

American & Identities & Global Crises

American Cultures &
Global Contexts Center
Graduate Student Conference
Saturday, May 14th, 2005
9 am - 5:30 pm
Centennial House, UC Santa Barbara

Photo: By Michelle Samura



Conference Schedule

8:15-9:00: Registration and Light Breakfast

9:00-9:10: Welcome & Opening Remarks

Conference planners Sarah Hirsch, Caroline Hong & Eric Martinsen

9:10-10:30: Reading American Identities, Writing National Spaces:

Moderator Chris Hoffpauir (UCSB)

- ◆ Ly Chong Thong Jalao (UCSB), Amalia Gomez: The Politics of a Miracle
- ◆ Sarah Park (U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Constructing Identities: Korean American Adoptees in Children's Books
- ◆ Sarah Hirsch (UCSB), Beyond a Binary: C.L.R. James and the Chronotope of Narrative

10:30-10:40: Break

10:40-12:00: Borders Between Bodies, Spectacles of Difference:

Moderator Andrea Tinnemeyer (Utah State University)

- ◆ Andrea Tinnemeyer (Utah State), Body Parts: The U.S.-Mexican War and Amputation
- ◆ Laurie Clements Lambeth (U of Houston), Cinema's Fraudulent Blindness: Thomas Edison to Yimou
- ◆ James Hall (U of Houston), "Exposed in a Free Society": The American Sous-Text of Abu Ghraib

12:00-1:00: Lunch

1:00- 2:20: Keynote Address: George Lipsitz, Professor & Chair, American Studies, UC Santa Cruz
"The Metaphor of Two Worlds: Abolition Democracy and Global Justice"

2:20-2:30: Break

American Cultures & Global Contexts

Sponsored by the English Department and the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center

2:30-3:50: Constructing Violence, Mapping Global Crises:

Moderator Erik Love (UCSB)

- ♦ Jacob Berman (UCSB), William Eaton and the 200 year anniversary of the U.S. War with Tripoli, 1801-1805
- ♦ Stefanie Stauffer (UCSB), The Social Construction of Terror: What are the motives of Al-Qaeda and where did they come from?
- ♦ Sol Neely (Purdue), From Abu Ghraib to Attica: The Biopolitical Organization of Torture Under the State of Exception (or, "We Are All Undesirables")

3:50-4:00: Break

4:00-5:20: Moving Icons, Globalizing Pop Culture:

Moderator Emily Davis (UCSB)

- ♦ Sumita Lall (UCSB), India's Elvis: Signifiers of American Freedom in *Junglee* (Hindi film, 1961)
- ♦ Brandon Fastman (U of Arizona), What Can The Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue Teach Us About The Postcolonial World?
- ♦ Kenneth S. Habib (UCSB), Arab-Americans Locating Home with the Lebanese Superstar Singer Fairouz

5:20-5:30: Closing Remarks: Giles Gunn, ACGCC Director; Professor of English and of Global and International Studies, UC Santa Barbara

About the Keynote Speaker

George Lipsitz is professor and chair of the Department of American Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He is the author of *American Studies in a Moment of Danger*, a provocative book about the changes in culture, social movements, and the state prompted by the increasing power of transnational capital. His other books include *Rainbow at Midnight: Labor and Culture in the 1940s*, a book about shop floor activism, working class culture, and the massive strike wave that shook the United States in the years immediately after World War II; *A Life in the Struggle: Ivory Perry and the Culture of Opposition*, the biography of Ivory Perry, a Black worker and community activist from St. Louis; *The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: How White People Profit from Identity Politics*, an unflinching look at white supremacy which probes into the ways that race determines life chances and structures experience in the contemporary United States; *Dangerous Crossroads: Popular Music, Postmodernism, and the Poetics of Place*, an intelligent survey of world music's inter-cultural fusions; *Time Passages*, a book that examines the relationship between historical memory and commercial culture, and discusses popular television, music, and film. Lipsitz also serves as editor of the Critical American Studies series at the University of Minnesota Press, which recently published *Singlejack Solidarity*, a collection of writings by longtime labor activist Stan Weir.

About the Artists

Jacob Berman is a photographer and Ph.D. candidate in UCSB's English department.

Michelle Samura, a freelance photographer, is a second year student in UCSB's Gevirtz Graduate School of Education.

Acknowledgements

In addition to our sponsors, UCSB's English Department and the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, the conference planners would like to thank all ACGC-affiliated faculty and graduate students for their enthusiastic support. Our special thanks go to ACGC Director Giles Gunn, English Chair William Warner and the participating artists. We also greatly appreciate the indispensable help of our panel moderators, our volunteers Daniel Pecchenino, Kathryn Dolan and Shanna Salinas as well as Rob Wallace, Elizabeth Freudenthal, Karen Cisneros (English Dept.), Fadwa Rizek (English Dept.), Lindsay Cahn (English Dept.), Kaelen Mace (Public Events), Wendy Devlin (Instructional Resources), and Jeff Goldmann (Central Stores Furniture Services).

American Cultures & Global Contexts

Sponsored by the English Department and the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center