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Jardine, Boris. 2012. *Scientific Moderns*. University of Cambridge, Department of History and Philosophy of Science. This study joins the histories of Mass Observation and Constructivism in interwar Britain.


**CONFERENCE REPORTS**

“*Cultural Narratives of Race in the German Empire 1871-1945,*” held at the University of Edinburgh, September 13, 2012, co-organized by Lara Day Benjamin and Oliver Haag, both of the University of Edinburgh. Report submitted by Lara Day Benjamin, l.day.benjamin@ed.ac.uk

Supported by the German History Society, the Visual Arts Research Institute Edinburgh, the Centre for the Study of Modern Conflict and the Innovation Initiative Grants Scheme both of the University of Edinburgh, this conference invited scholars working in the disciplines of history, art history, German studies, theology and anthropology to discuss the dis/continuities in cultural narratives of race and their correspondence to events in political history (1871, 1917, 1933). Papers investigated the construction and use of cultural conceptions of narratives of race in crime reports, ephemeral media, popular fiction, photography, linguistics and philosophy. The truly interdisciplinary discussion allowed the examination of origins, perpetuation and affirmation of these narratives and acknowledged both the complexity of the term and concept, and its critical role in shaping cultural and political ideologies. The keynote lecture was delivered by Tina Campt, Professor of Africana and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Barnard College, Columbia University, and examined the different narratives of race in Black German family photography. Papers included topics as diverse as German narratives of Indigenous North American people, the gendered constructions of racial narratives, as well as the origin and functioning of racial/racist thought. The program included papers by Johanna Gehmacher, University of Vienna; Lukas Bormann, University of Erlangen; David Moshfegh, University of California, Berkeley; Volker Zimmermann, Collegium Carolinum Munich/Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf; Markus End, Technical University, Berlin; Sarah Panzer, University of Chicago; Ulrich Charpa, Leo Baeck