanent display.
- To foster a dialogue about the movement of peoples and objects, and the mingling of cultures, on the formation of English identity, and to promote the use of the past in addressing present debates.
- To encourage viable working methods for interdisciplinary collaborations between institutions.
- To draw larger numbers of visitors to participating cultural institutions, and to bring attention to early modern collections at a time when late modern and contemporary art tend to attract larger audiences.
- To encourage both public and institutional awareness of the research conducted by TIDE and other academic institutions on the historic role of migration and transculturality on identity in England.



TIDE

CASE STUDIES



Our case studies examine mobility in practice through the perspectives of literature, religion, law, and trade and diplomacy. Our selected cases, chosen through careful discussion, include both representative and anomalous examples of transcultural early modern individuals. These studies pay close attention to the ways in which individual agents and communities negotiated their identities across geopolitical, religious, racial, cultural and linguistic borders, and probe instances where such negotiations surfaced through particular events and texts.

The main output for the case studies is a core set of 24 case studies. These will: (1) form essential material for the TIDE team's own monographs and articles; (2) feature as short essays in an open-access resource on the project website; and (3) produce new research for our visiting writers and other cultural institutions to use as points of meditation, departure and response in the new writing they produce over the project period.

Individuals investigated by TIDE include:

- Anna of Denmark (1574–1619)
- Diego Sarmiento de Acuña, count of Gondomar (1567–1626)
- Mark Antonio Bassano (c. 1546–1599)
- Luisa de Carvajal y Mendoza (1566–1614)
- Catherine of Braganza (1638–1705)
- Patrick Copeland (1572–1650)
- ‘Corey the Saldanian’ (c. 1613–14)
- Jane Dormer (1538–1612)
- Alfonso Ferrabosco (1543–1588)
- Virginia Ferrar (c. 1627–1688)
- John Florio (1553–1625)
- Aletheia Howard (1582–1656)
- Anthony Knivet (1577–1649)
- Roderigo Lopez (c. 1525–1594)
- Esther de Peigne (d. 1649)
- Robert Parsons (1546–1610)
- Pocahontas/Matoaka (c. 1596–1617)
- Edward Pococke (1604–1691)
- Thomas Roe (1581–1644)
- Teresia Sampsonia Shirley (c. 1589–1668)
- Robert Shirley (c. 1581–1628)
- Thomas Stephens (1549–1619)
- Roger Williams (c. 1606–1693)



PREVIOUS TIDE EVENTS



In conjunction with the Runnymede Trust, we organised workshops with KS3 teachers in London and Liverpool in 2018-19 to collaborate on best practices for exploring migration in the national curriculum.



On 26 May 2018, as part of Culture Liverpool's Tall Ships Festival ('Under the Moon') and in collaboration with The Liverpool Players, we hosted a series of dramatic readings of journeys involving exploration and moon topographies in Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral.

Every year, TIDE organises a number of interdisciplinary lectures, seminars and readings in Liverpool, Oxford and London. Speakers have included the linguist Sylvia Adamson, historians Jyotsna Singh, Joan-Pau Rubiés, Nadine Akkerman, Jane Stevenson, Matthew Dimmock, and Peter Davidson, the poet Vahni Capildeo, and our visiting writers.



Together with The Dolphin's Back theatre company, we organised a successful experimental workshop which used excerpts from plays and non-dramatic documents to ask a series of questions on belonging and identity in Tudor London.



PREVIOUS TIDE EVENTS



KEYWORD

ALIEN

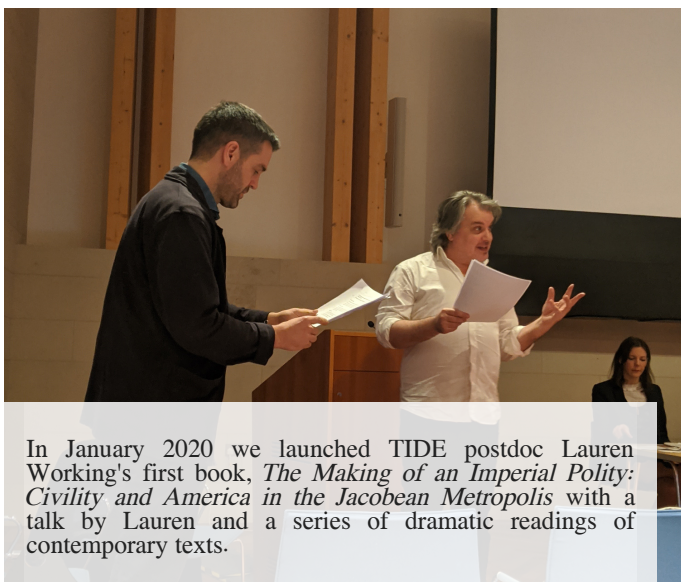
In 2020, we launched **TIDE Salon**, an interactive multimedia experience celebrating a collaboration between TIDE, our visiting writer Preti Taneja, and British Asian artists.



On 4 July 2019, TIDE and the Runnymede Trust presented their joint report on 'Teaching Migration, Belonging and Empire in Secondary Schools' at a panel discussion in the Houses of Parliament. The report is based on a 2-year TIDE-Runnymede collaborative study, which included the TIDE Beacon Fellowship.



On 14 March 2019 we hosted 'Who's Laughing?' at the Liverpool Everyman, with our visiting writer Nikesh Shukla and comedians Robin Ince and Josie Long for a conversation about identity, humour, and Englishness.



In January 2020 we launched TIDE postdoc Lauren Working's first book, *The Making of an Imperial Polity: Civility and America in the Jacobean Metropolis* with a talk by Lauren and a series of dramatic readings of contemporary texts.

THE TIDE TEAM

Nandini Das is a literary and cultural historian, and Professor of Early Modern Literature and Culture at the University of Oxford, and Fellow of Exeter College. Her essays and books include *Robert Greene's Planetomachia* (2007), *Renaissance Romance: The Transformation of English Prose Fiction, 1570–1620* (2011), and the co-edited *Enchantment and Dis-enchantment in Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama* (2019). Her investigation of the traces and impact of early modern cross-cultural encounters in Britain, and British and European engagement with the wider world, has developed through essays on Renaissance travel, and through her experience as volume editor of Elizabethan Levant Trade and South Asia in the forthcoming OUP edition of Richard Hakluyt's *The Principal Navigations*. Nandini is co-editor of *The Cambridge History of Travel Writing* (2019), and Principal Investigator of the 'Travailer' and 'Envisioning the Indian City' projects.



Tom Roberts is a postdoctoral research assistant working on Anglo-Italian exchange, translation, transnational theatre, and cultural and human migration to sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century London. His doctoral research focused on how early modern English writers and dramatists reimagined the Italian commedia dell'arte in print and on stage. He also works on the City's stranger communities, and how the small population of Italians residing in the eastern wards shaped the cultural life of the capital.



Haig Smith focuses on the intellectual process in the politics of Anglo-indigenous interaction between 1550–1700 in forming early modern concepts of identity and English governance. His work explores how various communities in India, the Far-East, North America, and the Middle-East interacted with English governmental practices shaping both their own political identities and concepts of English imperial governance in the early modern period. He is currently finishing his first monograph on English religious governance in England's overseas companies. His book *Religion and Governance in England's Emerging Colonial Empire, 1601–1698* will be out in August 2021 with Palgrave Macmillan.



Emily Stevenson previously studied at the University of Warwick and King's College London. Her doctoral research examined the contextual communities and networks which surrounded Hakluyt and *Principal Navigations*, using a combination of social network mapping, literary and historical analysis to critique the notion of the work's objectivity while situating Hakluyt's work within social and historical contexts to expand current frames of analysis. Her wider research interests include the role of women in sixteenth century mercantile communities and the function of epistolary form in travel narratives, as well as early Jacobean theatre.



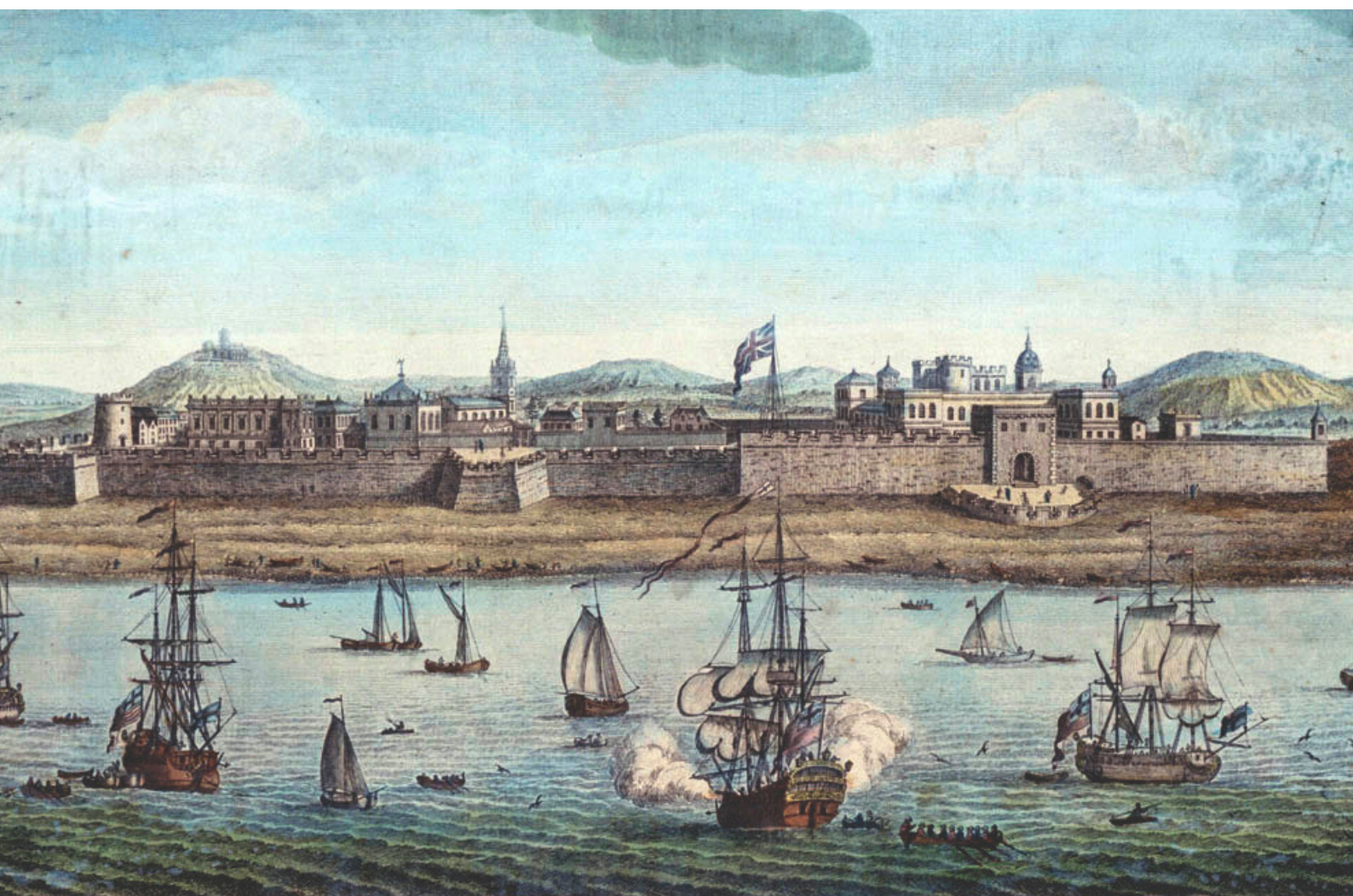
Lauren Working is a historian of Elizabethan and early Stuart politics, sociability, and empire. Her research investigates the two-way impact of colonisation; colonial archaeology and indigenous material culture; and wit and political friendships at the Inns of Court. Her book, *The Making of an Imperial Polity: Civility and America in the Jacobean Metropolis* came out with Cambridge University Press in 2020. In 2021, she became a BBC/AHRC New Generation Thinker.



João Vicente Melo is a cultural historian who works on early modern cross-cultural encounters and diplomacy. His research interests include diplomatic rituals, early modern European ethnographic production about South Asia and Africa, religious missions, and the European presence at the Mughal court. As a part of the TIDE project, he will publish a book-length study on the Jesuit and English presence in Mughal India between 1580 and 1650. João was one of the the organisers of the conference *Locality and Globality in Early Modern Cultural Encounters: A Comparative Analysis of Religious and Political Accommodation* and is particularly interested in collaborating with archives and museums on themes related to early modern intercultural diplomacy and religious missions.

Emma-Louise Whitehead is the Project Coordinator for TIDE. She also works as a freelance bibliographer for the Oxford English Dictionary, dealing mainly with religious and scientific texts. She is involved with Engagement for the Shakespeare North theatre project, and is studying for a degree in English, with a particular interest in Renaissance drama.





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