

critiquing culture conference

september 26, 2015

9:30-10:00

REGISTRATION & COFFEE

ALL DAY

Photographic Exhibition on "Mass Culture" by Master's Students at American University

10:00-11:15

PLENARY PANEL ON METHODOLOGY IN CULTURAL STUDIES

Moderator: TBA

FEATURING THE FOLLOWING GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS:

Johanna K. Bockman, Department of Sociology

Tim Gibson, Department of Communication

Jessica Scarlata, Department of English (Film and Media Studies)

11:25-12:40

SESSION 1

PANEL A: The Politics of Space

Moderator: TBA

1. Amanda K. Figueroa, George Washington University – “Ni Una Mas: Art, Identity, and Unimpeded Violence at the El Paso-Ciudad Juarez Border”
2. Mario Sánchez Gumiel, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee - “We are not Young Adventurers, We are Emigrants”: The Issue of Post-Bubble Spain’s Emigration in Icíar Bollaín’s *En tierra extraña* (aka *In a Foreign Land*, 2014)”
3. Lindsey Macdonald, George Mason University – “Where Players Create and Creators Play”: Project Spark and the Aesthetics of Playbor”
4. Paula Talero Alvarez, Virginia Commonwealth University - “The creation of meaning in the films by Bernardo Bertolucci: An analysis of symbolic spaces,”

PANEL B: Gender and Sexuality in Media

Moderator: Austin Gallas

1. David Corwin, George Mason University - “Slowly Working Toward Masculinity: Disability, Masculinity, and Heteronormativity in J. M. Coetzee’s *Slow Man*”
2. Christina Kappel, George Mason University –

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3. Patrick M. Johnson, University of Colorado Boulder - "Queering Television: Heterotopias and Portrayals of the LGBTQ Community in the Show Transparent"
4. Andrew Jones, George Mason University - "Since when does Jules act like a celebutard?: Queer spectatorship and meta-horror films,"

12:40-1:25

LUNCH

1:25-2:40

SESSION 2

PANEL A: Theory and Praxis of Critique

Moderator: Amy Zhang

1. Michael Becker, New School for Social Research - "On Immanent Criticism and Cultural Theory"
2. Matthew Brake, George Mason University - "Secular Reason and Religion in the Public Square"
3. Greg Conrow, George Mason University - "The Hard Problem: Disavowed Legacies of Cultural Studies"
4. Luis Lei, New School for Social Research - "Philosophy as Cultural Object: Description and the Later Wittgenstein"

PANEL B: Production of Identity in Media

Moderator: Zach Marshall

1. Justin R. Greene, Virginia Commonwealth University - "The Return of the Hottentot: Kim Kardashian's Delving into the Archive of Objectification"
2. Caroline Guthrie, George Mason University - "Identity, Power, and Resistance in Tarantino's History Films"
3. Osita Iroegbu, Virginia Commonwealth University - "Perpetuation of the Welfare Queen Stereotype: Collaboration Between Media and Political Rhetoric to Influence Public Perception"
4. Michael Means, Virginia Commonwealth University - "Hashtag #NativeAmerican: Representation and Performance of Native American Identity and Culture on Instagram by Native and non-Native Users"

2:50-4:05

SESSION 3

PANEL A: Biopolitics/ Technology/ Management/ Data

Moderator: TBA

1. Sarah Clairmont, New School for Social Research - "A Philosopher's Father's Hybrid Body: Moral Reasoning and Transplant Ethics"
2. Austin Gallas, George Mason University - "Constructing Disorder in the Empire City: "Bulls," Cabs, and Sex During the Great War"

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3. Kimberly Klinger, George Mason University - "Morbopolitics: The management of the lives of the desperately ill"
4. Neal Swisher, Virginia Commonwealth University - "Self-Help in Silicon Valley: A Critique of Corporate Power and the Quantified Self"

PANEL B: Cultural Text and Society

Moderator: TBA

1. Adam Mitchell, George Mason University - "Drugs and Deus Ex Machina: the Political Unconscious in American Narco-Drama"
2. Brent Smith-Casanueva, Stony Brook University - "Wormhole X-Treme! Televisual Mobility, Global Capitalism, and 1990s SFT"
3. Dave Zelgen, George Mason University - "Constructing a Civil Archive: The Practical Gaze in A Film Unfinished"
4. Michael B. Hock, George Mason University – "How the Other Half Lives, If You Can Call That Living"