

Department of Languages and Cultures
2017 Research Seminar Series

Nicholas Ridout
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**"The Trunk-Maker in the Upper Gallery": Theatre and Leisure in an
Eighteenth-Century Colonial Metropolis**



In the November 29 1711 edition of *The Spectator*, Joseph Addison imagines an unusual theatre-goer: a manual labourer who is also an expert critic. This talk explores what this imaginary figure might reveal about the relationships between the theatre, the colonial relation and bourgeois life and leisure, and its implications for the writing of theatre and performance history.

Nicholas Ridout is currently the Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellow at the Huntington Library in Los Angeles, where he is working on a new project about theatre, consumption and the colonial relation, entitled *Scenes from Bourgeois Life*.

Thursday May 25, 2017 1:00pm A3N7 (3rd floor Arts Building)