

Roundtable 1: History in financial times

Intersections of Finance and Society
City, University of London, 12-13 December 2019

Thurs 12 Dec, 15.00-16.45, Room A130
Chair – Johnna Montgomerie, King’s College London

Participant – Marieke de Goede, University of Amsterdam
Participant – Samuel Knafo, University of Sussex
Participant – Emily Rosamond, Goldsmiths, University of London
Participant – Noam Yuran, Tel Aviv University
Response – Amin Samman, City, University of London

This roundtable will bring together the author of *History in Financial Times* and readers from across the field of ‘finance and society’ studies for a critical appraisal of its contribution to the analysis of global capitalism. Arguing against conventional linear accounts of time and history, the book contends that over several centuries, the historical past has itself become a decisive input into the way we imagine and produce change. Rather than simply receding into the distance, the past circulates through and shapes the present, such that the future emerges through a shifting panorama of historical associations, names, and dates. The result is a strange feedback loop between now and then, real and imaginary. Applying this idea to contemporary financial capitalism, *History in Financial Times* explores the peculiar modes of history-production at work in financial journalism, policymaking, and popular culture. The book also raises deeper questions about the relation between historical thinking and critique. The roundtable will seek to address these, to situate the book within a broader conversation about the past and present of global capitalism, and to reflect on its contribution to the study of economic and financial history in the future.