ROBIN BLACKBURN is Professor of Sociology at the University of Essex and Visiting Professor at the New School in New York. Long associated with the New Left and independent projects, he is one of our period's most important scholars writing in the Marxist tradition, and one of the world's foremost historians of new world slavery. He has also written on labor politics, student politics, welfare, finance, and the future of sociology; his collective work includes co-authored work with Perry Anderson, Alexander Cockburn, and others. His recent work has had two major strands: a historical dimension focused on slavery, abolition, and colonialism, and an interdisciplinary dimension focusing on the financialization of the life-course and the economic challenges of an aging society. Underlying both is a concern for the ways in which property and the market shape social relationships and, conversely, how social-economic arrangements do—or could—constrain the market. The work on aging, pensions, and finance—particularly his politically charged and highly innovative work on pensions and their possible contribution to the building of a socialist project—has been acknowledged by many as opening up a new and important arena for transformative politics. His books, published by Verso, include The Overthrow of Colonial Slavery, 1776-1945 (1988), The Making of New World Slavery: From the Baroque to the Modern, 1492-1800 (1997), Banking on Death or Investing in Life: The History and Future of Pensions (2002), Age Shock: How Finance is Failing Us (2006), and The Essential Guide of New World Slavery, 1492-1867 (forthcoming 2007). Robin Blackburn's visit is an event in the year-long lecture/seminar series in the final year of the Rockefeller-funded Other Globalizations program at the Center for Cultural Studies.

COLLOQUIUM Wednesday, October 4 / 4 PM / Oakes Moral Room

The Haitian Revolution as an Episode in the History of Philosophy

This presentation in the Wednesday colloquium series (see page 2 for schedule) will explore how the great slave revolt in Saint Domingue in the 1790s led to the formulation of a far more radical rejection of racial slavery than had appeared in abolitionist thinking up to this point. "The success of Napoleon's attempt to restore slavery," Blackburn writes, "had large implications for the whole Atlantic world."
Adi Ophir is Associate Professor at the Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas at Tel Aviv University, and research fellow at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute and the Shalom Hartman Institute for Jewish Studies. An activist and a scholar, his research centers on modern and contemporary continental philosophy in the domains of ethics, political philosophy, and critical theory. His books include Working for the Present (Avodah Havove, Hakibbuts Hamotechn 2001) and, with Ariella Azoulay, Terrible Days (Yamim Raim, Reising 2002). In 2006, Zone Books of MIT Press published Ophir’s The Order of Evils, an English translation of a Hebrew original published in 2000. This erudite, rich, and experimentally structured philosophical text asks fundamental questions about moral judgment in the age of Heidegger and poststructuralist philosophy. Shaped by reflections on the Holocaust and on Israel’s occupation of Palestinian territory, Adi Ophir offers new perspectives on evil, emphasizing its existential and political character, and suggests new grounds for moral being in the present age. About his current work, he writes:

I am currently engaged in research on “states of disaster.” The contemporary state is the main institution capable of and responsible for protecting the people it governs against disasters—natural and man-made alike. At the same time, the state is capable of creating conditions and implementing policies that turn out to be catastrophic for its own subjects as well as for the subjects of other states. Today, “the providential state” and “the catastrophic state” seem as but two aspects of what Carl Schmitt called “the total state” and its opposites. In my research I am trying to reconstruct the genealogy, the theological and metaphysical presuppositions, and the modern operad of each of these two “state formations,” questioning the erroneous wisdom that sees them as two sides of a single dialectical process in which progress and destruction are inevitably linked. This research is inspired by a long-term interest in my opposition to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, which lately, in response to the outbreak of the second Intifada, has turned catastrophic for the Palestinian non-citizens of Israel. My talk will be based on a joint work with Ariella Azoulay in which we study the modern operad of the Israeli occupying power.

Antonis is Assistant Professor in the Department of English Studies at the University of Cyprus. His recent research has focused on the cultural production of space, with a singular emphasis on utopian spaces. His publications in this area include essays in the journals Grammata (2001), Utopias Studies (2004), and Cultural Critique (2000), and in edited volumes, including Exploring the Utopian Impulse: Essays on the Terrain of Utopian Thought and Practice (forthcoming, Peter Lang 2007) and Futurescapes: Space in Utopian and Science Fiction (forthcoming, Rodopi 2008). He is currently working on two book-length studies: a monograph, Groundless Dominions: Utopia, Science Fiction and the Cultural Politics of U.S. Expanisnism, and a collection of his essays, Figures of Utopia. Literature, Politics, Philosophy. The talk is a working version of the last chapter of this collection. It argues that Derridean hauntology is a useful tool for comprehending the stakes in a certain strain of utopianism, and that utopianism provides a useful contextualization for a certain strain of deconstructive politics. The talk holds that a thought that attends to the areas of productive tension between Marxism, utopia, and deconstruction is vital to the maintenance of a political relation to the future—the preservation of utopianism after the end of utopia.

Yue-Dong is an Associate Professor of History and International Studies at the University of Washington, and author of Republics Beijing: The City and its Histories, 1911-1927 (California, 2000). Professor Dong’s current research includes a monograph entitled Stories from the Wilderness: Unofficial Histories of the Qing. Her talk grows out of her work with the “Modern Girl Around the World” research group at the University of Washington, which has a forthcoming co-edited volume by that name, including an essay by Professor Dong entitled “The Chinese Modern Girl: Spectacle and Caricature.” The group’s project “analyzes the emergence of the Modern Girl, a figure who appeared around the world in cities from Tokyo to Berlin, Beijing to Bombay, Johannesburg to New York City in the early to mid-twentieth century. Modern Girls were known by a variety of names including flappers, gungyoon, sweeps, modern xiaojie, schoolgirls, vamps, and new-Frenes. By wearing provocative fashions and pursuing romantic love, Modern Girls appeared to disregard the roles of dutiful wife, daughter, and mother.”
Notes on Speakers

Sarah Jain is Assistant Professor in the Department of Cultural Anthropology at Stanford University, and has recently published Injury: The Psychology of Killers and Victims of Violence. The Politics of Automobility, is forthcoming from Yale University Press in 2007. Her work focuses on the ways in which Americans are constituted in relation to, and then invited into, cultures of disease and risk. Jain’s talk, based on more than a year of ethnographic research, will examine how race is made of time and statistics in cancer diagnosis.

Donna Jones is Assistant Professor of English at UC Berkeley. Her talk is drawn from her book project, “The Promise of Euro-American Pessimism in the Era of the Great War.” She writes, “Europe produced a sliver of paradisiacal visions of a global cultural anthropology at UC Santa Cruz, and he is the author of Right Unseen: Whiteness and American Visual Culture (California, 2000) and, Most. Theon Temaski and the Construction of Global Ache Balance (Calishia, 2000). He has examined a photographic essay published in Life magazine in May of 1963 developed in the United States, in Pirmady in Dublin, examining that the consistency with which European Visual culture captured true white on black violence helped establish a violent non-violent black aesthetic of the test of white morality. By reducing historically specific strategies over segregated policies, voting rights, and the impossibility of white-on-black violence, Life decontextualized the struggle, erected paralell to constructions of word of the reality, than rather than touch through words of constructive by structural inequalities.

Resident Scholars

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Daniel Lafont received his Ph.D. in Literature from the University of Quebec in Montréal in 2006. His project at the Center is entitled “The Extra Urban Problem in Contemporary North American Literature: Literariness Subjectivities, Identity and the Experience of Remote Place at the Time of Globalization.” It addresses the main components of “The Violence of the Politics of Automobility” is forthcoming from Duke in 2007. Her talk is drawn from her book project, “The Promise of Euro-American Pessimism in the Era of the Great War.” She writes, “Europe produced a sliver of paradisiacal visions of a global cultural anthropology at UC Santa Cruz, and he is the author of Right Unseen: Whiteness and American Visual Culture (California, 2000) and, Most. Theon Temaski and the Construction of Global Ache Balance (Calishia, 2000). He has examined a photographic essay published in Life magazine in May of 1963 developed in the United States, in Pirmady in Dublin, examining that the consistency with which European Visual culture captured true white on black violence helped establish a violent non-violent black aesthetic of the test of white morality. By reducing historically specific strategies over segregated policies, voting rights, and the impossibility of white-on-black violence, Life decontextualized the struggle, erected paralell to constructions of word of the reality, than rather than touch through words of constructive by structural inequalities.

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Entering The Academic Profession: A Workshop for Advanced Graduate Students in the Humanities

ANNE MACLAGLAN
Center for Studies in Higher Education, UC Berkeley
Saturday, October 14 1:40-4:00 PM (lunch provided) / Crown Conference Room
This workshop prepares the graduate student to become an effective professional academic by providing the hands-on, practical information necessary for getting and keeping an academic job. It covers everything a student should know about the academic job search process, from the initial application through the final on-campus interview and negotiating. It also provides information on employment patterns in humanities fields and the structure and organization of American higher education.

To register, email Stephanie Casher (scaher@ucsc.edu) by October 4.
Sponsored by the Institute for Humanities Research.

MICHAEL NEILL
“The little dogs and all”: Ceremony, Nakedness, Shame, and the Deconstruction of Kingship in King Lear

Michael Neill is Professor of English Literature at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He specializes in Shakespeare, 16th- and 17th-century drama, literature of early modern national and imperialism, and post-colonial and Irish literature. He is the author of “Servile Ministers”: Othello, King Lear and the Stabilization of Service (British Columbia/Ronsdale, 2004), Puttting History to the Question: Power, Politics, and Society in English Renaissance Drama (Cambridge, 2000), and Issues of Death. Mortality and Identity in English Renaissance Tragedy (Clarendon, 1997), and has edited various editions of plays by Shakespeare and his contemporaries. He is editor of John Ford: Critical Revisions (Cambridge, 1986), as well as editions of Othello, Antony and Cleopatra, and selected plays by John Marston. He is currently assembling a collection of essays on the work of the Nobel-prize-winning novelist, J.M. Coetzee.

Sponsored by the Pre- and Early Modern Studies (PMS) Research Unit of the IHR.

2007-08 Resident Scholars Program

The Center for Cultural Studies invites applications from scholars who wish to be in residence at UCSC during the 2007-2008 academic year in order to pursue cultural studies research. The Center offers University affiliation, library access, an office with computer, and a cresidential interdisciplinary environment; regrettably, we cannot provide salary replacement or a stipend. Affiliations without offices are also available. Scholars must be in residence at UCSC during the 2007-2008 academic year or be held for shorter periods.

Deadline: March 9, 2007

Additional information and application instructions can be found at:
http://humanities.ucsc.edu/CultStudies/PROGRAM/RSCHOL/residence.html