

CSER Newsletter

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

Volume 2 / May 2012



Photo by Eileen Barrosso

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Director's Letter

By Frances Negrón-Muntaner



It is that time of year again and the second edition of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race's newsletter is action-packed. Since last fall, the Center has participated in a wide range of exciting events, reached important new milestones, and broke a few records.

To start, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Professor José Moya for his dynamic leadership as CSER's Acting Director this past spring semester. Not only did the Center's programming benefit enormously from co-sponsoring Barnard's Forum on Migration but also, Professor Moya's efforts were essential in launching the Latino Speaker Series. We are thankful to Professor Moya for leading CSER and expanding our horizons; I could not have left the Center in more capable hands.

In addition, I am delighted to welcome Professor Karl Jacoby, who will join the CSER faculty this semester. An exciting scholar and teacher, Professor Jacoby is a joint appointment with the Department of History and specializes in both already strong and new areas for the Center, including Native American, environmental, and U.S.-Mexico borderlands history. In addition to the richness that Professor Jacoby's work brings, his appointment is historic in another sense: it raises the total number of core professors at CSER to eight for the first time in the Center's history.

I am also very happy to welcome Professor Melissa Milewski, who will become the first American Council of Learned Societies postdoctoral fellow to teach at CSER. Her primary field is nineteenth-century U.S. history, with concentrations

in slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the history of women and gender. This coming fall, Professor Milewski will be teaching "Race & the Law" as well as one of the Center's core courses, "Modes of Inquiry."

Moreover, we are quite thrilled with another first: the number of CSER majors and concentrators has now nearly tripled, from 20 in 2009 to 55 this past May. This increase makes the Center one of the fastest growing programs at the university and one of the largest interdisciplinary majors in Arts and Sciences. As we begin to conduct outreach this academic year, we anticipate that the program will continue growing at a clipped pace.

In the programming front, the Center was honored to be part of a series of groundbreaking events over the course of the year. Last October 6, we kicked off the first annual CSER Symposium with a compelling keynote by Professor Cathy Cohen on contemporary social movements. Then on October 21, CSER and the Center for Gender and Sexuality Law hosted Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. The result was an unforgettable event in which Justice Sotomayor held a series of conversations with faculty, students, and alumni on a wide range of topics, including her professional trajectory, judicial philosophy, and her impact in both the legal and the cultural realm.

A few weeks later on December 2, CSER co-hosted a major conference on the thought and impact of theorist Frantz Fanon on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. Speakers at the event included activist and daughter of Frantz Fanon Mireille Fanon Mendes; writer Maryse Conde; translator Richard Philcox; and scholars Muhsin Al-Musawi, Mamadou Diouf, Madeleine Dobie, Nelson Maldonado-Torres, Bashir Abu-Manneh, Reinhold Martin, and David Scott, among others. Capacity crowds attended all events.

The second edition of Indigenous Forum was also a complete success. Now a solidly

established platform for Native American and Indigenous discussion at the University and beyond, the Forum featured writer and essayist Mark Trahan, who spoke about American Indian self-determination in the face of government cutbacks; Professor Scott Richard Lyons from the University of Michigan, who also served as keynote speaker to the graduate conference on Indigenous spaces and debated Native modernity and the crisis of culture; and graphic artist Bunky Echo Hawk, who treated his audience to an impressive visual showcase of his work in the context of Native American history.

This coming semester there is much to look forward to, as the Center will launch two new initiatives related to Latino Studies. The first is the Latino Studies Speaker Series, a university-wide program intended to identify the most exciting work produced in the field. The series begins with a talk by political scientist Christina Beltrán from New York University. The second is the Latino Arts and Activism Archive, a collaboration with Columbia's Rare Book and Manuscripts Library, through which CSER will be involved in identifying the papers and records of Latinos and Latino organizations in New York that may be of enduring significance as research resources. The acquisition of the first papers, those of pioneering Nuyorican poet and first director of El Museo del Barrio Jack Agueros, will be widely announced beginning in September.

Furthermore, the Center will host the third edition of Indigenous Forum and the second round of CSER Symposium, which this year will focus on the presidential elections and the changing face of the electorate. Never to be missed, CSER's annual holiday party will take place on December 6, 2012.

We hope that the conversations continue into the next academic year.

See you at the Center.

Frances Negrón-Muntaner

Supreme Court Justice Sotomayer Visits CSER

Kaveh Landsverk



For many, it seemed like a dream come true. Last October 21, Justice Sonia Sotomayer visited the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race for a conversation with CSER students and the general public. In a small group session with 30 CSER and Columbia Law students, Justice Sotomayer took questions on subjects ranging from the biographical to specific contemporary social movements. Consistently emphasizing the importance of engagement, Justice Sotomayer noted that although her passions took her to law school, the juridical realm is not the only site in which young activists can work for change.

After over an hour of dialogue between Justice Sotomayer and the students, the venue shifted to accommodate a larger audience. Responding to questions posed by CSER director Frances Negrón-Muntaner and Suzanne Goldberg, director of the Center for Gender & Sexuality Law, Justice Sotomayer spoke about her decision to become a judge, her judging philosophy, and what she hopes her legacy will be. “I hope to be remembered

as a ‘people’s judge,’” Justice Sotomayer said to a capacity crowd at Columbia’s Law School, “someone who made the process more accessible to people.” Justice Sotomayer, who is the first Hispanic justice in the court’s history and only its third woman, also spoke at length about the role of social difference in the practice of judging. “I don’t think that it is just about having different kinds of people. You need to have people who think differently too. Remember that the nine judges who overturned *Brown v. Board of Education* were all white men.”

From recounting her adolescent passion for Nancy Drew novels to imagining her desired legacy, Justice Sotomayer provided the eager audience a glimpse into the formative moments at the heart of her juridical practice. It was an event that will not soon be forgotten by the many CSER students in attendance. “When I first discovered that Justice Sotomayer was coming to campus, I knew that I had to hear her speak,” recalls CSER student Amanda Matos, “And I am glad that I was able to. Listening to her talk, I gained immeasurable insight.”

TOP LEFT

Justice Sotomayer addresses faculty and students during her visit to Columbia in October 2011.

TOP RIGHT

Justice Sonia Sotomayer with CSER students

BOTTOM RIGHT

Justice Sonia Sotomayer with faculty and alumni

COVER PHOTO

Justice Sonia Sotomayer with Professor Rodolfo De La Garza, Eaton Professor of Administrative Law and Municipal Science and Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University.

Photos by Eileen Barosso

Salsa Legend Rubén Blades Surprises CSER

Ed Morales

One of the giants of salsa, Rubén Blades, joined the discussion in professor Ed Morales's "Latin Music and Hybrid Identity" seminar last October. Along with invited speaker Professor Chris Washburne from the Department of Music, Blades shared his invaluable insight into the creation of the music genre, as well as anecdotes about his life as a young man in New York in the 1970s. The focus of the class that week was the emergence of salsa in the city as a result of various social and economic factors, as well as the cooperation between ethnic groups who created a stripped-down version of the previously prevailing mambo and charanga orchestras.

Wearing eyeglasses and a baseball cap, Blades flowed easily between Washburne's slide presentation and the class's inquiries, offering a glimpse into the creative forces



and happy accidents at the root of salsa's formulation. He also expounded on his views of the business of making music in general, the politics of Latino identity formation, and the role of Latin American politics in the music. When the seminar time was up, he graciously stayed for quieter conversation and photographs with admiring students.

ABOVE

Rubén Blades engages Professor Morales' class in a discussion of the emergence of salsa in NYC. Photo by Maggie de la Cuesta

CSER Co-presents New York Film and Video Fest

Claudio Iván Remeseira, co-curator and founder of the Hispanic New York Film & Video Fest

A partnership between CSER, the Cervantes Institute, the Latin American Student Association-LASA, and the Mexican Cultural Institute of New York, the Sixth Edition of the Hispanic New York Film & Video Fest took place on October 12, 13, and 19. The opening was held at Instituto Cervantes and featured *Subterráneos*, a documentary by Gaspar Orozco and Karina Escamilla on Norteño music performers who make their living by playing on the subways of New York City. (The Mexican band "Fuerza Norteña" offered a live show after the screening.) The following sessions included the screening of Nancy Savoca's *Dirt*, a feature film about an

undocumented immigrant from El Salvador who works as a housemaid in the city; *Those Who Remain*, a powerful docudrama directed by Carlos Hagerman and Juan Carlos Rulfo; and *Remembering Mamoncillo*, Pam Sporn's short on a 30-year-long Cuban traditional celebration in Queens.

Our good friend and colleague, Jerry Carlson, producer of *Dirt*, and director Juan Carlos Rulfo engaged with the audience in lively Q&A sessions at Casa Hispánica. On closing night, our very own Frances Negrón-Muntaner, director of CSER and co-curator of the HNYFVE, had an in-depth conversation with director Pam Sporn, a great ending for a film and video series that has managed to establish itself as a serious reference in New York's Latino cinematic scene.

HISPANIC NEW YORK FILM & VIDEO FEST

6th Edition / 2011

October 12 (WED), 6pm

Subterráneos

Screening Location:
Instituto Cervantes
211 E. 49th St. (btwn 3rd and 4th), New York, NY

Director: Gaspar Orozco and Karina Escamilla (2010)

Q&A: Frances Negrón-Muntaner (Producer of *Mamoncillo*), Claudio Iván Remeseira, and Karina Escamilla

*Live performance by "Fuerza Norteña" after the screening. (With the support of The Mexican Cultural Institute of New York.)

October 13 (THU), 6pm

Dirt

Screening Location:
Casa Hispánica, Columbia University
612 W. 116th Street, New York, NY

Director: Nancy Savoca (2003)

Q&A Guest: Jerry Carlson and Nancy Savoca

October 19 (WED), 6pm

Recordando al Mamoncillo (Remembering Mamoncillo)

Screening Location:
Instituto Cervantes
211 E. 49th St. (btwn 3rd and 4th), New York, NY

Director: Frances Sporn (2006)

Q&A Guest: Frances Sporn

Also check out the special screening event of *El Espirito De La Salsa (The Spirit of Salsa)* at Instituto Cervantes, as part of the Hispanic New York Music and Film series. Director: Francisco Baldo and Tito Henning. (LA A Guest: Francisco Baldo.)

Professor Negrón-Muntaner Receives Lenfest Award

CSER Director, Prof. Negrón-Muntaner, was honored with one of the most prestigious awards conferred by the university—the Lenfest Award. The honor, established in 2005 by University trustee Gerry Lenfest (LAW’58) recognizes members of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences “of unusual merit across a range of professorial activities—including scholarship, University citizenship, and professional involvement—with a primary emphasis on the instruction and mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students.”

During the moving awards ceremony, undergraduate student Andrea Viejo introduced Professor Negrón-Muntaner, noting the qualities that make her an exceptional teacher: “She is the perfect fusion between academic research and analysis of contemporary music, literature and media,” she said. “Professor Negrón-Muntaner is able to reflect on concepts like race and ethnicity in contemporary media outlets, and makes us realize that these issues are not as foreign nor distant as we perceive them to be,” she added.

The award ceremony was held at the Italian Academy on March 1, 2012.



ABOVE
Director Frances Negrón-Muntaner receives Lenfest Award - Andrea Viejo and Professor Negrón-Muntaner at the Lenfest Award Ceremony. Photo by Maggie de la Cuesta

First CSER Symposium Focuses on Social Movements

On October 6, 2011, the Center inaugurated CSER Symposium, a new program that aims to create a space for discussion on a topic of interest to faculty and students. The first Symposium was “Theory and Practice of Contemporary Social Movements” and emphasized youth movements. Professor Cathy Cohen, (David and Mary Winton Green Professor of Political Science and Deputy Provost for Graduate Education at the University of Chicago) offered opening remarks. Prof. Cohen’s address was followed by a roundtable on specific social movements, including the upheavals in Egypt and the Dream Act in the United States. Panelists included Mehmet Dosemeci, Columbia University; Tania Mattos, New York



ABOVE
Cathy Cohen was keynote speaker at the CSER symposium.
Photo by Maggie de la Cuesta

State Youth Leadership Council; and Gabriella Coleman, New York University.

Record Number of Tibetan Scholars Gather at Columbia



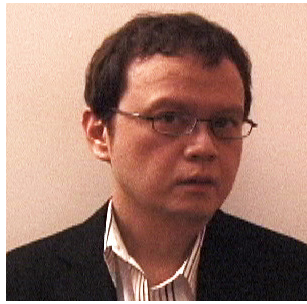
With the support of CSER, Professor Gray Tuttle co-organized “The Third International Tibetan Language Conference,” which raised around \$400,000 in funds. Co-sponsored by Trace Foundation, the conference brought more Tibetan scholars together (outside Asia) than any other event had ever done (51 Tibetans, 35 from China). The panels discussed everything from domains of use to historic linguistics; from Tibetan language computing, grammar, and dictionaries to publishing. New York City’s Public Advocate Bill de Blasio opened the event with a letter from the mayor and his own

wonderful remarks about the importance of maintaining one’s native language. This conference was also supported by the Italian institute of Tibetan studies, Shang Shung Institute, and hosted scholars from five countries and over thirty-four universities and institutes of higher studies. Given the great success of the conference, a planning committee to create an association that will hold the conference on a regular biennial basis into the future, has been assembled.

Faculty Updates



Professor **Claudio Lomnitz** spent the 2011–12 academic year as a Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin, writing a book about anarchism, transnational cooperation, and the Mexican revolution. This past year, he published *El Porfiriato y la Revolución en la historia de México: Una Conversación* (Editorial Era), co-authored with Friedrich Katz, and several scholarly articles, including: “Los orígenes de nuestra supuesta homogeneidad: breve arqueología de la unidad nacional en México” in *Prismas 14* and *Debates en la antropología contemporánea* (edited by Alejandro Grimso). His prologue to the 50th anniversary commemorative edition of Oscar Lewis, *Los hijos de Sánchez*, and *Death in the Sánchez Family* (Fondo de Cultura Económica) was also published in 2011. In 2012, he published “Time and Dependency in Latin America Today” in *South Atlantic Quarterly*, and “Forward: Elementary Forms of Creative Life,” in *The Logic of Disorder: The Art and Writings of Abraham Cruzvillegas*, edited by Robin Greeley (forthcoming, Harvard University Press). He also wrote a bi-monthly column in the Mexico City newspaper *La Jornada* (<http://www.jornada.unam.mx>) and saw the launch of the first five titles of a book series that he co-edited with Fernando Escalante, *Umbrales* (“Thresholds”), published in Mexico City by Fondo de Cultura Económica. At the end of this year, he will be launching an electronic social science journal with the same title (*Umbrales*), also published by Fondo de Cultura Económica.



Professor **Eric Gamalinda** has recently published *People Are Strange*, a collection of stories about misfits and outcasts. Professor Gamalinda has been referred to as one of the Philippines’ most enigmatic writers and is the winner of the Philippine Centennial Prize, the highest award ever given in Philippine history. A poet, playwright, fiction writer and experimental filmmaker, Eric Gamalinda has won several awards and grants for his work, including the Asian American Literary Award, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship in fiction, the Cultural Center of the Philippines Independent Film and Video Awards, and the Philippine National Book Award. Born and raised in Manila, he lives in New York City and teaches Asian American Cinema at CSER.



Last year Professor **Alondra Nelson** published two books, *Genetics and the Unsettled Past: The Collision of Race, DNA, and History* (Rutgers; co-edited with Keith Wailoo and Catherine Lee) and *Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination* (Minnesota), which was awarded the 2012 Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award by the Race, Gender and Class section of the American Sociological Association. *Body and Soul* was featured in *Boston Review* and CSPAN’s *Book TV*, and *Publishers Weekly*, among other venues.

Professor Nelson also published chapters in *Biohistorische Anthropology: Knochen, Körper und DNA in Erinnerungskulturen* (Kulturverlag Kadmos), *Race After the Internet* (Routledge), and *Rites of Return: Bodies, Sites and Archives of Attachment* (Columbia). In addition, she lectured widely in recent months, including presentations at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (New York Public Library), the Museum of Jewish Heritage, Yale, Duke, Northwestern, Cornell, UCLA, and the University of Pennsylvania. In 2011, she was a visiting fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science.



Throughout this past year, Professor and CSER director **Frances Negrón-Muntaner** has been active as a scholar, filmmaker, and public speaker. In addition to making progress on her book about Arthur Schomburg, she completed several essays and supervised a number of translations of her work, including for “Sin pelos en la lengua: Rosario Ferré’s Last Interview,” an introductory essay and interview with the influential Puerto Rican writer, as well as “Celia’s Shoes” and “Jacob’s Two Dreams,” on Cuban singer Celia Cruz and Puerto Rican filmmaker Jacobo Morales, respectively. She also contributed an article titled “The Whole Enchilada” on Latino politics as a guest writer for *Le Monde Diplomatique*’s prestigious “one writer/one country” section. Most recently, Professor Negrón-Muntaner completed her policy studies about Latino participation in the media and the importance of small Latino organizations to LGTB movement building, and began sharing her results at various venues, including at the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council conference. (cont. on page 8)

(cont. from page 7) Professor Negrón-Muntaner has also been interviewed and/or cited by multiple print publications and radio venues, including *The Takeaway* on Rick Santorum's comments regarding the mastery of English as a requirement for Puerto Rico to be a state; *El Nuevo Día* on the politics of race and animated television series; and the National Park Service's website on the Latino Advisory Board Initiative to identify Latino sites of national importance. Last year, Professor Negrón-Muntaner received the Lenfest Columbia Distinguished Faculty Award and a fellowship from Spain's Ministry of Education to research and lecture at the University of Oviedo. She was also invited to be the plenary speaker at the "Cities and E-motions" conference in Universidad Roviri Virgili (Tarragona, Spain) and participated in the White House Latino Heritage Initiative meeting last October.



During the past year, Professor **Elsa Stamatopoulou** has been active in a number of awareness raising and training activities on indigenous peoples' rights,

including Native American's efforts to promote the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; UNICEF's efforts to promote awareness of the Declaration through its offices in Latin America; a program on Indigenous Peoples' Movement and Human Rights, organized by the Federation of Indigenous Women of Nepal in America (FIWNA); a session on violence against indigenous women for the 11th session of the UNPFII; and at Project Access for Indigenous Leaders (organized by Tribal Link, in cooperation with SPFII and ISHR-CU).

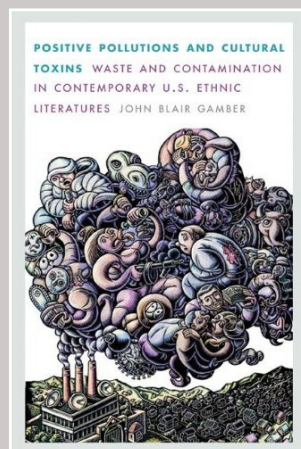
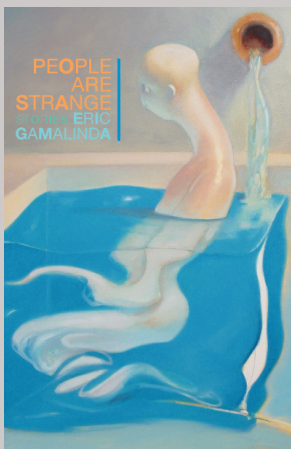
During the academic year 2011-2012, Prof. Stamatopoulou presented papers at a number of conferences in the US and abroad, where she spoke on various topics, including Indigenous peoples' language and cultural rights. Her article, presented last November at the John Jay College Human Rights Seminar, "Monitoring of Cultural Human Rights: The Claims of Culture on Human Rights and the Response of Cultural Human Rights," will be published in the *Human Rights Quarterly* in 2012. Prof. Stamatopoulou is also Co-Chair of the International Commission on the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh and participated at a field mission to Bangladesh at the end of 2011. A number of Columbia students were able to accompany Professor Stamatopoulou at the 11th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in May 2012. Professor Stamatopoulou

has been leading CSER's Summer Program on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Policy, scheduled to be launched in spring 2013.



Academic year 2011-12 was a prolific year for Professor **Gray Tuttle**, whose translation of his first monograph was published in Chinese: Jianguo Xiandai Zhongguo de Zangchuan Fojiao Tu [*Tibetan Buddhists in the Making of Modern China*] (translated by Chen Bo. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2012). He also edited a volume on modern Tibet: "Mapping the Modern in Tibet: Proceedings of the Eleventh Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies" (Königswinter, Germany, 2006). Professor Tuttle, together with Johan Elverskog, edited issue 6 of the Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, 2011 (<http://www.thlib.org/collections/texts/jiats/#!jiats=/issue06/>).

CSER Faculty Recent and Upcoming Publications



From left:
People Are Strange by Eric Gamalinda, Black Lawrence Press

Positive Pollutions and Cultural Toxins: Waste and Contamination in Contemporary U.S. Ethnic Literatures by John Blair Gamber, Postwestern Horizons. Forthcoming October 2012.

Nathalie Handal *Poet in Andalucía* Is Launched

More than one hundred and fifty people came to celebrate the launching of Prof. Nathalie Handal's new collection of poetry, *Poet in Andalucía*, on April 12, 2012 at Black Door in Chelsea. The gathering was Spanish-themed; delicious tapas and Spanish wines were served. Writer Pierre Joris, Tina Chang and Tracy Smith, as well as several of Professor Handal's friends and fans, attended.

Professor Handal's new book is a unique recreation, in reverse, of Federico García Lorca's *Poet in New York*. Lorca lived in Manhattan from 1929 to 1930, and the poetry he wrote about the city was posthumously published in 1940. Eighty years after Lorca's sojourn from Spain to New York, Professor Handal, a poet from New York, went to Spain to write *Poet in Andalucía*. It explores the persistent tragedy of otherness, but it also acknowledges a refusal to remain in that stark darkness, and it searches for the possibility of human coexistence.



ABOVE

A large crowd gathered at Black Door in Chelsea for the launch of Nathalie Handal's book *Poet in Andalucía*.

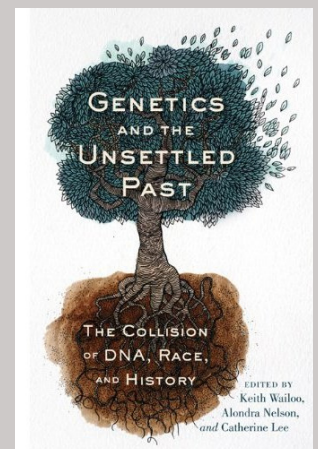
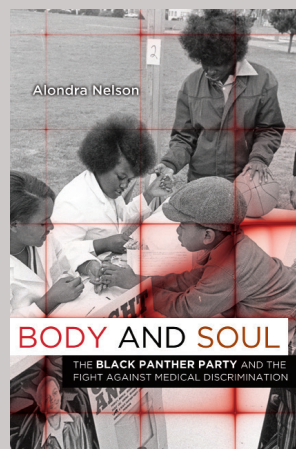
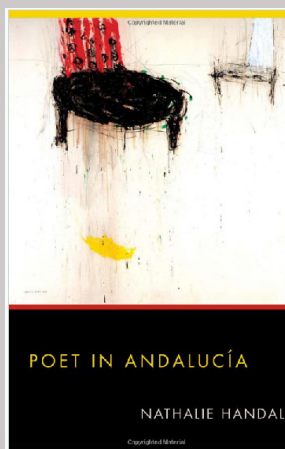
LEFT

At the book launch: Nathalie and writer Pierre Joris.

From left:
Poet in Andalucía by Nathalie Handal,
University of Pittsburgh Press

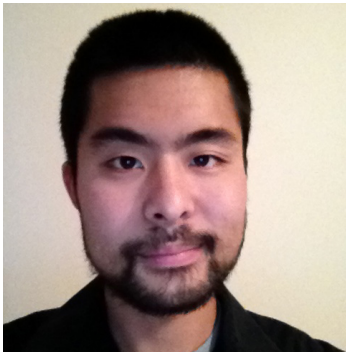
Body and Soul: The Black Panther Party and the Fight against Medical Discrimination by Alondra Nelson,
University of Minnesota Press

Genetics and the Unsettled Past edited by Keith Wailoo, Alondra Nelson, and Catherine Lee, Rutgers Studies on Race and Ethnicity



Where are they now? What are they doing?

Kristen Nicol



Ryan Fukumori, a Comparative Ethnic Studies major and an Asian American Studies concentrator, graduated from Columbia College in 2009. Ryan is currently a second-year graduate student at the University of Southern California, where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in American Studies and Ethnicity. His present research centers on 20th-century Los Angeles and the formation of Japanese American and Mexican American interactivity, mutuality, and collusion. Ryan's interest in Comparative Ethnic Studies was fostered through a friend in the major and developed as he enrolled in more courses within the department. "One of the best parts about CSER was that I was able to find a community of like-minded individuals who were interested not only in the action component of social justice but also in the pedagogical component of social justice." In the future, Ryan hopes to find himself in the world of academia as a scholar of Ethnic Studies and United States history. Ryan credits CSER—the students, professors, and his thesis advisor—for helping him shape his aspirations, "CSER was highly responsible for a lot of my professional and intellectual development. It was really a hub for me."



Justin Ifill, a Columbia College graduate of 2006, majored in Latino Studies at the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race. Today, Justin is the president and founder of Ifill Events, LLC, and has planned successful events for corporations, nonprofit organizations, and individuals. When asked what makes him so successful, Justin explains, "Through my program, I was able to be a more well-rounded person in general and was able to relate and communicate with all types of people. So I think having a taste for all different things helps in life and this business, definitely." In the future, Justin hopes to use his innovative touch to plan a large wedding or a promotional event for a new television series. Aside from planning events, Justin takes an active role in the Columbia alumni community, serving as the President of Columbia College Young Alumni and the Events Chair on the Black Alumni Committee. When it comes to building a sense of belonging in the Columbia Alumni community, Justin says, "I want to make sure students and alumni are forming a genuine connection and creating a better Columbia base." Along with his desire to plan great events and strengthen the Columbia Alumni bond, Justin also reserves a special place for his major department; "I would help plan a future CSER event."



Lizzie Lee graduated from Columbia College in 2011 as a Comparative Ethnic Studies major, focusing on Latino Studies. After taking Professor OuYang's Constitutional Challenges course, Lizzie developed a passion for winning fundamental human rights for all people, regardless of difference, and a desire to create a "holistic and cohesive" legal system out of the presently fragmented structure. Lizzie will pursue her interest in human rights, immigration and criminal justice at UC Berkeley School of Law this fall. Of her positive experience with CSER, Lizzie states, "One of my favorite concepts about the Comparative Ethnic Studies major is it encourages students to explore other disciplines." She demonstrates her broad range of interests in her current work involving the integration of sustainable agriculture and green design on a permaculture farm in Malawi. Lizzie recognizes CSER as central to her maturation as both a student and professional: "CSER has always encouraged me to take my passions and run with it... I don't think there are many other departments that take students under their wings and foster intellectual and practical growth." Lizzie hopes to see the department expand not only its racial and ethnic diversity, but also in its evolving political and social perspectives.

CSER Courses

2012-2013 Academic Year

For more information, listing of ICORE/MORE courses and CSER cross-referenced courses, please visit CSER website, www.columbia.edu/cu/csers/

Fall 2012

CSER W1010

Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies

Gary Okihiro

TR 1:10P–2:25P - 417 International Affairs

An introduction to the historical and contemporary ideas and manifestations of “ethnic studies” as a field of study—its subject matters, methodologies and theories, literatures, and practitioners and institutional settings.

CSER W3210

Che: Texts and Contexts of a Global Icon

Frances Negrón-Muntaner

MW 1:10P–2:25P - 703 Hamilton Hall

By most accounts, Ernesto “Che” Guevara is both one of the most famous people in history and a strong theoretical and political influence on a broad range of social movements. Yet, despite Guevara’s political and cultural status, the serious study of his life, work, and impact is rare. This course then has three main objectives: to familiarize students with the political trajectory of Ernesto Guevara; examine the key concepts associated with his political praxis; and analyze the complex process by which an arguably failed guerrilla fighter and anticapitalist statesman became a political inspiration to millions, as well as one of the most commodified image in the world. In the course, however, we will not be concerned with ascertaining who the “real” Guevara was. Instead, the course will focus on Guevara as a way study to examine the various historical, cultural, technological, and commodification processes by which one person’s life becomes almost anything that a consumer wants it to be.

CSER W3935

Historical Anthropology of the US-Mexico Border

Claudio Lomnitz

T 9:00A–10:50A - 420 Hamilton Hall

This course is an introduction to the historical formation of the US-Mexican border. Beginning in the 1980s, border crossing became an academic rage in the humanities and the social sciences. This was a consequence of globalization, a historical process that reconfigured the boundaries between economy, society and culture, and it was also a primary theme of postmodernist aesthetics, which celebrated playful borrowing of multiple and diverse historical references. Places like Tijuana

or El Paso, with their rather seedy reputation, had until then been of interest principally to local residents, but they now became exemplars of postmodern “hybridity” and were meant to inspire the kind of transnational scholarship that is required in today’s world. Indeed, the border itself became a metaphor, a movable imaginary boundary that marks ethnic and racial distinction in American and Mexican cities.

CSER W3490

Post 9/11 Immigration Policies

Elizabeth OuYang

R 11:00A–12:50P - 420 Hamilton Hall

Since September 11, 2001, there has been an avalanche of immigration enforcement policies and initiatives proposed or implemented under the guise of national security. This course will analyze the domino effect of the Patriot Act; the Absconder Initiative; Special Registration; the Real I.D. Act; border security, including the building of the 700-mile fence along the U.S.-Mexico border; the Secured Communities Act which requires the cooperation of state and local authorities in immigration enforcement; the challenge to birthright citizenship; and the ongoing congressional hearings on Islamic radicalization. Have these policies been effective in combating the war on terrorism and promoting national security? Who stands to benefit from these enforcement strategies? Do immigrant communities feel safer in the U.S.? How have states joined the federal bandwagon of immigration enforcement or created solutions to an inflexible, broken immigration system?

CSER W3924

Latin American and Latino Social Movements

Stuart Rockefeller

W 11:00A–12:50P - 420 Hamilton Hall

In Latin America, a wave of new popular social movements has been transforming politics and social reality. In the United States, Latinos/as are building on decades of organizing and demographic growth to claim a new public persona and to challenge their marginal status. What are the significant areas of political action, and how can we understand them? What claims can those disenfranchised for reasons of race, class or national origin make on societies? We will discuss a number of important social movements throughout the region, while developing tools for understanding social movements and their possibilities.

CSER W3905

Asian Americans and the Psychology of Race

Shinhee Han

W 11:00A–12:50P - 408 Philosophy

This seminar provides an introduction to mental health issues for Asian Americans. In particular, it focuses on the psychology of Asian Americans as racial/ethnic minorities in the United States by exploring key concepts:

immigration, racialization, prejudice, family, identity, pathology, and loss. We will examine the development of identity in relation to self, family, college, and society. Quantitative investigation, qualitative research, psychological theories of multiculturalism, and Asian American literature will also be integrated into the course.

CSER W3919

Modes of Inquiry

Melissa Milewski

M 9:00A–10:50A - 420 Hamilton Hall

*Major Requirement

One of CSER’s required courses, Modes of Inquiry aims to introduce students to a variety of ways of knowing key to several fields that investigate racial and ethnic difference in social, cultural, political and economic life. The seminar will also ask students to think reflexively and critically about the approaches they employ and to evaluate the ethics, constraints and potential of contemporary knowledge production about difference. The course will culminate in a semester project, an 8–10 page proposal for research that will ideally be related to the student senior project. Students must also attend a weekly lab session.

CSER W3923

Latino and Asian American Memoir

Nathalie Handal

M 2:10P–4:00P - 420 Hamilton Hall

In this class, we will explore Latino and Asian American memoir, focusing on themes of immigration and duality. W.E.B. Du Bois wrote in *The Souls of Black Folk*: “It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one’s self through the eyes of others....One ever feels his two-ness; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.” How do we construct identity and homeland when we are “multiple”? How do we define ourselves, and how do others define us? By reading some of the most challenging and exciting memoirs by Latino and Asian Americans, we will attempt to answer these questions and/or at least try to understand these transnational and multicultural experiences. This class combines the critical with the creative—students have to read and critique memoirs, as well as write a final 10-page nonfiction creative writing piece.

Students will also have the opportunity to speak to some Latino and Asian authors in class or via Skype. Students will be asked to prepare questions in advance for the author—whose work(s) we will have read and discussed. This usually arouses interesting and thought-provoking conversations and debates. This “Dialogue Series” within the class exposes students to a wide range of voices and offers them a deeper understanding of the complexity of duality.

CSER W3922

Asian American Cinema

Eric Gamalinda
R 6:10P–8:00P - 420 Hamilton Hall

This seminar focuses on the critical analysis of Asian representation and participation in Hollywood by taking a look at how mainstream American cinema continues to essentialize the Asian and how Asian American filmmakers have responded to Orientalist stereotypes. We will analyze various issues confronting Asian American communities, including “yellowface”; white patriarchy; male and female stereotypes; the “model minority” myth; “Chinatowns” as spectacle; panethnicity; the changing political interpretations of the term “Asian American” throughout American history; gender and sexuality; and cultural hegemonies and privileging within the Asian community. Feature films and documentaries will be supplemented by a substantial amount of literature to provide a solid grounding on race theory and help students examine Asian (mis) representation in mainstream media; we will then view examples of contemporary Asian American films and discuss how they challenge culturally embedded stereotypes.

CSER W3926

Latin Music and Identity

Edward Morales
T 2:10P–4:00P - 420 Hamilton Hall

Latin music has had an historically strained relationship with mainstream music tastes, exploding in occasional “boom” periods, and receding into invisibility in others. What if this were true because it is a space for hybrid construction of identity that directly reflects a mixture of traditions across racial lines in Latin America? This course will investigate Latin music’s transgression of binary views of race in Anglo-American society, even as it directly affects the development of pop music in America. From New Orleans jazz to Texas corridos, salsa, rock, and reggaetón, Latin music acts as both a soundtrack and a structural blueprint for the 21st century’s multicultural experiment. There will be a strong focus on studying Latin music’s political economy and investigating the story it tells about migration and globalization.

CSER W3928

Colonization/Decolonization

Karl Jacoby and Theodore Hughes
T 11:00A–12:50P - 420 Hamilton Hall

This course focuses on the spread of European influence and hegemony throughout the world, from the age of discovery in the late-fifteenth and sixteenth century to the era of decolonization after World War II and postcolonial realities of the present. We are interested in the processes and contents of social and cultural contact and exchange, the development of knowledge, and how they shape relations of power; the place of colonialism in the development of western

capitalism; and the elements of colonial power and resistance, including ideologies of liberal political philosophy, social Darwinism, and nationalism. We will think about how ideas about civilization, religion, self and other, and freedom have evolved over time and shaped the making of the modern world. Class will be held as a discussion seminar based on close reading of the primary-source documents.

CSER W3941

Race and the Law in U.S. History

Melissa Milewski
M 4:10P–6:00P - 420 Hamilton Hall

This seminar explores race in American courts beginning with Native Americans’ loss of their land and ending with recent debates over affirmative action and criminal sentencing. We will examine how the courts worked to uphold the power of elites – upholding slavery, affirming segregation, shaping immigration law, and regulating marriage across racial lines. At the same time, we will study how the courts provided opportunities for Americans to challenge restrictions based on race and at times allowed them to exercise their rights as citizens even when other branches of government did not. In addition to reading articles and books examining these questions, we will analyze cases from local and appeals courts and study the actions of litigants, lawyers, witnesses, jury members, and judges.

Cross-Referenced Courses

Music V2021

Music in Contemporary Africa

Aaron A Fox
TR 6:10P–7:25P - Location TBA

Music G4461

Music and Place

Ellen Gray
R 12:10P–2:00P - Location TBA

Music V3420

The Social Science of Music

Ellen Gray
TR 4:10P–5:25P - Location TBA

Music W4430

Listening and Sound in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Ana Maria Ochoa
MW 1:10P–2:25P - Location TBA

Music G4401

Field Methods and Techniques in Ethnomusicology

Christopher J. Washburne
TR 9:00A–10:50A - Location TBA

AFAS3030/MUSI83030

African-American Music

Kevin Fellezs
TR 2:40P–3:55pm - Location TBA

Music V3321/AHMM V3321y

Musics of India and West Asia

Instructor TBA
MW 6:10P–7:25P - Location TBA

Africana Studies BC3110

The Africana Colloquium: Critical Race Theory

Kim Hall
T 6:10P–8:00P - Location TBA

Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology

Human Identity; Human Nature:

DNA, Race and Identity

Robert Pollack and Marya Pollack
W 2:10P–4:00P - 401 Hamilton Hall

Spring 2013

CSER W1040

Critical Approaches to the Study of Ethnicity and Race

David Clinton Wills
MW 6:10P–7:25P - 420 Hamilton Hall
*MAJOR REQUIREMENT

This course provides an introduction to central approaches and concepts animating the investigation of race and ethnicity. We will not treat either of these categories of difference as a given, nor as separable from other axes of social difference. Rather, we will apply an interdisciplinary and intersectional framework to illuminate how these concepts have come to emerge and cohere within a number of familiar and less familiar sociocultural and historical contexts. We will consider how racial and ethnic differentiation as fraught but powerful processes have bolstered global labor regimes and imperial expansion projects; parsed, managed and regulated populations; governed sexed and gendered logics of subject and social formation; and, finally, opened and constrained axes of self-understanding, political organization, and social belonging. Special attention will be given to broadening students’ understanding of racial and ethnic differentiation beyond examinations of identity. Taken together, theoretical and empirical readings, discussions and outside film screenings will prepare students for further coursework in race and ethnic studies, as well as fields such as literary studies, women’s studies, history, sociology and anthropology.

CSER W1012

History of Racialization of the US

Gary Okihiro
Time and Location TBA

History of Racialization in the United States examines the development of race and racism through the study of significant historical circumstances that define the institutional structure of American Empire and of the resulting interactions among its peoples. Race is not static. Consequently, it is not an ahistorical object, predetermined identity, or uniform category of

analysis. Traditionally, the history of American race relations is the contact between racially defined groups over time and space of the effort required to maintain social and economic differences among them. Racialization, then, refers to the process by which one population group or many are “placed” in distinct racial categories.

CSER W4482

Indigenous Peoples’ Rights: From Local Identities to the Global Indigenous Movement

Elsa Stamatopoulou
TR 4:10P–5:25P - 602 Hamilton Hall

Indigenous Peoples consist of about 5000 groups in some 90 countries, with a total population numbering more than 370 million, representing a great part of the world’s human diversity and cultural heritage. They continue to raise major controversies and to face threats to their physical and cultural existence. The main task of this interdisciplinary course is to explore the complex historic circumstances and political actions that gave rise to the international Indigenous movement through the human rights agenda and that consequently produced a global Indigenous identity on all continents--two intertwined and deeply significant phenomena over the past fifty years. We will analyze the achievements, challenges and potential of the dynamic interface between the Indigenous Peoples’ movement--one of the strongest social movements of our times--and the international community, especially the United Nations system.

CSER W3911

Issues in Modern Native American Tribal Governments

Daniel Press
R 2:10P–4:00P - 420 Hamilton Hall

This course will explore the dynamics of and issues facing present tribal governments and the other major institutions on reservations; examine their legal authorities and the kinds of institutions tribes have created to carry out their governmental and economic development responsibilities; review the historical record of these institutions, including their successes and failures; and explore innovative approaches that have or could be adopted to strengthen tribal governments and improve the socioeconomic conditions on reservations. The seminar will involve group discussion based on the readings, experiences students and the instructor have had working with tribal governments, and five presentations over the course of the semester by Native American leaders from different fields who are working to address the major issues that tribal governments and their members are facing.

CSER W3928

Colonization/Decolonization

Claudio Lomnitz and Emmanuelle Saada
W 11:00A–12:50P - 420 Hamilton Hall
This course focuses on the spread of European influence and hegemony throughout the world

from the age of discovery in the late-fifteenth and sixteenth century to the era of decolonization after World War II and postcolonial realities of the present. We are interested in the processes and contents of social and cultural contact and exchange, the development of knowledge, and how they shape relations of power; the place of colonialism in the development of Western capitalism; and the elements of colonial power and resistance, including ideologies of liberal political philosophy, social Darwinism, and nationalism. We will think about how ideas about civilization, religion, self and other, and freedom have evolved over time and shaped the making of the modern world. Class is held as a discussion seminar based on close reading of the primary-source documents.

CSER W3701

US-Latino Cultural Production

Edward Morales
T 2:10P–4:00P - 420 Hamilton Hall

The course will investigate the possibility that hybrid constructions of identity among Latinos in the U.S. are the principal driving force behind the cultural production of Latinos in literature and film. There will be readings on the linguistic implications of “Spanglish” and the construction of Latino racial identity, followed by examples of literature, film, music and other cultural production that provide evidence for bilingual/bicultural identity as a form of adaptation to the U.S. Examples will be drawn from different Latino ethnicities from the Caribbean, Mexico and the rest of Latin America.

CSER W3940

Comparative Constitutional Challenges

Elizabeth OuYang
W 11:00A–12:50P - 420 Hamilton Hall

This course will examine how the American legal system decided constitutional challenges affecting the empowerment of African, Latino and Asian American communities from the 19th century to the present. Topics include the role of the Supreme Court, the denial of citizenship and naturalization to slaves and immigrants, government sanctioned segregation, the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, the prison industry, police brutality and racial profiling, post-9/11 immigration policies, and voting rights.

CSER W3904

Rumor and Racial Conflict

Stuart Rockefeller
T 11:00A–12:50P - 628 Kent Hall

This course will take a transnational look at the many ways that rumors, legends and conspiracy theories play a role in racial relations and conflict. From the judicial and popular riots in the U.S. justified by recurrent rumors of African-American insurrection, to accusations that French Jews were players in the “white slave trade,” to tales

of white fat-stealing monsters among indigenous people of Bolivia and Peru, rumors play a key role in constructing, enforcing and contesting regimes of racial identity and domination. In order to grasp rumor’s importance for race, we will need to understand how rumor works, so our readings will cover instances of racialized rumor-telling, conspiracy theories, and mass panics, as well as approaches to how rumors work as a social phenomenon. This class is designed to give you an opportunity to do independent research; as a result, it will demand your intensive engagement and your willingness both to master the information and concepts we cover in class and to pursue a topic of your own choosing. You will all write a term paper based on book research and/or fieldwork.

CSER W3970

Palestinians through Literature and Theater

Nathalie Handal
M 11A–12:50P - 420 Hamilton Hall

This course explores contemporary Palestinian culture, history, and society through literature and theater produced by Palestinian writers and playwrights, including those in the West Bank, Israel, Arab countries, and the West. The course will examine “Palestinianness,” looking at the various cultural and sociopolitical issues prevalent in plays, poetry, nonfiction and fiction. Discussions revolve around styles and aesthetics as well as identity and cultural politics. Students will also read critical and theoretical works in order to better help them understand the works. Writers the class will cover include Mahmoud Darwish, Faqwa Tuqan, Sayed Kashua, Mourid Barghouti, and Naomi Shihab Nye.

CSER W3990

Senior Project Seminar (formerly Senior Thesis Paper Seminar)

Katherine Heupel
W 11:00A–12:50P - 319 Hamilton Hall Library Room

*Must have first taken Modes of Inquiry
The final requirement for the major is completion of a Senior Essay, to be written in the spring of the senior year. Alternatively, students may fulfill this requirement by taking an additional seminar where a major paper is required or by writing an independent essay under the supervision of a faculty member. Seniors who wish to do a senior research project are required to take the Senior Project Colloquium in the fall of the senior year. Supporting coursework will include a one-point Fall term Practicum (a 75-minute meeting per week) as well as a short exploratory writing exercise to prepare the groundwork for thesis writing in the spring. The Spring term, then, will consist of independent research and a three-point Senior Essays Colloquium and presentation in the end-of-year conference.

this event, I have asked myself many questions about Fanon but never really “Why Fanon?” To me, it seemed rather obvious: The first book that I read by Fanon was *The Wretched of the Earth*, or, more accurately, *Los condenados de la tierra*, as a young college student at the University of Puerto Rico. This was the major public university of a place that retains the distinction of being the most populous colony remaining in the world, a place so special that whoever sits on any of its four rectangular corners can get a fairly good view of the workings and impact of global capitalism, militarism, mass migration, and neocolonial governance on vulnerable populations.

In this sense, while some argue that we are in a postcolonial and postracial world, Fanon’s troubling of the postcolonial juncture has made a substantial contribution to understanding the afterlife of formal colonialism as that of decaying atomic substances: there it is, in altered form, but still radioactive. Contemporary thinkers, artists, and activists then return to Fanon, in part to, as he himself suggested, “use the past...in opening up the future.” For Fanon, the future is not simply a matter of what happens next in a linear historical progression but rather a break with hierarchical orders that stand in the way of a “new humanity.” Fanon, of course, does not equally address all social orders, nor are his insights universally accepted as enabling. But if we consider the profound difficulty of thinking about any of these questions without Fanon, one immediately feels the magnitude of his impact.

Equally important, Fanon fully grasped and creatively theorized the notion that a regime of racial and colonial power is accompanied by a regime of signs, verbal and visual, that are constitutive not only of the social order but also of the subject. Even further, Fanon is one of the very few theorists who has also productively taken on the significant conceptual challenge of thinking through the relationship between what Stuart Hall called “the insides and outsides of people.” The importance of this gesture is incalculable and exponentially grows in the digital era, where consumers are both bombarded by globalized media and have unprecedented power to produce and disseminate their own images and narratives.

The richness of Fanon’s thought, however,

is not solely located in his development of abstract concepts, important as they are. Although rarely said in theoretical discussions beyond the literary 90s, I believe that readers of different stripes return to Fanon because he had a way with words, so to speak; that is, he had a literary mind, capable of moving the reader through words that could be felt as poignant, beautiful, precise or even outrageous. Had Fanon written the following (and related) passages in another way, the debate around gender and Fanon would have surely taken a completely different turn: “One day a woman named Mayotte Capécia, obeying a motivation whose elements are difficult to detect, sat down to write 202 pages—her life—in which the most ridiculous ideas proliferated at random...*Je Suis Martiniquaise* is cut-rate merchandise, a sermon in praise of unhealthy behavior.”

Yet it is not only Fanon’s style that matters. It is also his investment in writing as a “working through,” as Freud would say, as an indispensable practice of unsettling language to open new forms of being and action. As Fanon wrote in *The Wretched of the Earth*, “literature increasingly involves itself in its only real task, which is to get society to reflect and mediate.” In this regard, Fanon wrote marvelously in Suzanne Césaire’s sense of “the domain of the strange, the marvelous and the fantastic, a domain scorned by people of certain inclinations. Here is the freed image, dazzling and beautiful, with a beauty that could not be more unexpected and overwhelming.”

Not surprisingly, Fanon’s writing was, paradoxically, uncompromisingly antidogmatic: “It is through the effort to recapture the self and scrutinize the self, it is through the lasting tension of their freedom that men will be able to create the ideal conditions of existence for a human world.” As Nigel Gibson has observed further, Fanon was among the first, if not the first, to put in writing the pain of witnessing how nationalist and revolutionary governments were not living up to the hopes and dreams of the people that brought them into being. The Egyptian youth that helped unleash the Arab Spring can be understood as truly Fanonian without missing a beat: they quickly realized that a revolution that changes faces but not structures is not a revolution at all.

Some would say that it is a travesty to mention a nonviolent movement and Fanon in the same paragraph and that it is the stain of violence that prompts many an apology when engaging with Fanon. But this coupling is misleading. Undoubtedly, one could persuasively argue that Fanon underestimated the aftereffects of violence and often wrote about violence as if it could be an instrument that one could simply direct and then put down. But as scholars Elizabeth Frazer and Kimberly Hutchings have observed, Fanon understood the embodied process of violence and how violence accompanies the process of destroying oppressive social orders better than critics like Hannah Arendt, who minimize the role of violence in the founding and sustaining of all political orders, which returns me to the Egyptian leg of the Arab Spring.

As it has been overlooked, even by some of the protesters themselves, the success of nonviolent protest as nonviolent was possible in part because the Egyptian military opted to defer the use of violence. In this regard, violence was not absent from the square; on the contrary, it was the credible threat of massive violence that kept (some) other forms of violence at bay. In other words, while many observers read the nonviolence of protesters, that is, the nonmilitarization or terrorification of protest, as the end of violence in politics, this reading sidesteps the thornier questions of how violence is constitutive of political and subjective processes as well as and how violence is reconstituted in an era of biopolitics, robotics, and drones.

Ultimately, Fanon lives because many of us are not finished with the questions that he raised, and neither was he. And in a world in polycrisis, where the violence of global capital, environmental degradation, and feminicide, to name a few, makes itself felt particularly plain, one tends to reach for the essentials. In this sense, what Michel Foucault once said about himself could easily be said about Fanon: “I would like my books to be a kind of tool-box which others can rummage through to find a tool which they can use however they wish in their own area. I don’t write for an audience; I write for users, not readers.” At this point, the question should no longer be why Fanon (with a guilty question mark) but basically Fanon, when and where he is useful.

7 Questions for Prof. Elizabeth R. OuYang

Anthony Arias (CC '12)



ABOVE
Prof. Elizabeth OuYang
Photo by Eileen Barosso

Question: *You're a professor at Columbia and New York University, the president of the Organization of Chinese Americans--NY (OCA-NY), and you've also been an active civil rights attorney for over two decades now. What do you find to be your main motivation after all these years?*

I deplore injustice. The values of equality and respect for others is so difficult to uphold, especially for those in positions of power. I'm guided by a sense of righteous anger. The challenge is to channel that anger into a productive and worthwhile cause that leads to greater equality and respect for others.

Q: *When we released our last newsletter in September of 2011, you had an article titled "Immigrants with Prior Criminal Record Risk Removal from the U.S. - Impact on Asian Immigrants," in the Asian American Law Journal. Can you tell me more about your findings?*

Because of various delays (not in my control), this article is expected to be published very soon. The successful campaign led by OCA-NY to obtain a governor's pardon for Qing Wu, a 29-year-old lawful permanent resident

facing removal from the U.S. because of a teenager criminal record was the impetus for this article. Challenging the model minority myth, the article details many Asian Americans with minor or old criminal records who have [faced] and could face Qing's predicament. This article calls for immigration reform to restore judicial discretion in these cases.

Q: *Do you see such an issue being affected by the upcoming elections?*

Aggressive immigration enforcement will continue to be a lightning rod in the upcoming elections. Political candidates will want to appear tough on crime, but the government's own statistics show that the majority of those caught in the dragnet of Immigration Customs and Enforcement's arrests are not those considered a threat to public safety.

Q: *Last semester, you offered a course called "Post-9/11 Immigration Policy Analysis" through CSER. How was teaching a class like that during the 10th year anniversary of 9/11 itself?*

A unique opportunity for my students. One of my assignments was to compare the official commemoration of 9/11 at Ground Zero with an alternative commemoration event in the Arab, Muslim and South Asian communities occurring in New York City. Students saw stark contrasts between the two events regarding tone, media coverage, and portrayal of the "victim."

Q: *As of recently, you have been featured in The New York Times for your work with the Danny Chen case. What do you predict will happen with the case now that you've gotten it to trial?*

The community and the media must be ever vigilant to monitor the prosecution of these cases. These will be court-

martial, trials that are conducted under military rules with a jury composed of military personnel. Will they understand what it's like to be the only Chinese American in a platoon? Will they understand that these excessive acts of physical and emotional mistreatment that Danny was subjected to undermine national security and cohesion?

Q: *What has been your favorite part about teaching for CSER at Columbia University?*

My students' diversity and commitment to social justice and equality. It brings me enormous satisfaction to hear how my class has impacted my students in their career choices—whether they become teachers, civil rights advocates or lawyers.

Q: *Do you have any advice for anyone potentially considering a major in CSER, or who is considering a career in civil rights?*

Get your hands dirty. Be involved in grassroots civil rights campaigns to learn how the law does or does not address social inequalities. You have many opportunities to do so at your fingertips. Unfortunately, in New York City, there are many ways to become involved in social justice issues—police brutality, gentrification, racial profiling, selective military recruitment, unfair labor practices, educational disparities, and much more. To practice civil rights is to understand on a very basic level the impact that discrimination and inequality has on the lives of human beings.

Creating A New Space on Campus:

Our Report on “Indigenous Spaces” - A Graduate Student Colloquium at Columbia University Organized by the Collaborations on Indigenous Studies Project

Aurélie Roy and Maria John



LEFT

Professor Audra Simpson, left, comments on the Articulating Sovereignty in Theory and Practice panel.

The Collaboration on Indigenous Studies Project (CISP) is a group created by Maria John and Aurélie Roy, both PhD students in Columbia’s History Department. As its name suggests, CISP seeks to pursue collaborations in the field of Indigenous Studies at Columbia University. The idea for the group started with our realization that there was not a formal presence at Columbia of a graduate student group dedicated to addressing and discussing indigenous issues. We wanted to change that.

Our initial plan to organize a small workshop on indigenous issues for students in the New York area was warmly welcomed, but after a preliminary conversation with Frances Negrón-Muntaner, CSER’s Director, it became clear that the Center would provide institutional and logistical support for a bigger event. Frances also proposed that our graduate event could run in conjunction with CSER’s Indigenous Forum Series (IF). From there, the organization process took on a life of its own, and after much outreach on campus, the colloquium soon ended up with the support of graduate and professional students from the Departments of History, Ethnomusicology, and English, as well

as Teachers’ College. We also received funding from the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP), the Department of History, the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC), the Department of Anthropology, and the Institute for the Study of Human Rights (ISHR). Invaluable hands-on support in terms of running the day and facilitating the inclusion of our opening and closing speakers came from CSER staff Josephine Caputo and Teresa Aguayo as well as from Professor Celia Naylor, from the Program in Africana Studies at Barnard. CSER also produced our programs and posters, which were wonderfully designed by the Center’s graphic designer, Stephen Chou.

Titled, “Indigenous Spaces: Pushing the Boundaries of History, Bodies, Geographies, and Politics,” our graduate conference took place on February 15, 2012. Speakers came from as close as Binghamton University and as far as the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. It was a well-attended event; we estimate that more than eighty people came throughout the day. The conference’s attendance and dynamism far exceeded our expectations for Columbia’s first ever graduate-organized and graduate-led conference on Indigenous Studies.

We give full credit for the high attendance of the event to the very impressive collection of speakers and papers we were able to include. All papers engaged creatively and productively with the theme of “Indigenous Spaces,” hence we had a wide interdisciplinary spectrum of papers on topics ranging from same-sex marriage in the Cherokee Nation to urban life in the indigenous neighborhoods of La Paz, Bolivia.

We were also lucky to host two brilliant and fascinating lectures from leading experts in their respective fields: to open the day, David Cornsilk (Cherokee activist, historian, and tribal court lay advocate) spoke on “Freedmen and Citizenship: When do we get to rest?” and, to end the colloquium, Scott Richard Lyons (Associate Professor of English, Language and Literature at the University of Michigan) spoke on “Native Modernity and the Crisis of Culture.” Furthermore, our panelists, Leon No’eau Peralto, Jessica A. F. Harkins, Matthew Wildcat, Paulette Steeves, Ricardo A. Fagoaga Hernández, Luis M. Sierra, Sean Nāleimaile, and Hannah Burdette all provided insightful remarks on a wide variety of topics. Trevor Reed and Adrien Zakar were our distinguished panel chairs.

The scholarly response to the presentations was also impressive. A key part of our intention in putting together this event was also to provide our panelists with an opportunity to receive feedback on their work from a member of Columbia’s faculty. This was made possible (*cont. on page 18*)

Undergraduates Across Departments Present Research at CSER Symposium

Several CSER students participated in the Undergraduate Research Symposium, which took place on April 27, 2012. Cynthia Gao, Camilia Fuentes, José Giral, Louisa Harstad, Bianca Pasikhani, Tara Reed and Isaiah Walker presented their senior theses and research in progress to a large audience of Columbia undergraduates and faculty.

This annual symposium brings together students from across the social sciences and humanities to present their academic research on issues related to the critical study of ethnicity and race. This year the theme of the symposium addressed how notions of ethnicity and race are destabilized, normalized, or called into question by studying them across historical contexts.

Examining ETHNICITY and RACE throughout HISTORY

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2012
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University
April 27th | Casa Hispanica, Columbia University, New York, NY

The annual Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSER) Undergraduate Research Symposium leads to bring together students from across the social sciences and humanities to present their academic research on issues related to the critical study of ethnicity and race.

This year the theme of the symposium leads to address how notions of ethnicity and race are destabilized, normalized, or called into question by studying them across historical contexts. The symposium welcomes papers extending upon any historical period / event or comparison of various leads or methodological approaches.

Topics on critical perspectives can include, but are not limited to: critical race, gender, and queer theory; hybridity, multiculturalism, migration / immigration; border studies; postcolonial studies and activism; sport, leisure and recreation; language, education and mass media; race and the police state; racial-ethnic violence; diaspora studies; memory, memorialization and racial-ethnic history and environmental justice.

(cont. from page 17) by the gracious and generous intellectual input of Professors Audra Simpson (Anthropology) and Caterina Pizzigoni (History), who acted as commentators on the day of the colloquium.

CISP's first event made it clear to us that Columbia has a vast potential to bring together a community of people, indigenous and nonindigenous, academic and non academic, who are interested in engaging with issues that matter to Indigenous Studies. We therefore hope to host CISP's second graduate student colloquium on indigenous issues at Columbia next year and expand the opportunities for sharing research as well as networking and collaborating on new projects.

If our funding permits next year, we also hope to host an artist's show and double the number of panels we had this year from two to four. We may hold the colloquium later in the spring in 2013 to make it precede or coincide with other events at schools in the vicinity and/or with the 12th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. We also hope to continue bringing participants from Hawai'i by keeping up the good work we started this year with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Nāki'ikeaho, a Native Hawai'ian-based community organization dedicated to



LEFT
Graduate History students and organizers, Aurélie Roy and Maria John, during the conference.

cultural resource management in Hawai'i. We also plan to host participants from regions such as Alaska, Latin America, the Caribbean, and beyond, which were not represented this year. We thus expect to broaden our geographical representation, as well as the range of topics. We have not finalized our overall colloquium theme yet, but will circulate it through major listservs, such as H-Net, and the NAISA website, as well as contact universities as widely as we can.

For more information, please write to cispny@gmail.com so we can add you to our listserv and send the call for papers to your school. We are happy to consider submissions from all regions and countries, methodologies, time periods,

topics, and disciplines. Some of our new board members have proposed a few ideas to develop CISP's activities, such as a dissertation writing workshop dedicated to students focusing on indigenous issues at Columbia, TC, and Barnard. This workshop would seek to support students at all stages of their writing, from the prospectus through the final draft and defense of their dissertations. We also hope to develop our own website soon. (Indeed, we are currently seeking technical support to help us manage this project, and will welcome any help.) Further suggestions for collaborations are welcome and open to discussion, but most of all we look forward to further developing the relationships we have started building this year, and to creating new ones in the years to come!

Cuban Hip Hop Artists Rock CSER

By Zoya Kocur

*In the spring of 2012, three members of the Cuban art and performance collective **OMNI ZonaFranca** traveled to the United States for the first time, performing in Chicago, New York, Providence, Washington D.C., New Orleans, and Miami. OMNI's appearances in New York City included a performance at Columbia University on March 27, hosted by CSER and co-sponsored by ILAS. The performance at Hamilton Hall was part of the multimedia event *Makina Total City* created for OMNI's U.S. tour.*

Working together since 1997, OMNI ZonaFranca has created a unique blend of performance, music, poetry, spoken word, rap, visual art, graffiti, video, and public art. OMNI has produced several music/poetry CDs and videos, such as the 2005 experimental poetry and sound CD titled *Alamar Express*, and, since 1999, the annual music, art, theater, and poetry festival *Poesía Sin Fin* (Poetry without End). They have participated in the Havana Biennial (both officially and unofficially) and in international exhibitions and festivals throughout Cuba and Europe.

The collective is based in Alamar, a vast housing project to the east of Havana's harbor, the centerpiece of Cuba's microbrigade movement during the 1970s. Unencumbered by a long history of cultural traditions, Alamar became home to various countercultural movements in music, literature and visual art, notably Cuba's rock and rap festivals, as well as a base for poets and musicians of the *novísima trova*. OMNI Zona Franca was formed amidst severe economic deterioration triggered by the collapse of the Soviet Union and the ensuing Special Period, the offspring of an experimental poetry group founded by Juan Carlos Flores and a group of local sculptors.

The collective's work is concentrated in three main areas: poetry, performance

and community engagement. OMNI's commitment to their community is a critical component of their work. OMNI's artist statement declares, "We are a group of social-communitarian action. Art is the tool through which we communicate and project ourselves. Social and existential reality together with human creative possibilities constitute the primary material of our works."

OMNI employs a combination of concrete action (installing benches at a bus stop that had none, for example, or burying themselves in a huge pile of uncollected garbage), and poetry (for example, reading poetry aloud on the crowded bus). They participate in Havana's annual pilgrimage on the Day of St. Lazarus, which they perform "for the health of poetry," and transform drab public spaces in their community with graffiti and murals. Through each of their actions, the artists of OMNI try to make visible the conditions of daily life as they strive to create positive change and build a sense of community.

OMNI's performance at Columbia, *Makina Total City*, introduced the audience to their particular form of high-energy performative poetry/spoken word, free hop music, and performance art, forcefully evoking the chaos and stresses and joys of daily life in Cuba while insisting on expressive freedom for poetry and art.

OMNI's work serves as a vibrant example of a phenomenon that has been evolving for the past several decades as artists and cultural producers attempted to open spaces for new debates within Cuban society. Their performative brand of poetry springs from oral traditions and street theater, strongly influenced by Alamar art collectives of the 1980s and 1990s such as *Quijote* and *ArteNativa*, and Havana groups, such as *Grupo Puré*, *ArteCalle*, and *Enema*, who exited the space of the schools and made forays into the appropriation of public spaces. Inspired by all these groups, OMNI has innovatively forged new spaces of expressivity in a restricted public sphere, adopting performative genres in order to engage directly with the public. (*cont. on page 18*)



ABOVE

OMNI Zona Franca member, David Escalona Carillo
Photo by Maggie de la Cuesta



LEFT

Zoya Kocur and the members of OMNI ZonaFranca during the discussion that followed their CSER presentation.
Photo by Maggie de la Cuesta

(cont. from page 17) The Cuban collectives of the 1980s challenged the government and the cultural bureaucracy in a wide range of arenas, for free speech, artistic freedom, the right to religious expression, and the opening up of cultural institutions to civic debates. The next generation of 1990s collectives, along with various individual artists, began to address issues such as gender relations and homosexuality and problems such as lack of adequate housing, economic opportunity, and basic services, attempting to intervene in some of these problems with the limited means available to them.

During the 1990s, a discussion of race began to emerge in Cuba's public sphere, though these debates tended to occur in limited, academic settings. Acknowledgement of contemporary racism in Cuba was problematic, a contradiction of the official position that the Revolution had eradicated racism, even as it was apparent that much of the social apparatus of racism inherited from earlier periods had remained intact. Nonetheless, the move to address race in the work of a number of black Cuban artists in the mid- to late 1990s (themselves benefiting from the efforts of earlier artists, such as the Afrocentric collective Grupo Antillano from the 1970s) inspired new attempts to approach issues of race, adopt black cultural styles, and engage in public debate. OMNI's work, the work of artists such as Alexis Esquivel, and others who

have explicitly dealt with race (e.g., the female rap group Las Krudas, whose explicitly pro-woman lyrics speak to the conditions of black women in Cuba) took a provocative stance in addressing social problems including sexism, homophobia and racism.

The cultural production of OMNI and earlier collectives has had impacts within multiple arenas, including communities, the artistic sphere, and relations with state actors. These cultural processes are occurring at this historical moment not only as the result of economic forces outside the control of the state combined with an influx of external influences, but also as part of the ongoing national history of struggle for recognition and equality on the part of black and other marginalized Cubans. These critical practices do not necessarily signal a call for dismantling the entire system; rather, as the 1980s artists before them, OMNI ZonaFranca and other cultural producers of the current generation (whether in music, visual art, or other forms) are engaged in a process of criticism from within. They have taken advantage of the example of their predecessors to invent their own forms of critical and communitarian art and to create new spaces in the form of an expanded role for art in current Cuba.

Videos and other documentation of OMNI ZonaFranca's work can be seen on YouTube and on their blog: <http://omnifestivalpoesiasinfin.blogspot.com/>

Zoya Kocur is an independent scholar and doctoral student based in New York City. She is completing her dissertation on OMNI ZonaFranca at Middlesex University in London.

2012 CSER Graduates Make History

This past May 16, CSER graduated a record thirteen students: Lluvia Alcazar, Nnaemeka Ekwelum, Camilia Fuentes, Cynthia Gao, Louisa Harstad, Lynda Kwon, Daryl Lee, Jasmine Little, Bianca Pasikhani, Samiha Rahman, Daniel Valella, Isaiah Walker, and Belle Yan.

At the CSER ceremony, Camilia Fuentes and Daniel Valella were presented with departmental honors by the School of General Studies and Columbia College respectively. Professor Ed Morales praised Camilia's "talent for engaging with new ideas and turning out well-conceived analysis and thoughtful insight," while Professor Gary Okihiro spoke of Daniel's writing as "uniformly excellent."

Louisa Harstad was presented with CSER's "Award for Outstanding Thesis" in recognition of exceptional quality in research and writing for her project on the effects of the federal government's "Blood Quantum Enactment" on American Indian Tribal enrollment, sovereignty and identity. Louisa is also the first CSER graduate with a track in Indigenous Studies. Professor Catherine Fennell congratulated Louisa for showing consistent progress and commitment to the research process and for drafting a solid thesis. Professor John Gamber presented her with a Chief Joseph Blanket, which symbolizes bravery and pointing in all directions of Mother Earth.

Cynthia Gao was honored with CSER's "Award for Excellence in Scholarship," in recognition for excellent academic quality and performance and for the combination of rigor, curiosity and ethos of collegiality in all her classes.

CSER also presented special awards for "Outstanding Service" to Stephen Chou and Kristen Nicol, in recognition of exceptional quality and performance regarding their service to CSER. Kristen and Stephen worked at CSER for two years, until graduating this spring. Kristen was our office assistant and Stephen our web master, media consultant and digital



designer. They both gave their time and support to CSER above and beyond their responsibilities.

TOP

From left: Louisa Harstad, Camilia Fuentes, Nnaemeka Ekwelum, Jasmine Little, Daniel Valella, Cynthia Gao, Belle Yan, Lluvia Alcazar and Isaiah Walker.

MIDDLE LEFT

Cynthia Gao with her parents.

MIDDLE RIGHT

Mariachi Loco of NY provided live music to the graduates and their families.

BOTTOM LEFT

Louisa Harstad is presented with the Chief Joseph Blanket. Professors José Moya and John Gamber look on.

BOTTOM RIGHT

Stephen Chou is presented with CSER's "Outstanding Service Award."

Photos by Robyn Burgess

2011-2012

Academic Year in Review

CSER Events



SEP 22, 2011 (Thu)
6-8 pm



NORA GAMEZ
LIVING IN TRANSITION:
The Politics of Popular Music
in Contemporary Cuba



Casa Hispánica, Columbia University
612 West 116 St., Room 201



Event Presented by:
CSER, Center for Ethnomusicology, and
the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures

September, 2011

September 22

Living in Transition: The Politics of Popular Music in Contemporary Cuba.

Lecture given by **Nora Gamez**, City University of London. Presented by CSER, the Center for Ethnomusicology and the Department of Latin American Cultures. Location: Casa Hispánica, Columbia University.

October, 2011

October 6

CSER Symposium: Theory and Practice of Social Movements

Keynote speaker: **Cathy Cohen** (University of Chicago) Panelists: **Mehmet Dosemeci** (Columbia University), **Tania Mattos** (NY Youth Leadership Council-NYSYLC), and **Gabriella Coleman** (New York University) Location: Faculty House, Columbia University

October 12-14

Hispanic New York Film and Video Festival, Sixth Edition

-(Oct 12, 6pm) - Opening night at Instituto

Cervantes, screening of *Subterraneos*, followed by live performance by “**Fuerza Norteña**”.

-(Oct 13, 6pm) - Screenings at Casa Hispánica, Columbia University: *Dirt and Los que se Quedan (Those Who Remain)*

-(Oct 19, 6pm) - Screening at Instituto Cervantes of *Recordando al Mamoncillo*.

October 19

Salsa legend **Rubén Blades** visits CSER. Mr. Blades participated in a class discussion on Latin music with Professors Ed Morales and Christopher Washburne. He discussed his multifaceted career as a musician, songwriter, singer, and political figure. Location: 420 Hamilton Hall.

October 21

Conversation with Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

Presented by CSER and the Center for Gender & Sexuality Law
Location: Jerome Greene Hall.

October 21

Radical Philosophy Conference

Speakers: Claudia Aradau, Etienne Balibar, Tim Bewes, Antonia Birnbaum, Finn Brunton, Marilena Chaui, David Cunningham, Harry Harootunian, Esther Leslie, Rosalind Morris, Mark Neocleous, Peter Osborne, Kristin Ross, Kaushik Sunder Rajan and Gayatri Spivak
Presented by CSER and the Radical Philosophy Journal.
Location: 1501 International Affairs Building (SIPA).

CSER Annual Symposium
October 6 (6pm - 1:4pm)
Faculty House, Columbia University - Garden Room One
64 Morningside Drive, New York, NY

Theory and Practice of Social Movements

WELCOMING ADDRESS:
Prof. Patricia Ingram-Mindescher Director, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Cathy J. Cohen
The Ford and Mary Writson Dean, Professor of Social Science, Deputy Provost for Graduate Education, University of Chicago

FOUNDATIONAL:
"Social Movements in Social Activist & New Multicultural Settings"
Richard D. Alba
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Columbia University
Professorial Research Fellow, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society

FOUNDATIONAL:
"From Aids to New Arrangements: Youth Squared"
The Intersection of Gender"
Tania Mattos
Leadership Coordinator, New York State Youth Leadership Council (NYSLC)

"Anonymous and the Politics of Diarrhea, Digital Direct Action, and Digital Dissidence"
Gabriella Coleman
Assistant Professor of Media, Culture, and Communication, New York University

Event presented by:
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race



INDIGENOUS FORUM

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSER) presents the second Indigenous Forum Speaker Series at Columbia University.

NOVEMBER 2, 2011
WEDNESDAY
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Mark Trahan
The Cedars Group

The Next Great Battle:
American Indian
Self-Determination During
the Era of Cutbacks

420 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University
1130 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY

FEBRUARY 15, 2012
WEDNESDAY
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Scott Richard Lyons

Associate Professor
Department of English, Language and
Literature
University of Michigan

Native Modernity
and the Crisis of Culture

420 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University
1130 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY

APRIL 11, 2012
WEDNESDAY
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Bunky Echo-Hawk

proACTIVE ARTIST
Proactive Indigenous
Synergy Through Art

420 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University
1130 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY

The CSER Indigenous Forum is made possible by the generous contribution of Mr. David S. Preiss (CS 16).

November, 2011

November 2

Indigenous Forum: The Next Great Battle: American Indian Self-Determination During the Era of Cutbacks
Mark Trahan, The Cedars Group
Location: 420 Hamilton Hall

November 11, 2011

Space, Family and Memory: Readings by Local Latina Writers
Yesenia Barragn (Columbia University), **Carribbean Fragoza** (South El Monte Arts Posse/LA-NYC), Moderated by Frances Negrón-Muntaner (CSER).
Presented by the Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity and sponsored by CSER and the GSAS Office of Diversity.

December, 2011

December 2

Transcolonial Fanon: Trajectories of a Revolutionary Politics
Opening Remarks: Frances Negrón-Muntaner (Columbia University) and Kaiama L. Glover (Barnard College)
Panelists: Bashir Abu Manneh (Columbia University), Muhsin Al-Musawi (Columbia University), Seloua Luste Boubina (College International de philosophie), Maryse Condé (Columbia University), Myriam Cottias (CNRS/EHESS), Mamadou Diouf (Columbia University), Madeline Dobie (Columbia University), Mireille Fanon

Mendès-France (Frantz Fanon Foundation, Paris), Stathis Gourgouris (Columbia University), Ronald Judy (University of Pittsburgh), Reinhold Martin (Columbia University), Nelson Maldonado-Torres (Rutgers University), Richard Philcox (Independent Scholar and Translator), David Scott (Columbia University).

Presented by CSER, the Institute of African Studies (IAS), and the Maison Française at Columbia University.
Location: Maison Française, Columbia University, Buell Hall, 2nd Floor.



Photo by Frederick Moehn

December 8
Holiday Party
CSER + Forum on Migration + IAS + ICLS + ILAS. Location: 301 Philosophy Hall.

December 9-14
The Third International Conference on Tibetan Language, held at Columbia brought together some 70 scholars from China, India and the West to discuss issues relating to Tibetan language, its study, teaching and development. This conference was jointly organized by CSER, the Trace Foundation, the Shang Shung Institute, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University, and the Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center.

January, 2012

January 26
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: To Mines and Markets; Indigenous Migration in Colonial Mexico
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th Street

January 31
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture

Series: Guest Workers, Temporary Labor, and the Future of American Immigration
Daniel Velasco (Adelphi University)
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th Street

February, 2012

February 8
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: The Expansion of Higher Education in Brazil and the Challenge of Affirmative Action Programs
Marcia Lima (University of São Paulo)
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th Street

February 15
Indigenous Forum Series: Modernity and the Crisis of Culture
Scott Richard Lyons (University of Michigan)
Location: 420 Hamilton Hall

February 15
Graduate Student Colloquium: Indigenous Spaces: Pushing the Boundaries of History, Bodies, Geographies, and Politics
Keynote Speaker: **Scott Richard Lyons** (University of Michigan)
Presented by The Collaborations on Indigenous Studies Project (CISP)
Location: 420 Hamilton Hall

Indigenous Spaces: Pushing the Boundaries of History, Bodies, Geographies, and Politics
A Graduate Student Colloquium
Presented by The Collaborations on Indigenous Studies Project (CISP) in partnership with The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSER)
Feb 15 (WED), 2012 | 420 Hamilton Hall, Columbia University | 1130 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY

8:00 - 8:30 REGISTRATION - BREAKFAST	12:00 - 1:30 LUNCH
8:30 - 8:45 OPENING REMARKS	1:30 - 3:00 PANEL: Pushing the Boundaries: Space
8:45 - 10:00 TO MINES AND MARKETS: Indigenous Migration in Colonial Mexico Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College Discussion and Citizenship: What do we get to host?	Chair: Anna Zelen Panelists: Scott Richard Lyons, Daniel Velasco, Marcia Lima, Immanuel Ness
10:05 - 11:00 COURSE BREAK	3:00 - 4:00 DISCUSSIONS
11:00 - 12:30 PANEL: Articulating Contemporary Theory and Practice Chair: Scott Richard Lyons Panelists: Immanuel Ness, Daniel Velasco, Marcia Lima, Scott Richard Lyons	4:00 - 6:00 WORKSHOP: Race and Ethnicity in the Americas Chair: Scott Richard Lyons Panelists: Immanuel Ness, Daniel Velasco, Marcia Lima, Scott Richard Lyons

Migration, Race, & Ethnicity
SEMINAR LECTURE SERIES
SPRING 2012
Presented by CSER + FoM
Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University
(Forum on Migration)

JAN 26 7:00pm **To Mines and Markets: Indigenous Migration in Colonial Mexico**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

JAN 31 7:00pm **Sweet Workers, Temporary Labor, and the Future of American Immigration in the 19th Century**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

FEB 8 8:00pm **The Expansion of Higher Education in Brazil and the Challenge of Affirmative Action Programs**
Marcia Lima, University of São Paulo
Location: TBA

FEB 21 7:00pm **Hot Feeling at Home: Migration, Belonging and Rooting in Western Europe and the U.S.**
Jan Willem Duyvendak, University of Amsterdam
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

MAR 26 7:00pm **General Rights? Migration, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines in the 19th Century**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

MAR 29 7:00pm **Sports and Ethnicity, Jersey and Palestinian Soccer: Issues in Argentina and Chile**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

APR 3 7:00pm **From One Island to Another: Dominican Immigration to New York, 1882-1924**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

APR 18 7:00pm **Belonging Via Involvement in Civic Discourse: Russian Jewish Dissidents in Israel**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: TBA

APR 24 7:00pm **Africa in Brazil? Samba, History, and the Future and Challenge of Diaspora**
Immanuel Ness, Brooklyn College
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th St, NYC

For more information please visit: www.columbia.edu/cs2012/

February 21
CSER Open House
CSER welcomes its faculty, new and returning students and friends
Location: 420 Hamilton Hall

February 21
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: Not Feeling at Home-Migration, Belonging and Nostalgia in Western Europe and the U.S. by **Jan Willem Duyvendak** (University of Amsterdam)
Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th Street.


March, 2012

March 22
Neoliberal Multiculturalism in Colombia and the Americas - A forum featuring Rudy Amanda Hurtado Garcés
Founder of Palen(k)e Universitario, Afro-Colombian Student Organization and anthropologist-activist at the Universidad del Cauca, Colombia. Presented by the Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity, a program of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, The Graduate History Association Students of Color Chair, and AfroColombiaNY.
Location: 420 Hamilton Hall.

March 26
The Obliteration of Blackness in Ancient Greek Philosophy and the Metaphysics of Race by **David Clinton Wills** (CSER, Columbia University)
Location: 420 Hamilton Hall.

Neoliberal Multiculturalism in Colombia and the Americas

A forum featuring:
Rudy Amanda Hurtado Garcés
 Founder of Pale (U) Universitarie Afro-Colombian Student Organization and Anthropologist-activist at the Universidad del Cauca, Colombia




March 22 (THU) 6:30pm

420 Hamilton Hall
Columbia University

Event presented by: The Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity, a program of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, The Graduate History Association Students of Color Chair, and AfroColombianNY. Co-sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to rccandethnicitygroup@gmail.com

March 26
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: Colonial Rights and Migration-Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines in the 19th Century by **Joseph M. Fradera Barceló** (Universitat Pompeu Fabra).
 Location: Sulzberger Parlor, Broadway at 117th Street.

March 27
“¡¡¡MÁKINA TOTAL CITY!!!”
 OMNI ZonaFranca members: Amaury Pacheco, Eligio Pérez and David Escalona
 Introduction by Zoya Kocur, Middlesex University. Presented by CSER and ILAS.
 Location: 420 Hamilton Hall



CSER+ILAS presents

¡¡¡MÁKINA TOTAL CITY!!!

MARCH 27 (TUESDAY) 2012
6:30PM-8:00PM
 420 Hamilton Hall
 1130 Amsterdam Avenue
 Columbia University
 New York, NY

OMNI ZonaFranca members: Amaury Pacheco, Eligio Pérez and David Escalona. Introduction by Zoya Kocur, Middlesex University. OMNI will present their new performance. MÁKINA TOTAL CITY!!! with poetry, music, and dance. After the performance there will be an audience discussion with the artists. OMNI ZonaFranca is a multi-disciplinary collective from Cuba. OMNI's work is a unique blend of performance, music, poetry, spoken word, rap, visual art, graffiti, video, and public art. Working together since 1997 they have produced several poetry CDs and videos, including the groundbreaking CD, *Almora Express*. They produce an annual music, art, theater and poetry festival *Punto de Vista* in Cuba. They have taken part in the Havana Biennial, and international exhibitions and festivals throughout Cuba and Europe. OMNI has been the subject of three documentaries. This is their first tour of the United States.

March 29
Migration, Race, and Ethnicity Lecture Series: Sports and Ethnicity-Jewish Palestinian Soccer Teams in Argentina and Chile by **Chile Raanan Rein**, Tel Aviv University. Location: Diana Oval, Broadway at 117th St, NYC.

April, 2012

April 3
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: From One Island to Another: Dominican Immigration to New York-1892-1924 by **Ramona Hernandez** (The City College of New York and the Graduate Center-CUNY)
 Location: Diana Oval, Broadway at 117th Street.

April 18
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: Belonging Via Involvement in Civic Discourse-Russian Jewish Homecomers in Israel by **Tamar Rapoport** (Hebrew University). Location: Diana Oval, Broadway at 117th Street.

April 24
Conference: Environmental Politics in Bolivia Under Evo Morales: Buen Vivir vs. New Extractivism
 Panelists: Rafael Archondo (Bolivian Ambassador to the U.S.), Eduardo Gudynas (Latin American Center of Social Ecology), Rebecca Hollender (Climate Change and Justice Working Group, AGRECOL, Andes), Marcela Olivera (Water for All Campaign), Deborah Poole (Johns Hopkins University), Juan Pablo Ramos (ex- vice minister of the Environment under Evo Morales)
 Presented by CSER, The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies-CLACS at New York University, NYU Native Studies Forum, The Observatory on Latin America, New School University, the NYU Latino Program, The Latin American and Caribbean Center at Florida International University and the Latin American Student Association at Columbia University.
 Location: Room 909, Kimmel Center-New York University; 60 Washington Square South.

April 24
Migration, Race and Ethnicity Lecture Series: Africa in Brazil? Samba, History by **Marc Hertzman** (Columbia University)

Location: Diana Oval, Broadway at 117th Street

April 27
Black, Brown & Blue: A Gallery, Reading and Rally for People of Color
 Hosted by the ADLS, the GHA Student of Color Contingent, the Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity of CSER, and Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Incorporated.
 Location: Van Am Quad (in front of Hamilton Hall and Hartley)

April 27
Undergraduate Research Symposium 2012: Examining Ethnicity and Race Throughout History
 Keynote Speaker: **Prof. Natasha Lightfoot** (Columbia University)
 Panel Moderator: Prof. Alondra Nelson (Columbia University)
 Columbia University Student Speakers: Tara Reed (CSER, Class of 2013), Felicia Bevel (Sociology, Class of 2013), Cassandra Lee (Compt. Literature and Society), Louisa Harstad (CSER, CC'12), Emily Kwong (Anthropology), Bianca Pasikhani (CSER and Political Science, CC'), Eli Wald (African-American Studies and History, CC'12), Dominique Mann (Anthropology CC'12), Isaiah R. Walker (CSER GS'12), Phillip Verma (History, CC'12), José Giralt (CSER, Class of 2013), Camilia Fuentes (CSER, GS'12), Cynthia Gao (CSER, CC'12). Location: Casa Hispánica.

May, 2012

May 16
CSER Graduation, Class of 2012.

