

ON THE EDGE: Transgression and the Dangerous Other

A celebratory exploration of intellectual and artistic transgression

August 9 & 10 2007

New York City

<http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/ontheedge/>

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 AT JOHN JAY COLLEGE
899 TENTH AVE (between 58th & 59th)

9:15am REGISTRATION/COFFEE IN THE THEATRE LOBBY

9:45am-11:00 am

MORNING PLENARY

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Lynch Theatre

Amiri Baraka

Poet, Playwright, Activist

David Brotherton

John Jay College, Sociology

Gulags, Ghettos and Gangs: Transgressors of the World Unite!

Jeff Ferrell

Texas Christian University & University of Kent, UK

Transgression for the Hell of It

Jock Young

University of Kent, UK, John Jay College, and CUNY Graduate Center

Vertigo and the Dangerous Other

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 AT JOHN JAY COLLEGE
899 TENTH AVE (between 58th & 59th)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1 (11:15am-12:30pm)

11:15am-12:30pm **TRANSGRESSIVE PERFORMANCES: MUSIC & CULTURE IN LATE MODERNITY**

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 636
Facilitator: Peter Marina

15 minute Film Excerpt: NY77: The Coolest Year in Hell

Director: Henry Corra

Producers: Nanette Burstein and Jonathan Mayo

Youth Writing the Streets, Writing New York, Inscribing Resistance

Baba Israel, hip-hop artist and teacher

Heavy Metal, Dis-Alienation, and Carnival Culture

Karen Bettez Halnon, Pennsylvania State University

11:15am-12:30pm **CRIME FICTIONS: BREAKING WINDOWS & THE NEW YORK 'MIRACLE'**

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 630

Facilitator: Janice Johnson-Dias

The New York Miracle Revisited: Has Violent Crime Finally Bottomed Out?

Ric Curtis, John Jay College, Anthropology

Explaining The Crime Drop In NYC in Terms of Sub-Cultural Changes

Andrew Karmen, John Jay College, Sociology

Betrayal of the Heart: Misplaced Idealism in the Order of Urban Policing

Mitch Librett, Bridgewater State College, Criminal Justice

11:15am-12:30pm **WAR, STATE CRIME, AND INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE:
THE CASE OF THE WESTERN BALKANS**

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 610

Ethnicity and War: The Case of the Former Yugoslavia

Sreca Perunovic, John Jay College, Sociology

The Initial Srebrenica Exhumations

Courtney Angela Brkic, Assistant Professor of English, George Mason University

The Betrayal Of Srebrenica: The Ten Year Commemoration

Lisa DiCaprio, Visiting Professor of Modern European History, Boston College

12:30pm-2:00pm **LUNCH (not included)**

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 2 (2:00-3:30pm)

2:00pm-3:30pm

CROSSING LINES OF CONSCIOUSNESS: SELF-DISCOVERY AND EMPOWERMENT

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 610
Facilitator: Robert Garot

Portraits in Pen

Vera Lopez, Arizona State University, School of Justice & Social Inquiry

Scenes from the Script Workshop

Anabela Zigova, artist/filmmaker and Ricky Singh, artist

Group Belonging and Attitude Changes

Camila Salazar Atias, Head of Information, Easy Street, Fryshuset, Sweden
Leo Razzak, Project Manager, Sharaf Heroes, Fryshuset, Sweden

2:00pm-3:30pm

STATE TERROR AND THE CRIMINAL ELITE

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 630
Facilitator: Jeff Ferrell

High Crimes and Misdemeanors: George W. Bush and the Sins of Abu Ghraib
Mark Hamm, Indiana State University, Criminology

No One Left to Torture ... and the White Man Dancing: Leonard Cohen, Sadism, and the Neoconservatives in the 'War on Terror'

Michael Flynn, John Jay College, Center on Terrorism

War and Imperialism as Metaphors: History as a Maverick Intellectual Pursuit
Itai Nartzizenfeld Sheh, John Jay College, History

2:00pm-3:30pm

OTHERING THE OTHER

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 636
Facilitator: Danny Kessler

Constructing & Deconstructing the Child Molester: Problems in Theory and Practice

Diana Rickard, CUNY Graduate Center, Sociology

Revisiting Resistance: Connecting Hidden Transcripts with Social Movements in Prison and Palestine

Judah Schept, Indiana University, Criminal Justice

Criminologizing The Other: Societal Strategies of Intolerance Toward The Mentally Ill

Vadim Moldovan, York College, CUNY, Social Work Program

Marginalized No Longer: Bringing Victims' Experiences to the Center of Hate Crime Research

Doug Meyer, CUNY Graduate Center, Sociology

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3 (3:45pm-5:15pm)

3:45pm-5:15pm

CULTURE, VIOLENCE & SPECTACLE

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 636

Facilitator: Gregory Snyder

It's Good to Watch: Cruelty, Transgression and Popular Culture

Simon Hallsworth, London Metropolitan University

The Racial Politics of Transgression: Crime, Violence and Other Rurals

Kerry Carrington, University of New England, Australia, Sociology

Anthony Papa

Artist/Activist, Author of "15 to Life" and a communications specialist for Drug Policy Alliance

3:45pm-5:15pm

LATE MODERNITY, PUNISHMENT & RESISTANCE

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 610

Facilitator: Mitch Librett

Trying to Make it Transgressive – But Compared to What?

Danny Kessler, John Jay College, Sociology

The Punitive Identity

Fenna van Marle, University of Cambridge

Locusts, Plagues and Populism

Phil Carney, University of Kent, UK, Criminology

3:45pm-5:15pm

YOUTHFUL TRANSGRESSIONS: RESISTANCE & SURVEILLANCE IN THE DYSTOPIC AGE

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 630

Facilitator: Sarah Hanks

Surveillance and Criminalization In and Around Urban Schools: Everyday Acts of Resistance of Youth as a Criminology of Energy and Tension

Jen Weiss, CUNY Graduate Center, Urban Education

Kathleen Nolan, Mercy College, Education

Toward a Theory of Legitimated Adolescent Violence

Ralph Larkin, John Jay College, Sociology

Classroom Resistance as Edgework

Robert Garot, John Jay College, Sociology

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 4 (5:30pm-6:30pm)

5:30pm-6:30pm **RIKERS CREATIVE: WORDS AND VISIONS FROM THE STREETS TO THE GULAG**

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 636
Facilitator: Doris Dittmer

Performers/Participants:

Vivana Grell, feminist poet

Savonna, feminist spoken word

Ty Conscious, poet/writer/photographer

Lady Penumbra, poet/photographer

(Other invited guests from the visual, poetry, spoken word and performing arts fields)

5:30pm-6:30pm **BOOK TALK**

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 630
Facilitator: David Brotherton

Discussion of the newly released second edition (2007) of
Resistance Through Rituals: Youth Subcultures In Post-War Britain
edited by Stuart Hall and Tony Jefferson (first published in the UK in 1976)

Tony Jefferson, Keele University, UK (co-author and co-editor)

Commentators:

David Brotherton, John Jay College, Sociology

David Muggleton, University of Chichester, UK

Martin Roberts, Eugene Lang College, The New School, Media and Cultural Studies

5:30pm-6:30pm **ISLAMOPHOBIA IN THE LAND OF THE FREE**

John Jay College, 899 Tenth Ave, Room 610
Facilitator: Carla Barrett

Peacemaking Criminology and Counterterrorism: Muslim Americans and the War on Terror

Tony Gaskew, University of Pittsburgh, Criminal Justice

John Jay Portrait of Islam: The Post-It Project

Abubakar Masood, Muslim Students Association, John Jay College

Syed Tauqir Haider, Muslim Students Association, John Jay College

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 AT WHITE BOX GALLERY
525 West 26th Street (between 10th & 11th Ave)

7:00pm-8:00 pm

SPECIAL SESSION AT WHITE BOX

White Box, 525 West 26th Street (Chelsea)

Moderator: Raúl Zamudio

Theater of Cruelty: Towards an Aesthetics of Transgression in Contemporary Art

Moderator: Raúl Zamudio, independent curator, critic, scholar, New York

Panelists: Martin Durazo, Artist, Los Angeles

Claudia Huiza, American Intercontinental University, Literature

Andrzej Jachimczyk, European Graduate School, Sociology

Roberto Visani, John Jay College, Art, Music, Philosophy

This panel will precede the exhibition opening at White Box. The panel will be moderated by the curator and participants will include some of the exhibiting artists.

Art Exhibit and Reception

August 9th, 6:30-9:30pm

Theatre of Cruelty

Curated by Raúl Zamudio

White Box, 525 West 26th Street, Manhattan

July 24-August 11, 2007

“Without an element of cruelty at the root of every spectacle, the theater is not possible. In our present state of degeneration it is through the skin that metaphysics must be made to re-enter our minds”—Antonin Artaud, *Theatre and its Double*

The excerpt above is culled from Antonin Artaud’s writings on theatre whose reference to cruelty is often wrongly construed as synonymous with sadism. There is no doubt that Artaud’s framework for a new, revolutionary theatre carried with it a poetics of transgression; yet, his unique aesthetic approach to the stage with its subtext of violence was neither gratuitous nor for shock value. Rather, what he sought to attack was the inertia of a theatre that expressed a lifeless art to a complacent audience and coupled together, became an impotent pairing of art and life that inadvertently benefited the status quo. Analogously, contemporary art recently seems to be suffering from its own particular strain of indifference; an acquiescent attitude which the exhibition entitled *Theatre of Cruelty* seeks to remedy.

The artists in the exhibition diagnose and treat this malaise in myriad thematic ways via a plethora of media including video, painting, photography, sculpture, works-on-paper, audio-work, and installation.

Artists include: Carlos Amorales, Mexico; Oreet Ashery, U.K.; Stuart Croft, U.K.; Martin Durazo, U.S.; Jeanette Doyle, Ireland; Teresa Margolles, Mexico; Temu Maki, Finland; Ferran Martin, Spain; Emma McCagg, U.S.; Fiona Smyth, Canada; Matthew Tackett, U.S.; Javier Tellez, U.S./Venezuela; Wojtek Ulrich U.S./Poland; Roberto Visani, U.S.; Vik Vudor, France/Croatia; Sislej Xhafa, Albania

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10 AT THE CUNY GRADUATE CENTER
365 FIFTH AVE (Between 34th and 35th STREET)

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1 (10:00-11:15am)

10:00am-11:15am **HIP-HOPPING 'CROSS THE BORDER: YOUTH CULTURE & ZONES OF CREATIVITY**

CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave, 9th Floor, Room 9100
Facilitator: Robert Weide

Crime Space vs. Cool Space: Graffiti and the Branding of Consumer Experience

Gregory Snyder, Baruch College, Sociology and Anthropology

'Rappin,' 'Retromacking' and the Reconstitution of Reality: Thinking Differently About [Media] 'signs' and [street] 'codes'

Keith Hayward, University of Kent, UK

Multiculturalism versus the hip-Hop Nation: Nihilism in Urban Youth Culture

Sunonda Samaddar, Teacher's College, Comparative Int'l Education

10:00am-11:15am **VOICES FROM THE AFRICAN DIASPORA: RACIALIZED TRANSGRESSION AND THE SITUATED OTHER**

CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave, 9th Floor, Room 9204/05
Facilitator: Anthony Lemelle

Women of African Descent, Sexual Relationships, and HIV

Florence Kyomugisha, California State University, Northridge

Getting High: African American Marijuana Use, Sex, Dating, and Marriage

A. C. Campbell, Purdue University

Women in Power as Victims at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Ramona Brockett, University of Maryland-Eastern Shore

Social Semiotics of Black Marginalization: Representing Blackness, Sex, Drugs, and AIDS

Anthony J. Lemelle, John Jay College

10:00am-11:15am **MEDIATING TRANSGRESSION: IMAGING, REPRESENTING AND DEFINING THE OTHER**

CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave, Room 9206/07
Facilitator: Sean Blackwell

Researching Murder News in the Information Age

Chris Greer and Eugene McLaughlin, City University, London

Sabotage, Interventionism and the Art of Disruption

Avi Brisman, Emory University, Anthropology

Presenter/Title TBA

CONCURRENT SESSION 2 (11:30am-12:30pm)

11:30am-12:30pm **NAVIGATING THE CYBER-SEAS**

CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave, 9th Floor, Room 9206/07

Facilitator: *TBA*

Black Beard's Mouse. The Sly Conquest of Cyberspace

Salvatore, Poier, Università degli Studi di Milano, Istituto di Filosofia e Sociologia del Diritto, Italy

E-Racking: New Opportunity Structures in the World of Professional Shoplifting

Robert Weide, New York University, Sociology

Presenter/Title TBA

11:30am-12:30pm **NEW ORLEANS: IT WAS NOT A NATURAL DISASTER, IT WAS MURDER!**

CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave, 9th Floor, Room 9204/05

Facilitator: Luis Barrios, John Jay College, Puerto Rican/Latin American and Studies

Manolo de los Santos, John Jay College

Claudia de La Cruz, John Jay College

Angela Carrasco, John Jay College

11:30am-12:30pm **TREATING US WITH RESPECT: ACTIVISM AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT BY AND FOR DRUG USERS**

CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave, 9th Floor, Room 9100

Facilitator: Barry Spunt

Matt Curtis, Open Society Institute

Gabriel Sayegh, Drug Policy Alliance

12:30pm-1:30pm **LUNCH (not included)**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th AT THE CUNY GRADUATE CENTER
AFTERNOON PROGRAM
365 FIFTH AVE (Between 24th and 35th Street)
FIRST FLOOR, ELEBASH RECITAL HALL

- 1:30pm-1:45pm *Dad on Fire*
Carlos Arredondo
- 1:45pm-2:30pm *Putting the Iraq War on Trial*
Joan Wile And Vinnie Burrows, Grandmothers Against The War
- 2:30pm-3:00pm *Interrogating the Imagery of Power and Transgression*
Wayne Morrison, University of London
- BREAK
- 3:15 pm-4:15pm *Culture Jamming and the Arts of Resistance*
The Glass Bead Collective: Wylie Steklow, Vlad T, Rebecca B, Schiller D, & Dr
Littlefish
- 4:15 pm-5:15pm *Documenting Transgression Filming the Streets, Filming the Cops*
Eileen Clancy, I-Witness Video
- 5:15pm-5:20pm SHORT FILM: Melancholia Says: "Follow Me" by Anabela Zignova
- 5:20 pm-6:45pm *Fire Your Boss!*
Marvalous, Ms. Jerri Lorell, and guests
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Party @ 8:00pm (details to be announced)