Performing in public or in front of men presents conflicts with ‘respectability’ for women in many patriarchal cultures. In India, this has manifested in communities of professional female performers who lived outside of (typical) marriage: courtesans and devadasis. Another key category are boys and men who perform as women, many of whom are transgender, males who identify as females, and seek love and sex with males. This lecture explores these cultures of female and transgender public/erotic dance in India, and their transformation and exclusion under colonial and postcolonial modernity, where they are increasingly equated with and overlapping with commercial sex work.

Anna Morcom specializes in music and dance in India and Tibet from diverse perspectives that seek to understand the contemporary world. Her research focuses on phases of modernity ranging from nation building to globalization and neoliberalism, and spans issues of politics, gender, ideology and inequality as well as media and marketisation.

**Mittwoch, 15. Mai 2013**

**10-12 Uhr**

**Timotheuskirche, Center for World Music**

**Stiftung Universität Hildesheim**

(Timotheusplatz, 31141 Hildesheim)

Veranstaltet von

Prof. Dr. Johannes Ismaiel-Wendt (Institut für Musik und Musikwissenschaft)

Dr. Thomas Hilder (Center for World Music)