

Creating the cosmopolitan city: Manchester migrants old and new

Dr Rajinder Dudrah's response to Dr Corinne Fowler's paper.

- Personal Biography: Coming to Manchester via Birmingham, Portsmouth and then Birmingham again.
- Manchester's cosmopolitanism from a literary perspective = can we think about white and non-white cosmopolitanisms?
- Pamphlets, leaflets, small booklets part of an eclectic Black British public sphere in the post-war period en masse, certainly before that too (though outside of my knowledge for the purposes of today's response).
- The Black public sphere in Manchester and Birmingham
- Aesthetics and value = popular music and vernacular shout outs in the street, as modernisms in the street (cf. Prof. Stuart Hall). E.g. Soul, Reggae, RNB, British Bhangra.
- What does it mean to perform a cosmopolitan sense of Manchester or mancunian-ness? Let's consider a couple of examples of Manchester city cosmopolitan swagger.
- Zahid Hussain's novel *The Curry Mile* (2006) and the actual Wilmslow Road, "Curry Mile" part of it.
- London-centric Cosmopolitanism. Regional cosmopolitanisms as capitals in their own right which challenge us to divert our attention away from the hegemony of London-stan to other social and cultural geographies.
- Manchester and Birmingham, friendly rivalry competing for 2nd city status. What does this involve? What is this competition about? As part of a response to these questions let's think about the Black and Asian arts scene, popular cultural expressions, and shouts in the streets that claim and reinvent places and spaces by migrants old and new.

Dr Rajinder Dudrah, April 2009