Collective memory and places: a specific induction for individual memory?

Lucrèce Heux – 2nd Year, Mémoire

M1 project supervised by:
* Dr Céline Souchay, DR CNRS at the Laboratoire de Psychologie et Neurocognition (LPNC)
* Lucrèce Heux, PhD student at the Université Grenoble Alpes (France) and Swansea University (Wales)

Students involved:
* Morgane Dalex
* Coralie Richard
Collective and Individual Memory

- Cognitive psychology and autobiographical memory (Tulving, 1985; Conway, 2000; Piolino, 2000)

An underestimation of the social influence and cultural environment?

- Collective memory: an ancient field in sociology (Halbwachs, 1994)
- Rediscovered in social and human sciences such as in psychology (Roediger, 2014; Hirst, 2018; Gensburger, 2016), but also in multidisciplinary program such as the November-13 project focusing on traumatic and historical memory (Peschanski, Eustache, 2016)
Main objectives & research questions

- **Main objective of my PhD:** assess the construction of collective memory and the interactions between individual and collective memory

**Is there any role of significant places as memorials on the may we remember an event?**

- Works on Context-Dependent Memory (Godden, Baddeley, 1975)
- **Main objective of this project:** understand the specificity of socially significant places, or *lieux de mémoire* (Nora, 1984), into supporting, or shaping, collective and individual memories
Episodic Specificity Induction (ESI)

- **ESI** *(Madore, Schacter, 2014; Madore et al, 2019)*: experimental approach made to enhance the use of episodic memory before performing different cognitive tasks

*How the specificity induction would confirmed the hypothesis of episodic memory playing an important role in a wide range of cognitive functions?*

- **Temporal and spatial inductions** *(Sheldon, 2019)*: experiments designed to emphasise different contexts to test the qualitative difference of remembered past and imagined future events produced; participants’ responses coded for the number of internal and external details *(Levine et al., 2002)*
Figure 1. A schematic of the design used in all three experiments.
Hypotheses

The induction lead to particular memory strategies: significant places as *lieux de mémoire* have an effect on the structure and themes of individual recollections.
Pre-testing

Main objective: select significant places to be recognised as lieu de mémoire and non-significant places

Questionnaire:
1. Familiarity
2. Visits
3. Significance
4. Emotional valence
Thank you for your attention!