CALL FOR PAPERS

PROTEST.

Confirmed keynote speakers:

– Dr. Priyamvada Gopal, University of Cambridge.

– Tom Leonard, poet and writer, retired Professor in Creative Writing at University of Glasgow.

– Prof. Dennis Tenen, University of Columbia.

Recent years have seen the world enter a new political era, one defined by changing methods of popular protest across the globe. From the Occupy movement to the Arab Spring, and from the actions of online hackers Anonymous to whistle-blowers like Bradley Manning and Edward Snowden, society is navigating a situation of profound upheaval. Advances in technology increasingly bring a future of permanent connection, across cultures and languages. Yet to navigate the uncertain terrain of this emerging world, we need to better understand the possibilities and implications of this connection.

Reflecting on examples and methods of protest both contemporary and historical, we invite papers that interrogate the changing face of political activity. What are the true implications of the Internet for political action? How is the
idea of privacy changing? How have material factors shaped protest across the ages?

Papers may address any aspect of protest, including but not limited to:

- Methods of protest in the past and in the present; the role of social media in contemporary forms of protest.
- The role of the Internet in political action; government and state-sponsored surveillance.
- Literary works, films, comics, artworks and songs that protest against an existing condition of oppression, or narrate resistance to such oppression, whether political, social, economic, cultural or linguistic.
- Changing theories of protest.
- Forms of gendered protest in the present and in the past; feminism; gay, bisexual and transgender struggles.
- Writers, artists, philosophers, politicians and religious figures who have actively stood up for a cause or been persecuted for the content of their work.
- The political nature of art; the political methodology of any artworks.

Abstracts of a maximum of 250 words, accompanied by a brief biographical note, should be submitted to arts-pgconference2014@glasgow.ac.uk by the deadline of 24th February.