Prof. David Stowe:  
"Babylon Revisited: History, Memory, and Forgetting in Psalm 137".

Ours has been called the Age of the Refugee. No text has spoken of exile and displacement more compellingly than Psalm 137, which begins: By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. For many centuries this short poem has been a cultural touchstone for music and religion across the Atlantic world and beyond. This interdisciplinary talk demonstrates the psalm’s enduring place in popular culture.

Dr. Nina ter Laan:  
"Moroccan Anashid Singers in Europe"

After 9-11 and the terrorist attacks in Casablanca in 2003, music has become a powerful tool with which the Moroccan state pursues its policy of presenting Morocco as a moderate Muslim country. In this policy, Sufism, a mystical branch within Islam, is put forward as a model of Muslim moderation. Sufi musicians are given ample space in national media and international music festivals sponsored by the state. Their counterparts, performers of anashid (Islamic a-capella music), are often portrayed as Muslim fanatics. Very little room is afforded to them in this governmental policy. Instead, anashid performers have their own alternative networks, nationally but also abroad. In this presentation I focus on Moroccan anashid artists who perform in Europe, where they build a fan base among Muslims in countries such as the Netherlands, Belgium, and France.

Dr. Dick Wursten:  
"French Psalms shaping Dutch Culture"

How poetic translations of the Hebrew Psalter into French (by Clément Marot) were discovered by Jean Calvin and transformed into the Geneva Psalter, subsequently becoming a confessional identity marker of the Dutch Reformed Church (via Pierre Daten, aka Petrus Datheen).
Programme

9.00-9.30 Entry
9.30-9.40 Introduction by Dr. Andrew Irving - University of Groningen

Keynote
9.45-10.45 Babylon Revisited: History, Memory, and Forgetting in Psalm 137
   Prof. Dr. David Stowe - Michigan State University

Preserving/Recreating Religious Identity through Chant
10.45-11.15 Singing Roman Song in Frankish Lands: Constructing Identity by Creative Reception
   Prof. Dr. Harald Buchinger - Universität Regensburg
11.15-11.45 Chant, Identity, and Christian Formation in Early Medieval Iberia
   Prof. Dr. Rebecca Maloy - University of Colorado, Boulder
11.45-12.15 Schola Maastricht
12.15-13.30 Lunch

Relocation/Dislocation
13.30-14.00 French Psalms shaping Dutch Culture
   Dr. Dick Wursten - Antwerp
14.00-14.30 Music and Religious Change: Jewish Perspectives
   Dr. Ruth Illman - Åbo Akademi; Uppsala Universitet
14.30-15.00 Kamerkkoor Maastricht
15.00-15.15 Break

Diaspora/Migration
15.15-15.45 Moroccan Anashid Singers in Europe
   Dr. Nina Ter Laan - University of Utrecht
15.45-16.15 Moved and Mixed: Liminal Sounds in Ghanaian Methodist worship in Amsterdam
   Dr. Mirella Klomp - PThU Amsterdam
16.15-16.45 Shishani Vranckx & Friends
   Concert Lecture
17.00-18.00 Beethoven and Loving our Neighbour
   Mr. George Mathew - Music for Life, New York
   and Dr. Mark Kuss - Southern Connecticut State University
18.00-18.15 Concluding word by Dr. Andrew Irving

Titles and Abstracts

Prof. dr. Harald Buchinger
“Singing Roman Song in Frankish Lands: Constructing Identity by Creative Reception”.

The reception of Roman chant in the Carolingian realm and its subsequent diffusion in the entire Medieval West may be counted among the most successful achievements of European cultural history. Nevertheless, it went along with a profound transformation of the imported repertoire. Identity was constructed by creative reception.

Prof. Rebecca Maloy:
“Chant, Identity, and Christian Formation in Early Medieval Iberia”.

This paper argues that the texts and melodies of the Old Hispanic rite were carefully designed to promote the aims of a cultural renewal led by Isidore of Seville (c.a 560 - 636) and other bishops. The creators of the chant texts reworked scripture in ways designed to teach biblical exegesis, linking both to the theological works of Isidore and others and to Visigothic anti-Jewish discourse. The melodies shaped the delivery of the texts to underline words and phrases images of particular liturgical or doctrinal import.

Mr. George Mathew and Mark Kuss:
“Beethoven and loving our neighbour”

A public lecture by George Mathew, Founder & Artistic Director of Music for Life International. It will focus on Beethoven’s use of music to illustrate the possibilities of transformation that arise when fear and exclusion are replaced with engagement with and embrace of “The Other”. The lecture includes a demonstration/performace of Beethoven’s Egmont Overture and excerpts from the Ninth Symphony (piano four-hands) by Mr. Mathew and distinguished composer and pianist Dr. Mark R. Kuss.