Colloquium Series

The Center for Cultural Studies hosts a Wednesday colloquium series featuring work by faculty and visitors. The sessions consist of a 30-40 minute presentation followed by discussion. We gather at noon, with presentations beginning at 12:15 PM. Participants are encouraged to bring lunch; the Center provides coffee, tea, and cookies.

JANUARY 12

**VILASHINI COOPPAN**
Associate Professor of Literature, UCSC

Disciplining World Literature: History, Memory, and the Work of Worlding

Professor Cooppan’s in-progress *Race, Writing, and the Literary World System* combines the economic analysis of world systems theory, world literature models of global literary movement, traditional theory and history of the novel, and psychoanalytic and philosophical studies of political affect. It explores how literary economies have helped to express, translate, shape, and contest the history of modern racial power, from slavery and empire to apartheid and the war on terror.

JANUARY 19

**HEATHER LOVE**
Associate Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania

The Stigma Archive


JANUARY 26

**MEGAN C. THOMAS**
Associate Professor of Politics, UCSC

Secrecy’s Use: Education, Enlightenment, and Propaganda

Using Mikhail Bakunin’s theorization of authority as a starting point, this talk explores secrecy as a strategy for political enlightenment, and calls attention to earlier conceptions of “propaganda” as education that were lost with the militarization of the term in the twentieth century.

FEBRUARY 2

**PRANAV ANAND**
Assistant Professor of Linguistics, UCSC

Detecting Persuasion and Argument Cross-Culturally

This talk reports on work that detects the kind of rhetorical structures a person uses when attempting to persuade an audience to believe or act in a certain manner. Professor Anand discusses the collection and annotation of 3000 English and 500 Arabic blogs for a variety of rhetorical structures implicated in persuasion by communication theorists and a computational system that tries to learn from these annotations.

FEBRUARY 9

**DORIAN BELL**
Assistant Professor of Literature, UCSC

A “Paradise of Parasites”: Hannah Arendt, Anti-Semitism, and the Imperial Imagination

Professor Bell’s in-progress *Frontiers of Hate: Anti-Semitism and Empire in Nineteenth-Century France* explores articulations between anti-Semitism and imperialism that shaped the emergence of European racial thought. Arguing that colonial expansion helped French anti-Semitism adopt its modern racializing guise, the book also examines how anti-Semitism participated in the ideological elaboration of the imperial project.

FEBRUARY 16

**GILDAS HAMEL**
SOE Lecturer in History, UCSC

Monotheism and Empire II

Doctor Hamel is working on a history of labor and religious representations in Hellenistic and Roman Palestine and has become interested in the history of the notion of monotheism. He is studying recent histories of monolatry and monotheism and accounts of political mediations.

FEBRUARY 23

**SANDRA KOELLE**
Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities, Stanford University

Intimate Bureaucracies: Roadkill, Policy, and Fieldwork in the Shoulder

Doctor Koelle researches how to develop data visualizations that represent spatial experience as subjective and relational rather than as defined through place. The goal is to map animal and human movements and constraints across the American West at different scales to facilitate an affective and aesthetic experience and provide a way to think about the politics of movement and immobility, from habitat destruction to transit budget cuts.

MARCH 2

**MARIA FRANGOS**
Visiting Assistant Professor of Literature, UCSC

Queer Morphologies

Professor Frangos’s “Queer Morphologies” explores metamorphosis and non-human embodiment in literature from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance as sites of queer possibility and potentiality. The project asks how human/animal metamorphoses surface and resurface to produce and negotiate nonnormative configurations of sexuality, gender, and kinship.

MARCH 9

**MARCIA OCHOA**
Assistant Professor of Community Studies, UCSC

“La moda nace en Paris y muere en Caracas”: Fashion, Beauty and Consumption on the (Trans) National

Professor Ochoa works at the conjunction of the ethnography of media, modernity in Latin America, and queer/transgender studies. *Queen for a Day: Transformistas, Misses and Mass Media in Venezuela* (Duke, forthcoming) is a queer diasporic ethnography of femininity, spectacle, and nation in Venezuela.

All CCS events are free and open to the public. Staff assistance is provided by the Institute for Humanities Research.
Ghosh argues for a theory of the icon attentive to the story than what is offered by the iconophobia. This suggests that there is more to the story than what is offered by the iconophobic critique. Looking at Mother Teresa’s saint as a popular saint in Kolkata, Professor Ghosh argues for a theory of the icon attentive to the commodity’s sudden volatilization into a magical technology of the popular.

The Queer Theory Research Cluster of the IHR presents:

**Paul Festa**

with Gianni Staiano

*Santa Cruz Hammond Organ Trio 7 Come 11*

Film Screening with Live Pipe Organ & Violin Accompaniment

**APPARITION OF THE ETERNAL CHURCH & THE GLITTER EMERGENCY**

Thursday, January 13 / 7PM

First Congregational Church / 900 High Street

Paul Festa presents his award-winning films "Apparition of the Eternal Church and The Glitter Emergency." Apparition captures the confrontation between the music of Olivier Messiaen and thirty-one commentators, including literary critic Harold Bloom, filmmaker John Cameron Mitchell, Pulitzer-nominated playwright Eisa Davis, Tony-nominated drag artist Justin Bond, and the late harpsichord master Albert Fuller. The Glitter Emergency is a screwball-comedy homage to silent film, a mash-up of drag and ballet, and a reinvention of the music video genre for Tchaikovsky’s violin concerto.

For more information, contact Logan Walker at lwalker@ucsc.edu.

Co-sponsored by the Center for Cultural Studies, History of Art and Visual Culture, History of Consciousness, and Anthropology.

Professor Ghosh is the author of *When Borne Across: Literary Cosmopolitics in the Contemporary Indian Novel* (Rutgers, 2004), and the co-edited *Interventions* (Garland, 1997).

For more information, contact Anjali Arondekar, aarondek@ucsc.edu.

Co-sponsored by Film and Digital Media, Literature, History of Art and Visual Culture, and Anthropology.

The Department of Feminist Studies presents:

**Bishnupriya Ghosh**

Professor of English, UCSB

**THE "SAINT OF THE GUTTERS": MOTHER TERESA AS CORPOREAL APERTURE**

Wednesday, January 12 / 4:30 - 6:30PM / Humanities I, 210

One critique of Mother Teresa reads her image as a compromised mass commodity. While it is certainly the case that global icons lure consumers into commodity fetishism, recursive images such as hers are routinely deployed in challenges to hegemonic institutions all over the world. Familiar icons surface in negotiations over global modernity, often making the news when they instigate outbreaks of iconophobia or iconomania. This suggests that there is more to the story than what is offered by the iconoclastic critique. Looking at Mother Teresa’s saint as a popular saint in Kolkata, Professor Ghosh argues for a theory of the icon attentive to the commodity’s sudden volatilization into a magical technology of the popular.

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