

# Cultural Studies Newsletter

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Volume 14

Fall 2009/Spring 2010

## IMAGES AND PUBLIC CULTURE: UNDERSTANDING IMAGES ACROSS THE HUMANITIES

The Humanities Image Forum is hosting two renowned guests this semester.

**Prof. W.J.T. Mitchell**, a leading scholar of visual culture and Distinguished Professor of English and Art History at the University of Chicago, will visit the campus as a Patten lecturer from March 29th - April 2nd, 2010. He will give two public lectures: "Migration, Law, and the Image: Beyond the Veil of Ignorance" on Tuesday, March 30th at 7:30 pm; and "Idolatry, Nietzsche, Blake, Poussin" on Thursday, April 1 at 7:30 pm (locations TBA). He will also screen a documentary about the Israel-Palestine conflict on the evening of Wednesday, March 31

(details TBA). In addition, CAHI will host a roundtable discussion about a recent issue of the journal *Critical Inquiry* (of which Professor Mitchell has been the editor for many years) which is about "The Fate of the Disciplines," at 5 pm on Wednesday, March 31, followed by a reception. There will also be a roundtable about the latest double issue of the journal *Culture, Theory and Critique* which is dedicated to a critical review of Professor Mitchell's work, on Tuesday, March 30th, 2-3:30 pm, in the IMU Maple Room.

Members of the Images Forum will meet with Professor Mitchell for closed seminars during his visit, for which we are preparing

ourselves in reading groups for faculty and graduate students. If you are interested in joining the Image Forum's Oncourse site and participating in those seminars, please contact Jon Simons at: [simonsj@indiana.edu](mailto:simonsj@indiana.edu)

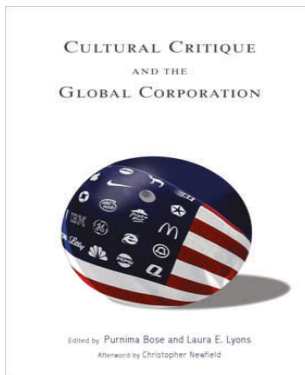
**Dr Ariella Azoulay**, an Israeli cultural theorist and documentary film maker, will visit as a Branigin lecturer, April 5-6th. She will be screening one of her documentaries on the evening of April 5th and giving a public lecture on the evening of April 6th (details TBA). There will also be a closed seminar for members of the Images Forum, for which we are also preparing ourselves in our reading groups.

## Cultural Studies Graduate Students

**Konrad Budziszewski** was awarded a Cultural Studies travel grant to present his paper, "We're the cutting edge of technology and the leading edge of imagination': Discourses of innovation, progress and change in the electronic games industry" at the upcoming annual conference for the Society for Cinema and Media Studies in Los Angeles this spring.

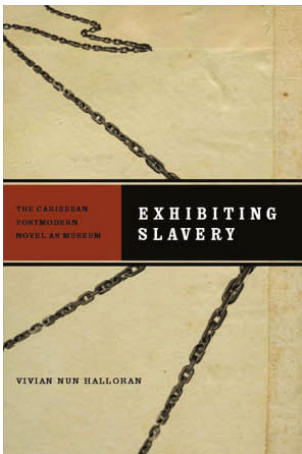
Congratulations to CMCL/CS PhD student **Robert Clift**, whose film *Blacking Up* about white hip hop fans and performers will be aired on PBS stations nationally through early March. More information about the film is available online at <http://www.blackeningupmovie.com/>. Robert's earlier documentary, *Stealing Home: The Case of Cuban Baseball*, was shown on PBS in 2001.

## In Press and At the Podium: Recent Activities of Cultural Studies Faculty



**Purnima Bose and Laura E. Lyons' Cultural Critique and the Global Corporation.**

**Purnima Bose's** book, co-edited with Laura E. Lyons, *Cultural Critique and the Global Corporation*, was published by Indiana University Press. The volume contains case studies of six corporations; Bose contributed a chapter on General Electric. Her article "Feminism, the Global Struggle" appeared in *Against the Current*, and another essay on Beauty without Borders and Afghan women has been accepted for publication in *Genders*.



**Vivian Halloran's Exhibiting Slavery: The Caribbean Postmodern Novel as Museum**

**Michael Foster's** *Pandemonium and Parade: Japanese Monsters and the Culture of Yōkai* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009) was selected for the 2009 Chicago Folklore Prize for best book-length work of folklore scholarship, awarded jointly by the American Folklore Society and the University of Chicago. Foster also published "Haunted Travelogue: Hometowns, Ghost Towns, and Memories of War" in *Mechademia 4: War/Time* (2009).

Foster's article "What time is this picture? Cameraphones, tourism, and the digital gaze in Japan"

was published in *Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture* vol. 15, issue 3 (May 2009). Foster received the following travel/research grants in 2009-10: CAHI Travel Research Grant for a project entitled *Festival, Fear, and Tourism: Producing and Consuming Heritage in Japan*, and the Northeast Asia Council (NEAC) of Association for Asian Studies (AAS) grant for short-term travel to Japan for professional purposes.

**Sara L. Friedman** has two forthcoming publications: "Determining 'Truth' at the Border: Immigration Interviews, Chinese Marital Migrants, and Taiwan's Sovereignty Dilemmas" in *Citizenship Studies* (April 2010) and "Marital Immigration and Graduated Citizenship: Post-Naturalization Restrictions on Mainland Chinese Spouses in Taiwan" in *Pacific Affairs'* Spring 2010 special issue: *Politics of Citizenship and Transnational Gendered Migration in East and Southeast Asia*.

**Matt Guterl** is currently on leave and is an NEH Fellow at the Rice University Humanities Research Center. He recently published an essay

on Josephine Baker in a special issue of the *Journal of Women's History*.

**Joan Hawkins** is working on an anthology on Downtown Cinema, *Video and TV 1975-2001*, and has published "Culture Wars, *Old-boy* and Some New Trends in Art Horror" in *Horror Zone: The Cultural Experience of Contemporary Horror Cinema*. Ian Conrich, ed. UK: B Tauris, 2009, and published an expanded version of this article in *Jump Cut: A Review of Contemporary Media 51* (Spring 2009).

**Vivian Halloran's** book, *Exhibiting Slavery: The Caribbean Postmodern Novel as Museum* was published in 2009 by the University of Virginia Press. The book demonstrates one aspect of Halloran's interdisciplinary research methodology. It blends literary criticism and museum studies to argue that postmodern fiction and postmodern museology both deploy similar multimedia narrative strategies as they depict the history of transatlantic slavery. *Exhibiting Slavery* analyzes the effects of these acts of narrative curation and display by placing them in the broader context of the reading experience.

## In Press and At the Podium: Recent Activities of Cultural Studies Faculty

**John Hanson** has been named a National Humanities Center Fellow for the 2009-10 academic year. Hanson will use the fellowship to complete a book, tentatively titled *Islam, Schooling and the Public Sphere: The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Ghana, West Africa*. He is one of 33 fellows selected by the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, N.C., from among 475 applicants. The scholars are from 23 U.S. colleges and universities and from institutions in Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom. Hanson's research examines how the Ahmadiyya Muslim movement has been an important force for education and progress in Western Africa, particularly in Ghana.

**Scott Herring's** new book, *Another Country: Queer Anti-Urbanism*, is forthcoming from NYU Press in their *Sexual Cultures* series edited by Ann Pellegrini and Jose Esteban Munoz in the summer of 2010.

**Barbara Klinger** received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Film and College of Fine Arts at Ohio University, where she received her M.A. Her essay, "The Contemporary Cinephile: Film Collecting in the

Post-Video Era?" was recently translated into Polish by Andrzej Lyda for *Kultura Wspolczesna* 58.4. She also has two forthcoming articles: "Becoming Cult: Replay Culture, *The Big Lebowski*, and Male Fandom" in *Screen* 51, no. 1 and "Contraband Cinema: Piracy, Titanic, and Central Asia" in *Cinema Journal* 49, no. 2.

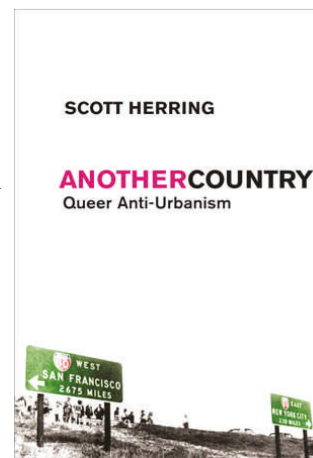
Professor Klinger also delivered a number of keynote lectures including: "Reenactment: Fans Performing Movie Scenes from the Stage to YouTube," for the Ephemeral Media Symposium; "Internet Attractions: Online Video and User-Generated Ephemera," at The Institute of Film and Television Studies, The University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK; "Becoming Cult: *The Big Lebowski*, Replay, and the Aftermarket," for the Medium to Medium Symposium, Center for Screen Cultures, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL and "Global Titanic: Piracy and Transnational Reception in Central Asia" at the Eleventh Annual Film and Media Symposium, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

**Alejandro Mejías-López's** book *The Inverted*

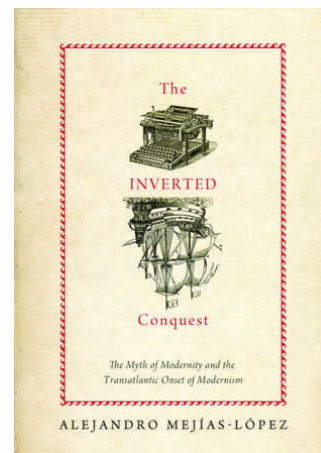
*Conquest: The Myth of Modernity and the Transatlantic Onset of Modernism* will be published by Vanderbilt University Press in February 2010. In 2009, Professor Mejías-López also received a CAHI research travel grant to work on his next project on the intersection of religion, science, nationalism, and sexuality in Hispanic modernism.

**Radhika Parameswaran** published a monograph (co-authored with Kavitha Cardoza) *Melatonin on the Margins: Advertising and the Cultural Politics of Fair/Light/White Beauty in India* in the fall 2009 issue of *Journalism & Communication Monographs*. A second publication "Immortal Comics, Epidermal Politics: Representations of Gender and Colorism in India," also co-authored with Kavitha Cardoza, appears in a 2009 issue of *Journal of Children & Media*. Her article "Moral Dilemmas of an Immoral Nation: Gender, Journalism, and Sexuality in the Film *Page 3*" was published in

(continued on page 5)



**Scott Herring's Another Country: Queer Anti-Urbanism**



**Alejandro Mejías-López's The Inverted Conquest: The Myth of Modernity and the Transatlantic Onset of Modernism**



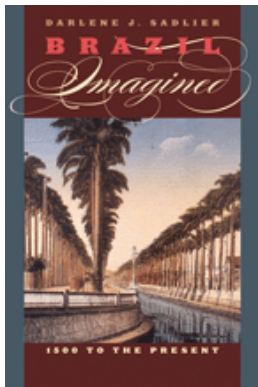
## New Faculty Members Join Cultural Studies

**Karen Bowdre** is an assistant professor in the Department of Communication and Culture. Her research is on the significant impact black female performers—many of them overlooked by historians and media scholars—have had on representations of women in popular culture. Karen's teaching and research interests include critical race and gender studies. She has presented work on these and related topics at, among other venues, the Society for Cinema and Media Studies and the National Communication Association. Karen has offered classes on African-American cinema and black film directors.



**Michael Foster's**  
**Pandemonium and**  
**Parade: Japanese**  
**Monsters and the**  
**Culture of Yokai**

**Michael Foster** is an assistant professor in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. His research focuses on folklore, literature, film and popular culture, primarily in Japan. His recent book, *Pandemonium and Parade: Japanese Monsters and the Culture of Yokai* (University of California Press, 2009), traces how notions of the supernatural and monstrous are articulated both in academic discourses and popular practices from the seventeenth century through the present. By focusing on historically shifting notions of the "mysterious" and the "weird," he explores some of the ways in which people attempt to express, define, and illustrate the ineffable. The book was awarded the 2009 Chicago Folklore Prize. He is currently working on a new project, titled *Visiting Strangers: Tourists, Ethnographers, and Gods*, in which he explores the relationship of tourism, ethnography and festival/ritual in Japan. At the graduate level, Professor Foster teaches courses on Japanese folkloristics, ethnographic writing, tourism, and historical and literary methods in folklore research.



**Darlene Sadlier's**  
**Brazil Imagined:**  
**1500 to the Present**

**David A. McDonald** is an ethnomusicologist whose teaching and scholarly work intersects with the fields of cultural anthropology, ethnomusicology, folklore, and Middle Eastern studies. His research focuses on understanding the cultural dynamics of music performance, politics, and identity among Palestinian communities dispersed throughout Israel, Jordan and the Occupied Territories. Currently he is pursuing research on the poetics of violence, masculinity, and cultural trauma. This research will be supplemented by the book, *My Voice is My Weapon: Music, Nationalism, and the Poetics of Palestinian Resistance* (Forthcoming, Duke University Press 2011).

**Darlene Sadlier** is Professor of Spanish and Portuguese and Director of the Portuguese Program. She is affiliated with and an adjunct professor in several departments and programs, including Communication and Culture, Cultural Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, West European Studies, African Studies and Gender Studies. Her books cover a wide range of subjects such as women and gender studies in Portugal and Brazil, literary modernism, and Brazilian Cinema Novo. She is the author most recently of a cultural history of Brazil titled *Brazil Imagined: 1500 to the Present* (2008) and is editor of the collection *Latin American Melodrama: Passion, Pathos and Entertainment* (2009). She is currently writing a book about Good Neighbor cultural relations during World War II.

## In Press and At the Podium: Recent Activities of Cultural Studies Faculty

**Parameswaran** (continued from page 3) the online academic journal *Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture* in early fall and her essay "Facing Barack Hussein Obama: Race, Globalization, and Transnational America" was featured in the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*.

Her conference paper "E-racing Color: Gender and Transnational Visual Economies of Beauty" won a top paper award in the Ethnicity and Race Division at the International Communication Association (ICA) convention in Chicago in late May 2009. She was one of three organizers of a two-day symposium "India and Communication Studies" at the same ICA convention in Chicago. She organized a panel on "Gender, Globalization, and Media" for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication annual convention at Boston in August 2009. She presented a paper "Producing Cosmopolitan Citizens: Journalism and Mass Communication in the U.S. Academy" at a two-day symposium "Making the University Matter," which was held in early December at the

Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania.

She has been selected to be a residential visiting professor in 2010 at University of Colorado, Boulder, in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, for the forthcoming Summer Session I.

**Micol Seigel** recently spent two weeks researching in Los Angeles on a new project involving U.S. police training in Latin America and police militarization in the U.S.

**Ted Striphas'** book *The Late Age of Print: Everyday Book Culture from Consumerism to Control*, was recently published by Columbia University Press. Professor Striphas also maintains an accompanying blog at <http://www.thelateageofprint.org>

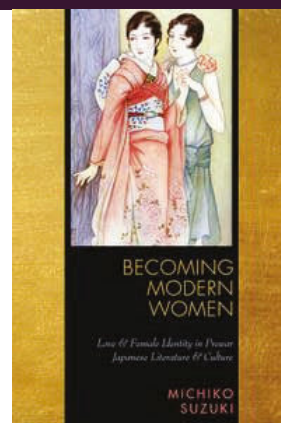
**Michiko Suzuki's** book *Becoming Modern Women: Love and Female Identity in Prewar Japanese Literature and Culture* was recently published by Stanford University Press.

In 2009, **Shane Vogel's** book, *The Scene of Harlem Cabaret: Race, Sexuality, Performance* was published by The University of Chi-

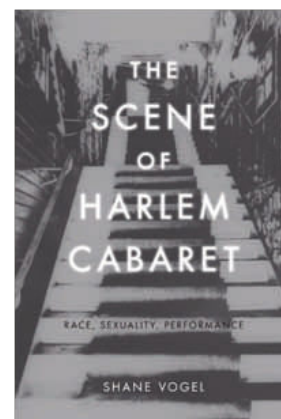
cago Press. He also published "By the Light of What Comes After: Eventologies of the Ordinary" in *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*, vol. 19, no. 2 (2009). His essay, "Lena Horne's Impersona," received the 2009 Outstanding Essay Award from the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) and the 2009 Gerald Kahan Scholar's Award, Honorable Mention, from the American Society for Theatre Research.

**Brenda Weber's** book *Makeover TV: Selfhood, Citizenship, and Celebrity*, was recently published by Duke University Press.

She has also published: "Extreme Makeovers" in *100,000 Years of Beauty, Vol IV: Beauty as Personal Challenge*. Les Editions Babylone, Paris. 2009; "For the Love of Jane: Austen, Adaptation, and Celebrity" in *Adaptation in Contemporary Culture: Textual Infidelities*. Rachel Carroll, ed. Continuum Press. 2009; and "'Are you Finally Comfortable in Your Own Skin?': The Raced and Classed Imperatives for Somatic/Spiritual Salvation on *The Swan*" with Karen Tice in *Genders* 49 (2009).



**Michiko Suzuki's** *Becoming Modern Women: Love and Female Identity in Prewar Japanese Literature and Culture*



**Shane Vogel's** *The Scene of Harlem Cabaret: Race, Sexuality, Performance*.



**Brenda Weber's** *Makeover TV: Selfhood, Citizenship, and Celebrity*

## Cultural Studies Annual Conference—Gender and Citizenship February 26 & 27

### **The Conference:**

The United Nations has recently identified women as a leading force in the twenty-first century in reshaping communities—social, political, cultural, and economic—across the world. The UN's acknowledgment of women's impact on social life comes after several decades of discussion by feminist scholars of the gender implications of globalization, citizenship, immigration, and nationalisms.

This year's Cultural Studies Conference will engage in three especially salient areas of this discussion: gender and citizenship, international feminisms, and feminism in academia. Within these three areas, the conference raises such questions as: What does it mean to gender globalization and displacement? How does an understanding of gender and citizenship travel across cultural and geographic boundaries? To what extent does feminism enable a multi-tiered conception of citizenship which recognizes that national identifications can be complicated by sub-, cross-, and supra-national affiliations? What would a transnational feminist future look like, and what role should academic feminist play in envisioning and enabling that future?

**The Keynote:** Srimati Basu, "The Violence of Marriage: Rape and Conjugal Citizenship" In a dramatic post-show performance in January 2004, Kolkata (India) police stormed the play *Phataru* and attempted to arrest actor Rudranil Ghosh on charges of rape brought by fellow-actor Oindrila Chakraborty, galvanizing conversations around rape in terms of sexual agency, marriage and fraud. Professor Basu examines accounts of this hypervisible case against ethnographic data from other legal settings and other appellate cases which evoke and elide rape in the context of marriage. Legal categories for managing divorce, domestic violence and sexual violence have seemingly been negotiated separately through political compromises and feminist formulations, but they have come to shape each other as legal strategies such that rape and marriage come to be mutually constituted. While judicial discourse around rape appears to have moved away from notions of property redress, these recent cases underline continuing constructions of rape in terms of compensation and fraud and highlight the role of law in buttressing norms of kinship and conjugality over sexual agency. The task for feminists is to engage with ongoing legal constructions, to challenge the erasure of sexual agency and the promotion of marriage as optimal solutions, and to transform the discourse of power relations encoded in such constructions.

### **Co-sponsored by Gender Studies and India Studies**

Conference organized by Maria Bucur, Karma Lochrie, and Purnima Bose

No registration necessary. All sessions are open to the public.

## GENDER AND CITIZENSHIP CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, February 26, 2010

Ernie Pyle Auditorium, Room 220

4:00 pm-6:00 pm; Opening Keynote:

*Srimati Basu* (Gender and Women's studies, University of Kentucky)

"The Violence of Marriage: Rape and Conjugal Citizenship"

### SATURDAY, February 27, 2010

All Panels held in the Faculty Club on the Second Floor of IMU

10:00 am-12:00 pm; Panel I: Gender and Citizenship

- *Susan Williams* (Law, IU) "Gender and Equal Political Citizenship in Burma: Electoral Gender Quotas, Democracy, and Disruption"
- *Eva Cherniavsky* (English, University of Washington) "Citizenship After Popular Sovereignty"
- *Sara Friedman* (Anthropology and Gender Studies, IU) "Maternal Citizenship Revisited"

Moderator: Purnima Bose

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00 pm-3:00 pm; Panel II: International/Global Feminisms

- *Lessie Jo Frazier* (Gender Studies, IU) "Relocations of Empathy: Transnational Feminist Theory, Borders, States, and Bodies"
- *Kristen Ghodsee* (Gender and Women's Studies, Bowdoin College) "Revisiting the International Decade for Women: International Feminisms and Cold War Politics from the American Perspective"
- *Susan Dewey* (Women's Studies, DePauw) "Gendered Migration, Gendered Citizenship and the Traffic in Women"

Moderator: Radhika Parameswaran

3:15 pm-5:15 pm; Panel III: Feminism and the Academy

- *Karma Lochrie* (Gender Studies and English, IU) "Gender and Jeopardy"
- *Maria Bucur* (History, IU) "'What's Gender Got to Do With It?': Feminism and Diversity on the Bloomington Campus"
- *Robyn Wiegman* (Women's Studies, Duke University) "The Intimacy of Critique"

Moderator: Jean Robinson

### FRIDAY

Opening Keynote:

*Srimati Basu*

*Ernie Pyle*

Auditorium Room

220

### SATURDAY

Panels I, II, and

III in the Faculty

Club on the

Second Floor of

IMU



**CULTURAL STUDIES  
AT INDIANA  
UNIVERSITY**

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**CULTURAL STUDIES PROGRAM TRAVEL GRANTS AND AWARD  
DEADLINES**

The Cultural Studies Department will award the Brantlinger-Naremore Prize for the best graduate essay in Cultural Studies written during the academic year. The competition is open to minors in the Cultural Studies Program who are invited to submit essays that offer a serious engagement with issues in the field. Submissions for the 2009-2010 Brantlinger-Naremore Prize should be sent to Purnima Bose (Ballantine 442) by June 30, 2010. The Cultural Studies Program will also accept applications for travel grants for graduate students to present their scholarship in the spring. Travel grant applications should consist of an abstract of the paper and confirmation that the paper has been accepted for presentation. The deadline for travel grants is March 30, 2010. Materials should be sent to Purnima Bose

**The Indiana University DEFA Project WENDE FLICKS Last Films from  
East Germany**

**SCREENING SCHEDULE: WENDE FLICKS+**  
**Screenings at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater**

February 14 (BCT):7pm, *Herzprung*  
February 21 (BCT):7pm, *Leipzig in the Fall* and *Eastern Landscape*  
February 28 (BCT):7pm, *The Tango Player*  
March 7 (BCT): 6pm, *Burning Life*; 8pm, OSCAR VIEWING PARTY  
March 21 (BCT):7pm, *The Mistake*  
March 28 (BCT):7pm, *The Land Beyond the Rainbow*  
April 4 (FA 015):7pm, *Miraculi*  
April 11 (FA 015):7pm, *Latest from the Da-Da-R*  
April 18 (FA 015):7pm, *DDR, DDR* [SPECIAL EVENT] An evening with filmmaker and video artist  
Amie Siegel