

Stories We Tell: Forceful Discourses and the Veracity of Narrative(s)

Fourth Annual Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Student Conference

Presented by the Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate
Group and the Center for the Humanities

University of California, Merced

Merced, California

April 22nd 2017

Keynote Speakers: Keisha-Khan Y. Perry (Brown University)
and Judith Butler (UC Berkeley)

8:00-8:30AM (COB #116): Registration and Breakfast

8:30AM (COB #116): Opening Remarks by

Dean Jill Robbins (Social Science, Humanities, and Arts)

Keynote Speech: 9:00am-10:15am COB #116

Dr. Keisha-Khan Y. Perry

“Decolonizing Episteme:

The Black Diaspora Feminist Project in the Americas”

Dr. Keisha-Khan Y. Perry is currently an Associate Professor of Africana Studies at Brown University and a visiting Fellow in the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University. Her research focuses on race, gender, and social movements in the Americas, urban geography and questions of citizenship, black women’s intellectual history, and the interrelationship between scholarship, pedagogy, and political engagement. Winner of the National Women's Studies Association 2014 Gloria E. Anzaldúa Book Award, her first book *Black Women against the Land Grab: The Fight for Racial Justice in Brazil* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013) is an ethnographic study of black women’s activism in Brazilian cities, specifically an examination of black women’s participation and leadership in neighborhood movements for land and housing rights in the northeastern Brazilian city of Salvador. She is currently writing her second book, *Anthropology for Liberation: Research, Writing and Teaching for Social Justice*.

Session 1: 10:30-11:30am

Panel 1: Vulnerable Populations: Redefining What We Are To Believe (COB2 #262)

Moderator: Jasmine Marshall-Armstrong

1. Ina Batzke, University of Münster, Germany: “Aliens vs. DREAMers: Contemporary Renegotiations of Undocumented Migrants in the United States”
2. Sigal Yona, Tel Aviv University, Israel: “The Hidden Face of Our Identity: Following Elia Suleiman’s *Chronicle of a Disappearance*”
3. Hannah Maulden, University of California, Merced: “Who lives? Who dies? Who tells your story?: Redefining America Through the Deconstruction and Reconstruction of Historical Narrative in the Broadway Musical *Hamilton*”

Panel 2: Stories Told: Challenging the Veracity of Hegemonic Interpretations (COB2 #263)

Moderator: Kim McMillon

1. Mallory DeGregori, California State University, Stanislaus: “Cunt Not Rabbit: A Rereading of Robert Jordan and Maria’s Affair in *For Whom The Bell Tolls*”
2. Anahita Safarzadeh, California State University, Northridge: “The Framing of the Screw: Intersectional Interpretations of Hemingway’s *Lady Brett Ashley*”
3. Debbie Cifuentes Ramirez, The University of Texas at Austin: “You Can’t Always Take Secrets to the Grave: Exploring Hauntings Through Return Migrations in *Family Resemblance*”

Panel 3: Figuring History: Language, Narrative, Embodiment, and Their Limits (COB2 #264)

Moderator: Dr. Sholeh Quinn

1. Angie C. Bonilla, University of California, Santa Cruz: "Semiotics, Narrative, and Constructs of Brown Criminology in Contemporary Latinx and U.S. Media Culture"
2. Stephanie Luna Padilla, University of California, Santa Cruz: "Maya Women Take the Stage: Performance, the Body, and the Renegotiation of the Human in Petrona de la Cruz's *Inferno y esperanza*"
3. Gabriela Ramirez-Chavez, University of California, Santa Cruz: "Archiving Absence: A Poetic Family History of Disappearance in Wartime Guatemala"

Panel 4: Los discursos la violencia contra la mujer en tres ambitos: Ya no hay silencio (Espanol) (COB2 #265)

Moderator: Danielle Bermudez

1. Violet Barton, University of California, Merced: "Historias Ocultas: refugiados surgiendo de los Mares"
2. Danielle Bermudez, University of California, Merced: "Las Historias que contamos: Presencia y Vida Indigena en La Ruta de las Flores"
3. Leda Carolina Lozier, University of Georgia: "Narrativas sobre género y violencia en el Triángulo Norte de Centroamérica: Honduras, El Salvador y Guatemala"

Panel 5: Self: Narratives of Mortality, and Illness (COB2 #266)

Moderator: Sage Perdue

1. Eli Erlick, University of California, Santa Cruz: "Narratives of Mortality: The Interpellation of Death into Transgender Bodies"
2. Zachary Price, Cornell University: "Inside Voices: When Illness Becomes Narrative"

Lunch: 11:40am-12:30pm

Please join us in COB1 #116 for lunch.

Session 2: 12:40pm-1:40pm

Panel 6: Community, Colonialism, and Gender (COB2 #262)

Moderator: Trevor Jackson

1. Ricardo Friaiz, University of Oregon: "On Populism and the Person"
2. Amanda Heinrichs, Mills College: "To Undermine Her Hold on Life: Echoes of Imperialism in *A Passage to India*"
3. Jamiee Cook, University of California, Santa Barbara: "Queer Protestation, Queer Exclusion"

Panel 7: Contemporary Discourse(s): Digitized, Identity and Rhetoric of (dis)content (COB2 #263)

Moderator: Scott Nicolay

1. Jon Heggstad, Stony Brook University: “I Have Something to Tell You’: Emerging Gay Rhetoric Online”
2. Nikolas Lund, Independent Scholar: “*Mal d’Internet*: Emergent Cyber-Psychosis in Contemporary Media Culture”
3. Robert Moeller, University of California, Davis: “Spooky Matters: Skeletons, Absurdity and (Dis)embodied Digital Identity”

Panel 8: Indigenous Negotiations and Resistance: Claiming Stories, Identity, and Space (COB2 #264)

Moderator: Anna Gurevitz

1. Sean Sell, University of California, Davis: “Young Indigenous Chiapas Writers and Artists Claiming a Space”
2. Carmen Valdivia, University of California, Davis: “Female Indigenous Migrants: (Story)telling Knowledge in Urban Peru”
3. Anna Gurevitz, University of California, Merced: “The Ancestors and the Landscape: Negotiating and Resisting Identity in the Early Colonial Period of the South-Central Andes”

Panel 9: Sites of Narrative: Dark, Liminal, and the Remade (COB2 #265)

Moderator: Violet Barton

1. Shadab Tabatabaiean, University of California, Merced: “The Underlying Reason for the Cross-Cultural Correlation between the Dark Zones of Caves and Supernatural Phenomena”
2. Rocco Bowman, University of California, Merced: “Liminal Mosques, Liminal Muslim: The Origins of Mosque Architecture, Islamic Identity, and Contemporary Conflict in the Tarim Basin”
3. Dorie Dakin Perez, University of California, Merced: “If Nothing Ever Changes, Why Go Downtown?: Historical Narrative and the Remaking of An Urban Community”

Panel 10: Aesthetic Considerations: Understanding the Relationships of Art and Design in Telling Stories (COB2 #266)

Moderator: Amrit Deol

1. Jasmine Marshall Armstrong, University of California, Merced: “The Water is Wide: Masculinity in Design and Promotion of American Water Features in the Great Depression”
2. Christopher Caskey, University of California, Merced: “Broken Household Appliance National Forest: Nature, Technology and the Aesthetics of the Valley in the Music of Granddaddy”
3. Gwen Kuan-ying Kuo, University of California, Merced: “Female Curators in the Biennial Art World”

Session 3: 1:50-2:50pm

Panel 11: Thinking the Subject: Producing Discourse in Academia (COB2 #262)

Moderator: Dr. Anneeth Kaur Hundle

1. Sage Perdue, University of California, Merced: “Thinking the *Untthought*: Heidegger, Deleuze, and Teaching Remains”
2. Sara Santos, Stony Brook University: “World of Humans and World of Animal: The Rhetoric of Development and Border Subjectivity in Indra Sinha’s *Animal’s People*”
3. Joseph Mathias, University of Massachusetts, Boston: “What Good Will Writing Do: Structural Doubling and the Productive Function in *Ethan Frome*”

Panel 12: Activism and Intervention: Hegemony Disrupted (COB2 #263)

Moderator: Kate Shurik

1. Megan Cannella, University of Nevada, Reno: “Resistance Narratives of Bad Bitches: Female Authored Street Fiction and its Female Characters”
2. Monique McDade, University of Nevada, Reno: “A Mother’s Activism”
3. Sarah Papazoglakis, University of California, Santa Cruz: “‘Aide to the Disinherited’: Masculinity, Philanthropy, and U.S. Interventionism in Claribel Alegria’s *Ashes of Izalco*”

Panel 13: La búsqueda de la gente indígena en leyendas antiguas, literatura del siglo XX y la educación actual (Español) (COB2 #264)

Moderator: Dr. Ignacio López-Calvo

1. Mabel Bowser, University of California, Merced: “*The Legend of the Yurupary*: The End of Matriarchy in the Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian-Brazilian Amazon”
2. Lorraine Ramos, University of California, Merced: “The Sociolinguistic Profiles of Advanced Spanish Heritage Language Students: a search for multi-culturalism-A linguistic landscape”

Panel 14: Other Narrative(s): Interrogating Methodologies and the Stories We Tell—Then/After (COB2 #266)

Moderator: Dr. Derek S. Merrill

1. Marcus Shaw and Dr. Tanya Golash-Boza, University of California, Merced: “The Collateral Consequences of Mass Deportation”
2. Marilee Shaw, University of California Merced: “*Antigone*(Again): Suspicious Readings, Diffractive Methodologies and MWI Theory--*Literary Perspectives*”
3. Trevor Jackson, University of California, Merced: “Whole Lives: Working and Virile Maturity in the Novels of Toni Morrison”

Reception 3:00pm-3:30pm

Please join us in COB2 #110

Keynote Speech: 4:00pm-5:15pm COB2 #110

Dr. Judith Butler

“Bodies That Still Matter”

Judith Butler is Maxine Elliot Professor in the Department of Comparative Literature and the Program of Critical Theory at the University of California, Berkeley. She received her Ph.D. in Philosophy from Yale University in 1984. She is the author of several books, including *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (1990), *Bodies That Matter: On the Discursive Limits of “Sex”* (1993), *The Psychic Life of Power: Theories of Subjection* (1997), *Excitable Speech* (1997), *Antigone’s Claim: Kinship Between Life and Death* (2000), *Precarious Life: Powers of Violence and Mourning* (2004); *Frames of War: When Is Life Grievable?*(2009), *Parting Ways: Jewishness and the Critique of Zionism* (2012), *Dispossession: The Performative in the Political* co-authored with Athena Athanasiou (2013), *Notes Toward a Performative Theory of Assembly* (2015), *Vulnerability in Resistance* (2016). Her books have been translated into more than twenty languages. She presently has a Mellon Foundation Grant to establish an International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs. She has served on the Executive Council of the Modern Languages Association and chaired its committee on Academic Freedom. Butler is active in several human rights organizations, serving on the board of the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York and the advisory board of Jewish Voice for Peace. She was the recipient of the Andrew Mellon Award for Distinguished Academic Achievement in the Humanities (2009-13).

Acknowledgements

Conference Co-Chairs

Marilee Shaw
Trevor Jackson

Committee Members

Anna Gurevitz
Neama Alamri
Shaina Molano
Karen Deeming
Lorraine Ramos

Co-Sponsors

The Center for the Humanities &
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Dr. Jan Goggans
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Jennifer Biancucci and Amy Lozano-Smith

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Dr. Anneeth Kaur Hundle
Dr. Ignacio López Calvo
Dr. Sholeh Quinn
Dr. Derek S. Merrill

Maps



Classroom and Office Building 2
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