The Center for Cultural Studies hosts a weekly Wednesday colloquium featuring work by faculty & visitors. The sessions consist of a 40-45 minute presentation followed by discussion. We gather at noon, with presentations beginning at 12:15 PM. Participants are encouraged to bring their own lunches; the Center provides coffee, tea, & cookies.

JANUARY 23

MASSIMILIANO TOMBA
History of Consciousness, UCSC
Insurgent Universality: An Alternative Legacy of Modernity
Insurgent Universality offers a new way of thinking political universality that radically differs from the legal universalism of human rights and cosmopolitanism. Assuming a conception of history that is not linear but articulated in a multi-verse of historical temporalities, Insurgent Universality excavates an alternative trajectory of modernity, which originally bridges European and non-European political experiments.

JANUARY 30

LETA HONG FINCHER
Author of Betraying Big Brother: The Feminist Awakening in China (Verso)
The Feminist Awakening in China
On the eve of International Women’s Day in 2015, the Chinese government arrested five feminist activists and jailed them for thirty-seven days. The Feminist Five became a global cause célèbre. But the Five are only symbols of a much larger feminist movement of university students, labor activists, civil rights lawyers, and performance artists, prompting an unprecedented awakening among young Chinese women. Dr. Hong Fincher argues that the broad-based movement poses the greatest challenge to China’s authoritarian state today.

FEBRUARY 6

DESMOND JAGMOHAN
Politics, Princeton University
Candor and Courage: Ida B. Wells and Fearless Speech
This paper explicates Ida B. Wells’ argument that journalists and leaders have a moral obligation to speak fearlessly. Dr. Jagmohan unearthed the normative relationship between candor, courage, and duty underlying Wells’ anti-lynching reporting during the Progressive Era. He contends that Wells’ willingness to risk death to expose the true causes of lynching exemplifies fearless speech, or what the ancients called parrhesia. In doing so, he questions whether intrepid speech can be a moral obligation for journalists and leaders living under extreme persecution.

FEBRUARY 13

A. LAURIE PALMER
Art, UCSC
Public Sun
A. Laurie Palmer’s place-based work takes form as sculpture, public projects, and writing; she collaborates on strategic actions in the contexts of social and environmental justice. She currently researches the shapes and structures of underground oil shale formations and continues to develop work on the Lichen Museum, a massively distributed, inside-out institution that considers this slow, resistant, adaptive and collective organism as an anti-capitalist companion and climate change survivor.

FEBRUARY 20

JERRY ZEE
Anthropology, UCSC
Continent in Dust: China in Aerosol Phases
This talk offers a political anthropology of strange weather. As Chinese deserts increasingly appear as latent dust storms, it tracks geo-meteorological phase shifts as they rework contemporary land and air into a substantial continuum. It tracks territorial governance as it shifts into experimental formations that draw into the choreographies of sand, wind, and dust that they seek to re-engineer.

FEBRUARY 27

DEE HIBBERT-JONES
Art and Film, UCSC
Last Day of Freedom and Run With It
Professor Hibbert-Jones will discuss her Academy Award-nominated film Last Day of Freedom, a portrait of a man at the nexus of the most pressing issues of our day—veterans’ care, mental health access, and criminal justice. Hibbert-Jones will also discuss her upcoming animated documentary Run With It, the story of Troy Davis, a black man accused of killing a white police officer in Savannah, Georgia.

MARCH 6

CAMILLA HAWTHORNE
Sociology, UCSC
On Diasporic Ethics: Locating the Black Mediterranean in Italian Citizenship Struggles
This talk examines the “Black Mediterranean” as an analytical framework for understanding racial criminalization and racialized citizenship in Italy. The emergent “Black Italian” movement in Italy has been increasingly confronted with the limits of national citizenship as a means for addressing racial inequality. In response, activists have begun to turn toward alternative political imaginaries and practices of community that extend beyond the Italian nation-state. What can the Black Mediterranean open up in terms of new political praxes and transgressive alliance? How might this framework help to bridge Black liberation politics in Italy with refugee rights mobilizations?
THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE PRESENTS:

LISE GETOOR UCSC and PRANAV ANAND UCSC, Moderated by NATHANIEL DEUTSCH Director, The Humanities Institute Questions that Matter: Data and Democracy January 29 / 7PM – 9PM / Kuumbba Jazz Center Co-sponsored by the Mellon Foundation

JESSICA BAUMAN What Refugees Taught Me About Shakespeare January 31 / 5PM – 6:30PM / Kresge Town Hall

JIM LEOFFLER University of Virginia The Right to Be Heard — Jews, Human Rights, and Global Democracy in Historical Perspective The Helen Diller Distinguished Lecture in Jewish Studies February 20 / 6PM – 8PM / Cowell Ranch Hay Barn

Symposium: Translating America/america Translated February 22 / 3:30PM – 5PM / Humanities 1, Room 210

JUAN FELIPE HERRERA UC Riverside in Conversation with KIRSTEN SILVA GRUESZ March 6 / Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History Presented by UCSC Special Collections

CONCERT: ZAKIR HUSSEIN March 29 / 7PM – 9PM / Rio Theater Presented by Kuumbba Jazz Center

THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY PRESENTS:

NIKO BESNIER University of Amsterdam Utopia Modern: Palm Springs and the American Imaginary January 23 / 3:15PM – 5PM / Social Sciences 1, Room 261

THE DEPARTMENT OF FEMINIST STUDIES PRESENTS:

RALINA JOSEPH University of Washington Postracial Resistance: Black Women, Media, and the Uses of Strategic Ambiguity January 17 / 1:30PM – 3:30PM / Humanities 1, Room 210

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM PRESENTS:

Living Writers Series Autobiography and its Discontents Thursdays / 5:20PM – 6:55PM / Humanities Lecture Hall January 17 SINA GRACE Author of Self-obsessed January 24 MYRIAM GURBA Author of Mean January 31 RONALDO V. WILSON UCSC February 7 STEVEN CHURCH Sierra Nevada College February 21 / Peace United Church, High Street ALEX MARZANO LESNEVICH Bowdoin College March 7 JUAN FELIPE HERRERA UC Riverside

THE SCIENCE AND JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER PRESENTS:

NEDA ATANASOSKI UCSC and KALINDI VORA UC Davis Surrogate Humanity: Race, Robots, and the Politics of Technological Futures March 6 / 4PM – 5:30PM / SJRC Common Room, Oakes 231

UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
For more information on Cultural Studies events visit https://culturalstudies.ucsc.edu/ For additional Humanities events & information, visit https://thi.ucsc.edu/