

## Locating Public(s): Culture, Space, Text and Thought

*Saturday, April 4, 2009*

(small changes in the schedule may occur before the day of the conference)

9-9:30am Registration and Coffee (Bartlett Lobby)

9:30-10:45am SESSION ONE

*(Re) Constructing Paradigms of Critical Participation: Situating the Public in Contemporary Art Discourse*

(Tobin 304), Chair: Nathaniel Leonard

- “Neo-Brechtian Critical Distancing in Contemporary Exhibition Practice” **Tracy Zwick**, (Columbia-Art History)
- “Personal and Public Madness: (Re)Imagining Antonin Artaud” **Robert Landvreugd** (Columbia-Art History)
- “Counter-memory and the Emancipated Spectator: Fictive Archives and the (re)Distribution of the Sensible” **Hollyamber Kennedy** (Columbia-Art History)

*Alternative Organizations of the Public*

(Tobin 520), Chair: Kathleen Baldwin

- “Stateless Civil Societies: New and Old Ways of Thinking about Associational Life” **Aaron Wenner** (Harvard-Middle Eastern Studies)
- “The Magic Ring of the Society Column”: Newspapers and Desire in *The Custom of the Country*” **Ruth A.H. Lahti** (UMass Amherst-English)
- “Towards a Conception of Technopublics: The Limits of a Habermasian Public” **Linh Dich** (UMass Amherst-Rhetoric and Composition)

*Materialist Socialities: Rethinking Capitalist ‘Publics’*

(Tobin 307), Chair: Natasha Azank

- “Hospitality, Preindividual Relationality, and the (anti)Familial” **Matt Applegate** (Binghamton-Philosophy, Interpretation, and Culture)

- “Technology and Cultural Production: Community in the age of Mechanical Reproduction” **Erin Barrett** (Binghamton-Comparative Literature)
- “Queer Nomadism: Reconsidering 'Public' Sex(es)” **Hilary Malatino** (Binghamton- Philosophy, Interpretation, and Culture)

*Negotiating Power in the State, the Law, and the Church*  
(Bartlett 316), Chair: Christiane Bauermann

- “Sentimentality, Platitudes, and Social Justice: Religion in Public Discourse” **Liane F. Carlson** (Columbia-Philosophy)
- “Conceptions of the Good and the Ubiquity of Power: John Stuart Mill Responding to John Rawls” **Sean Johnston** (SUNY Binghamton-Ethical and Legal Philosophy)
- “Knowing, Uncertainty and *Law & Order*” **John Yargo** (UMass Amherst-English)

11am-12:15pm

ROUNDTABLE SESSION: The Future of Interdisciplinarity  
(Bartlett 316)

12:15-1:15pm

LUNCH

1:30-3pm

SESSION TWO

*Destabilizing Performances of the Public and Private Self*  
(Tobin 307), Chair: Emily Honey

- “(Un)Containable Bodies: The Public, the Private and Gendered Bodies in Modern Spaces in Gli uomini, che mascalzoni! (1932)” **Lindsay Eufusia** (NYU-Italian Studies)
- “*The House on the Borderland*: Pulp Novelist Valerie Taylor and the Lesbian Wife in Cold War America” **Lauren J. Gutterman** (NYU-History)
- “Violent Speech / Acts: Public Representation and Private Practices of Self” **Barrak Alzaid** (NYU-Performance Studies)

- “Todd Haynes: The Public, The Private, and The Performance” **Laura Felschow** (Buffalo-Media Studies)

*Public Politics, Private Profit*

(Tobin 304), Chair: Daniel Biegelson

- “Marriage and Public Policy: The Marriage Act of 1753” **Lisa Rourke** (Brandeis-English)
- “The ‘Forgotten Man’ as Body Politic:: the Cultural Origins of the New Deal, 1930-1933” **Christopher E. Brick** (Brown-History)
- “Behind the Scenes: An Exploration of the Presence of Typhoid and Water Purification in Edith Wharton’s *The Custom of the Country*” **Emma Howes** (UMass Amherst-English)
- “Can Technology Speak? Film, Photography, and Public Politics in the 1920’s” **Kristen Oehlrich** (Brown-Art History)

*CREATIVE PANEL* (Bartlett 316; more details TBA)

3:15-4:30pm

SESSION THREE

*Public Memorializing of Private Experience*

(Bartlett 316), Chair: Brian Johnson

- “The Author as Pharmakos: The Ethics of Interpretation in Martin McDonagh’s *The Pillowman*” **Anthony Chu** (Stony Brook-English)
- “Public and Private Deaths: The Hidden Grave and Hestia” **Philip Braunstein** (Boston College-Philosophy)
- “Homecoming Verses: Sites of Victories and Celebrations in Pindar’s Epinikia” **Maša Ćulumović** (Harvard-Classics)

*Creating a Counterdiscourse of Aesthetics*

(Tobin 304), Chair: Gregory Sargent

- "Conditions of Sociability: private faces, social bodies, and the early modern portrait medal" **Carla Benzan** (British Columbia-Art History)

- “The Home of Taste in Kant’s Third Critique” **Jerome Veith** (Boston College-Philosophy)
- "Of Dots, Data and Magic: Seurat, Sartre and Merleau-Ponty" **Michael Gutierrez** (Boston College-Philosophy)

*Indeterminate Spaces of Representation and Identity*  
(Tobin 307), Chair: Julie Burrell

- “Spaces of Possibility: Some Examples of Spatio-Temporalities in Contemporary North African Photography” **Lucy Gallun** (CUNY-Art History)
- “Behind the Scenes: Mayanization and the Caribbean Public Imaginary of Cancun” **Carmen Munoz** (Harvard and Tulane-Romance Languages)
- “The Dialectic of Community and Ostracism in *Light in August*” **Joe Mason** (UMass Amherst-English)

4:30-4:45pm  
5-7pm

CLOSING REMARKS (Bartlett 316)  
Reception at the UMass Faculty Club (on campus, 243 Stockbridge Rd Amherst, MA 01003)