CSG Lunch Series for the Presentation of New Work

CSGS Lunch Talks take place from 12:30 - 1:45 p.m. in Room 222, 19 University Place. Bring a bag lunch, beverages will be provided. Reservations are recommended. Suitable for graduate students and faculty. Please contact Berend Cidran at 212.992.9540, berend.cidran@nyu.edu.

Tuesday, January 27
INTERROGATING PLEASURE AND DESIRE IN INDIAN CINEMA
Marsy Tharayil (English, St. Alexius College, India, and CSGS Visiting Scholar)
Using photographic sequences, Tharayil will discuss the contexts in which Indian film, particularly the cinema of the postcolonial Indian cinema, is viewed and enjoyed. What are the problems in constructing participatory, to please in binary terms when considering the behavioral patterns and pleasurable intensities practiced in these regions, especially Kerala? When attempt to theorize queerness in the context of non-metropolitan India, what is the sense of desire and pleasure in these films?

Tuesday, March 7
BHAGIRATHI, SON OF TWO MOTHERS: Female-Female Sexual Union and Mirrored Power Relations in Premodern Indian Texts
Ruth Padel (Classics and Women's Studies, University of Montana)
Part of Vanita's ongoing work on premodern antecedents to the contemporary configurations in and around the West, this presentation examines exactly what Vanita terms as the "gendered dimension of a fourteen-century in eastern India. In an incantation Vanita argues, in this poem, two-wives have a diabolically blessed relationship and produce a hero child together.

Tuesday, March 30
LOOKING AT THE OTHER AT GET TO THE SELF: Byzantine Women in Arab Literature
Varda El Cheikh (American University in Beirut, CSGS International Visiting Scholar)
This paper looks within the Arabo-Muslim sources - extending from the eighth to the eleventh centuries - it presents and describes of Byzantine women. These "other" women were the object of the severe criticism by the Muslim authors. The examination of these works help identify the distinctio of Classical and Islamic world, which produced the images.

Tuesday, April 27
SAFE SPACE: Sexual Minorities, Urban Development, and the Politics of Violence
Christina Heinhardt (American Studies, NYU, and CSGS Joan R. Heiber Award winner)
Drawing on findings from her dissertation on the politics of "safety" in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities, Heinhardt will provide an overview of her research activities in New York and San Francisco from the 1980s to the present, and discuss how she considers the urban contexts of such movements and violence in the U.S. and further explore the implications of the quest for "safe space" in sexual minority community formation.

Co-sponsored by the American Studies Program, NYU.

CSGS International Visiting Scholar Series
Nadia Maria El Cheikh
Nadia El Cheikh (Department of History and Archaeology, and Director of the Center for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies, American University in Beirut) visits the CSGS under the auspices of the Visiting Professors for Global Affairs' International Visitors Program.

Tuesday, March 23, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Lecture: The Abdal-Ahmed Harem in Tenth- Century Baghdad
The narrative pertaining to the reign of the Caliph al-Mu'tasim billahi (908-932) offers a particularly rich image for an investigation of the Abdal Ahamed. During his reign the power struggles between the two factions in the court allowed his mother, Umar al-Mustadliq, along with a number of heroman women and the eunuchs, to exercise political power and influence. The lecture discusses the Abdal-Ahmed's gender, and the interpretation of the past. 19 University Place, Room 222.

See also International Visiting Scholar Series March 25 event.

CSGS Series: The Matter of Identities

Monday, February 7, 2 - 7 p.m.
The POLITICS OF BLING
The FDA's policy on blood collection prohibits gay men who have engaged in any homosexual activity since 1977 from donating blood. Is this medically justifiable or callous? This public discussion will bring together people involved in policy, activism, and research (legal, medical, sociological) in order to examine the politics surrounding blood donation and collection, both in the U.S. and internationally, with U.S. borders. Kimmel Center for University Life, 60 Washington Square South, Room 405-407. Co-sponsored by the Office of LGBT Student Services, American Studies Program, Queen Alexandria's Students' Society for Social Sciences.

Tuesday, February 7, 5:30 p.m.
PERFORMING ISRAELI IDENTITIES: Ethnic, and Ethnicity
A panel hosted by the Taub Center for Israel Studies and the Skirball Department for Jewish and Judaic Studies
Sexuality and its Discontents in Yossi Wallach's Erotic Poetry, Zafira Cohen (Smith College, NYU, author of 'Loose the Fadders of Veil, Woman," 1999)
"I am sorry to tell you... but..." On Writing, Desire and 2 Billion Hungry People, Robert Linkov (University of Haifa, author of the novels The One Facing Us (1988), and Eliezer Shcych (2003), co-sponsored by the Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), 365 Fifth Avenue, Room TBA Sponsored by the CUNY Center for Lesbian & Gay Studies (CLAGS), co-sponsored by the CSGS.

Thursday, April 15, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
6 YEARS AFTER THE NEA: Karen Finley, John Fleck, Holly Hughes, Tim Miller
For the first time, all of the respondents in Wallis and Lautrup’s study for the NEA will be in the same room to discuss how their reviews of Finley, Fleck, and Miller as part of an "anti-entertainment" event has affected their art practices and the arts in general. More information and "entertainment" will be at the CSGS-sponsored conference and festival, sponsored by the American Studies Program.