

2nd Annual Gender, Sexuality
and Queer Theory
Symposium

Presented by the GSQT
Committee, Graduate Student
Affairs, and the Center for the
Humanities

University of California,
Merced

March 18th, 2017

8:00-8:30AM (COB2 #110): Registration and Breakfast

8:30AM (COB2 #110): Opening Remarks: Dean Jill Robbins (Social Science, Humanities, and Arts)

Keynote Speech: Dr. Stephanie Arel
(9:00am-10:15am COB2 #110)

The Trauma of the Queered Child: Broken and Banished Bodies Looking for Home

Dr. Stephanie Arel is currently a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Institute for the Bio-Cultural Study of Religion (IBCSR) at Boston University where she works on the Sex Differences in Religion Project which recently hosted an international conference entitled “Sex on the Margins: Navigating Religious, Social, and Natural Scientific Models of Sex Differences.” Her teaching and research interests focus on the intersection of theology, psychoanalysis, and feminist and continental philosophy. She has taught at Wheaton College and the University of Roehampton, London. She is the author of *Affect Theory, Shame and Christian Formation* (Palgrave Macmillan 2016) and co-editor of *Post-Traumatic Public Theology* (Palgrave Macmillan 2016). Her research aims to uncover religious underpinnings in modern systems illustrating how religious rhetoric and practice shape individual bodies, cultural norms, and political structures.

Session 1: 10:35-11:35am

Panel 1: Beyond Spectacle: Aesthetics, Acoustics and Activism (COB2 #130)

Moderator: Amrit Deol

1. Gwen Kuan-ying Kuo, University of California, Merced: “Digital Deity: Female Aesthetic in Contemporary East Asia”
2. Nathaniel Schwass, University of California, Merced: “The Changing Borders of Hip-Hop: Subversive Sexualities and Word-Play within Southern Rap Music”
3. Felicia Asbury, San Francisco State University: “Re-orienting Neoliberalism: #BlacklivesMatter Within and Beyond the Neoliberal Spectacle”

Panel 2: Activism From Where?: Discrimination, Disidentification and Contradiction (COB #140)

Moderator: Jamin Shih

1. Justin Perez, University of California, Irvine: “Queering the Other Path: Discrimination Grievances in the Peruvian Amazon”
2. Krysti Ryan, University of California Davis: “The Role of Material Activism in Advancing Trans-Affirming Gender Ideology: Towards a New Normal? Connecticut College Critical Transnational Queer Praxis and the Disidentifications of Scholar Activists in Academia”

3. Aleksandr Chandra, and Dr. Andrea Natasha Baldwin, Connecticut College, "Critical Transnational Queer Praxis and the Disidentification of Scholar Activists in Academia"
4. Savannah J. Kilner, University of California Los Angeles: "Count the Contradictions: Queer Space and Displacement in the U.S. Colonial Present"

Panel 3: Bodily Disruptions: Creating Other Versions of the World Through Fiction (COB2 #170)

Moderator: Carolina Molina

1. Nancy Sanchez, University of California, Merced: "Undoing Dominance: Depicting the Intersections of Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room*"
2. Ashley Kimura, San Francisco State University: "Queer(ed) Bodies Renegotiating Canonization"
3. Marilee Shaw, University of California Merced: "Queer Solipsism: (Un)Spoken between here and *there* in Lesbian Fiction and Poetry"

Lunch: 11:40am-12:30pm

Please join us in **COB2 #110** for lunch.

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

Panel 4: (Re)producing Stereotype and Stigma: The Effects of Policing Bodies and Identities (COB2 #140)

Moderator: Ashley Metzger

1. Vanessa Kauffman, University of California, Irvine: "Contested Bodies and the Double Bind: The Reproduction of Sexualized Femininity in Professional Women's Surfing"
2. Tyler M. Argüello, California State University Sacramento: "HIV Stress Exchange: Intergenerational Transmission of HIV Traumatic Stress Amongst Queer Men"
3. Trevor Jackson, University of California Merced: "Fluid Bodies, Vulnerable Currency: Modernity's Value Inversion"

Panel 5: Contemporary Cultural Studies and Cyber-Culture of Queer (COB #130)

Moderator: Arturo Durazo

1. Steven Ruszczycky, CalPoly, San Luis Obispo: "Hooked: The Porn Addicts and the Queer Boys"
2. Bárbara Navaza, University of California Riverside: "'Poz': HIV Indexicality in Dating Apps for Gay Men"
3. Jamin Shih, University of California, Merced: "White Skin White Mecs: Colonial Gendered and Racialized Positionalities of White Men in Queer Interracial Pornography"

Reception 2:00pm-2:30pm

Please join us in **COB2 #110**

Keynote Speech: Professor Eden Wales-Freedman (2:30pm COB2 #110)

“A Free Radical”: Eve Sedgwick’s Queer Witness in *A Dialogue on Love*

Dr. Eden Wales Freedman is an Assistant Professor of English and Diversity Studies at Mount Mercy University and an Affiliate Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies at the University of New Hampshire. Her scholarship places theories of traumatic reception in conversation with multicultural American literature to consider intersections of race, gender, sexuality, trauma, and oppression and how speakers and readers can cross diverse constructs and experiences to witness trauma together. Dr. Wales-Freedman has published articles on race, gender, sexuality and trauma in the novels of William Faulkner, Zora Neale Hurston and Toni Morrison; the poetry of Gwendolyn Brooks; and the memoir of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick. Her book project, *Reading Testimony, Witnessing Trauma*, explores how readers can engage literary representations of race, gender, sexuality, and trauma both critically and empathically. In addition to her work at MMU, Dr. Wales-Freedman has taught American Literature and Gender and Sexuality Studies at Adams State University and the University of New Hampshire. She has led seminars in bystander awareness and accountability to combat sexual assault and harassment on college and university campuses. She is a Title IX Investigator and Adjudicator and served as the President of Women in Higher Education at Adams State. She is the Director of Diversity Studies at MMU.

Acknowledgements

Conference Co-Chairs

Marilee Shaw
Trevor Jackson
Anna Gurevitz

Committee Members

Faculty Supervisors

Dr. Jan Goggans (Lead Supervisor)
Dr. Nigel Hatton
Dr. Katie Brokaw

Graduate Students

Ashely Metzger
Carolina Molina
Jamin Shih
Amrit Deol
Shaina Molano
Scott Nicolay
Arturo Durazo

Co-Sponsors

The Center for Humanities
Graduate Student Affairs

Special Thanks

Dr. Eden Wales-Freedman and Dr. Stephanie Arel
Dr. Jill Robbins and Dr. Arturo Arias
Christina Lux and Austyn Smith
Jennifer Biancucci and Amy Lozano-Smith

Map



Classroom and Office Building 2
First Floor

INSERT FRONT PAGE HERE

Contact/Follow Us:

Email: Gendersexualityqueertheory.ucm@gmail.com

Facebook: @GenderStudiesandQueerTheory.ucm

Website: queerinterventions.ucmerced.edu

Twitter: @Queer_UCM

Instagram: @Queer_UCM

**LIVE TWEET THIS EVENT:
#GSQT2017**