Confronting the Violence(s) of History: Critical Methods, Epistemologies, and Engagements

The History Department’s 38th Annual Susman Graduate Student Conference
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
April 7th & 8th, 2016
Thursday, April 7, 2016

Opening Lecture: 5:00-5:45 p.m.
Hegeman Hall

Archival Dispossession: The Violence of History on Enslaved Bodies

Marisa Fuentes, Assistant Professor of History and Women & Gender Studies, Rutgers University

Reception: 5:45-6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 8, 2016

Breakfast: 9:00-9:30 a.m.
Room 115

Session 1: 9:30-10:55 a.m.

Panel 1 (Room 115): Rhetorics and Resistance to Violence

Moderator: Dr. Camilla Townsend

Catherine Harris, Rutgers University, “The Language of Violence: Liberal Imperialism and Its Irish “Other” in the Reform Act of 1867”

Katherine Morris, Rutgers University, “‘More Reputation than She Deserves’: Remembering Suffrage in Wyoming”

Colleen Wall, Rutgers University, “Epistemic Haunting: Reflections on the Subaltern Voice”

Panel 2 (Room 112): Militarization, War, and Ideological Violence

Moderator: Dr. Toby Jones

Alexander Petrusak, Rutgers University, “An Army for Peace and Socialism: The National People’s Army in a Cold War Context, 1956-1989”

Henny Ziai, Columbia University, “From Mahdism to Communism: Tracing Anti-Imperial Resistance in Sudan”

Stefan Aune, University of Michigan, “The “Indian Question” and the U.S. Military”
Session 2: 11:00-12:25 p.m.

Panel 1 (Room 115): *Internationalism and Its Response to Violence in Wartime*

Moderator: Dr. Temma Kaplan

Danielle Willard-Kyle, Rutgers University, “A Future of Their Own: Children’s Choices in Italian Displaced Persons Camps”

Dustin Stalnaker, Rutgers University, “From Madrid to Managua: The Activist Afterlives of the International Brigades”

Panel 2 (Room 112): *Constraints Against Violence on the Stage and in Sound*

Moderator: Dr. Alastair Bellany

Ryan Purcell, Cornell University, “A Place for Our Crowd:” Spatial Politics of Hip Hop in New York City, 1973-1977”

Ian Funk, George Washington University, “The Masculinity Scare: Performative Masculinities and Straight Camp in Loring Mandel’s Advise and Consent”


Lunch: 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Room 115

Session 3: 1:30-2:55 pm.

Panel 1 (Room 115): *Violence as Spectacle/Resistance in Authoritarian States*

Moderator: Dr. Jennifer Jones

Alessandro Saluppo, Fordham University, “Spectacles of Pain and Suffering: The Narrative of the Body in Fascist Paramilitary Violence in Italy, 1919-1925”


Noelle Tutur, Columbia University, “Spectacle of Humiliation: Power and Social Death in Fascist Italy”
Panel 2 (Room 112): *State Intrusion and Violence in the American South*

Moderator: Dr. Leah DeVun

Caitlin Wiesner, Rutgers University, “‘She Should Be Able to Pick the Man She Gets Raped By’: Historicizing the Construction of Black Female Sexuality in the Joan Little Trial”


Daniel Manuel, Rutgers University, “‘Here the Enemy is Us’: Obstacles to Early AIDS Activism in the U.S. South”

Session 4: 3:00-4:25 p.m.

Panel 1 (Room 115): *Violences of the Transatlantic World*

Moderator: Dr. James Delbourgo

Meagan Wierda, Rutgers University, “Sick from Freedom: The Sixth National Census and the Violence of Categories”

Paul Sampson, Rutgers University, “The Political Agnosticism of Early American Geology”

Laura Michel, Rutgers University, “Roberts Vaux and the Ethics of Philanthropy”

Panel 2 (Room 112): *Women in Wartime: Problems of Epistemological Violence*

Moderator: Dr. Barbara Cooper

Regina Kazyulina, Northeastern University, “Female Collaborators Through the Lens of Soviet War Crimes Trial Records”

Ariel Natalo-Lifton, Temple University, “They Served Too: The Unique Experiences of Female Vietnam Veterans”

Keynote Address: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Hegeman Hall

“We were not stealing”: Rice, Women’s Bodies, and State Intrusions in Early Postcolonial Mali

Laura Ann Twagira, Assistant Professor of History and Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, Wesleyan University