

### Meet the AHRC/BBC New Generation Thinkers for 2020

- SOPHIE: One of the things that I'm really interested in is how we know the past, and the realisation that we possibly can't know the past
- CHRISTIENNA: The reason why I'm looking at these athletes is that I think they tell us a lot about British identity
- SEREN: A lot of my work is based around public archaeology, and the principle that this is all of our cultural inheritance
- NOREEN: My research is going to use contemporary writers to think about how we might feel differently in and about flat spaces
- LUCY: I use the early Norwegian black metal scene as a case study, and I want to try and get beneath this veneer of sensationalist coverage, of moral panics
- DIARMUID: Our culture seems to really value cleanliness and decluttering, but along with that comes a kind of demonisation of people who are collecting
- DARRAGH: Gambling is a cultural constant, from the blood sport of bare-knuckle boxing and animal baiting in pre-Victorian times, through the rise of illegal betting shops
- TOM: The Oxo cube, which is something most people are very familiar with, encapsulates or illustrates a recurring humanitarian vision
- XINE: Being at the border and being asked for your passport, and how anxious you feel, how honest you look, what kind of story are you going to be giving
- ALEX: I think the writing and the art that was produced around decolonisation is some of the most important work that was produced in the twentieth century
- SOPHIE: Fashion is a really profound way of thinking, particularly about women's experience. I'm interested in the way in which, in their work, they're using fashion to think about bigger philosophical issues
- CHRISTIENNA: These were all figures who were born in the Caribbean but competed for Britain or for England, whose place as British citizens was often questioned
- SEREN: So you can't own the past. There is no such thing as 'private' archaeology
- DIARMUID: But I'm thinking, what are the ways that we can think about hoarders outside of this kind of an illness, right, of a mental illness
- DARRAGH: Right through to the rise of the smartphone, gambling has long been embedded in our everyday lives
- TOM: Some early humanitarian handbooks compared feeding people to putting petrol in a machine
- XINE: Why might someone actually want to be inscrutable, as opposed to being seeming to be so open and honest
- ALEX: I hope that putting these histories on the radio will bring them to life for a wider audience, who I think will be interested to know about them.

Find out more about the 2020 New Generation Thinkers at [ahrc.ukri.org/ngt](https://ahrc.ukri.org/ngt)