2019 Lapidus Center Conference

Enduring Slavery: Resistance, Public Memory, and Transatlantic Archives

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
6:00 PM
Langston Hughes Auditorium

WELCOME

Kevin Young, Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Michelle D. Commander, Associate Director and Curator of the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery

REMARKS

Sid Lapidus, Philanthropist

PRESENTATION OF THE 2019 HARRIET TUBMAN PRIZE

PLENARY SESSION: 1619 IN U.S. MEMORY

   Ed Baptist, Cornell University
   Herman Bennett, The Graduate Center, CUNY
   Rebecca Goetz, New York University

RECEPTION (Langston Hughes Lobby)
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

9:00-10:45 AM

1. Contours of Slavery in Brazil

Margarita Rosa, Princeton University, “Partus sequitur ventrem and Roman Law on the Children of Enslaved Women”

Mary Hicks, Amherst College, “Return Voyages: Enslaved Maritime Labor in the Bahian Transatlantic Slave Trade”

Doriane Meyer, University of Kansas, “Disciplinary Spatial Organization on the Bahian Recôncavo Plantations”

Eric Galm, Trinity College, “Rhythmic Explorations of the Brazilian Congado Mineiro That Connect Africa, Portugal, and the Catholic Church”

2. Abolitionist Contexts

Anita Rupprecht, University of Brighton (UK), “Out of Sight: The Narrative of the Slave Ship, Le Rodeur (1819)”

Katy L. Chiles, University of Tennessee, “Authoring Slavery”

Isadora Moura Mota, Princeton University, “An Afro-Brazilian Atlantic: Slave Activism and the American Civil War”

Jesse Olsavsky, Duke Kunshan University, “Reconstructing the Abolitionist Tradition”

11:00 AM-1:00 PM

3. Plenary: Slavery Archives and Speculation

Marisa Fuentes, Rutgers University, “Archival Anonymity and the Violence of the Transatlantic Slave Trade”

Ajay Kumar Batra, University of Pennsylvania, “And that is the writing of history”: C.L.R. James, Slavery, and Speculative Thought”

Yuko Miki, Fordham University, “Narrating Freedom in the Archives of Illegal Slavey”

LUNCH| 1:15-2:30 PM
2:45-4:30 PM

4. Slavery and the Law

Casey Schmitt, University of Pennsylvania, “‘Defrauded a great quantity of ducados’: Smuggling the Enslaved in the Seventeenth-Century Caribbean”

Daniel Livesay, Claremont McKenna College, “Weary Appeals: Enslaved Petitioning from the Elderly in Virginia and Jamaica”

Randy Sparks, Tulane University, “Micro-Diplomacy and the Illegal Slave Trade: Women, Kidnapping, and Freedom Suits in the Atlantic World”

David LaFevor, University of Texas at Arlington, “The Argüelles Affair: Contraband Slave Trading in 1860s Cuba and New York”

5. National and University Reckonings with Slavery

Jill Found, University of South Carolina, “Enslaved Individuals and the Challenge of Memorialization”

Elsa Mendoza, Georgetown University, “The Atlantic Revolutions and the Origins of Slaveholding at Georgetown University, 1792-1802”

Karen Woods Weierman, Worcester State University, “The GU272 and the Broader Case for Reparations”

Natasha Henry, York University, “Borderless Bondage: The Movement of Enslaved Africans from New York to Canada”

4:45-6:30 PM

6. Transnational Crossings

Mekala Audain, The College of New Jersey, “Fugitive Slaves and the Mexican-American War”


Lotfi Ben Rejeb, University of Ottawa, “‘American Barbary’: A Transnational Prism in American Slavery and Abolition”
Steven M. Tobias, Everett Community College, “Between an Inferno and an Anachronism: Race, Gender, and the Reproduction of Labor in Mary Prince’s Distaff Atlantic”

7. Whose History Is It Anyway?: Poets Breathe Life into the Historical Black Subject

Honorée Jeffers, Poet, University of Oklahoma, “Poems from The Age of Phillis”

Marilyn Nelson, Poet, “The Poetics of Representing Slavery and Enslaved Lives”

Artress Bethany White, Poet, Albright College, “Scottish Genes, African Tapestry: Using Archival Records to Tell an American Family’s Slave History in Poetry”

Tiphanie Yanique, Poet, “Tourists and Natives: Writing Poetry in the Archives”
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:00-10:45 AM

8. Race and Resistance

Dannelle Gutarra Cordero, Princeton University, “Racialism in the Debate about General Liberty during the Haitian Revolution”


Robert E. May, Purdue University, “An Inconvenient Truth: Christmas Slave Insurrection Panics and Mythologies of Human Bondage in the U.S. South”

Tami Navarro, Barnard College, “From Emancipation to Fireburn: Engaging Black Resistance in the U.S. Virgin Islands”

9. Gender and Sexuality Studies


Sasha Turner, Quinnipiac University, “Reading Through and Against the Racial Biases of the Archives: Slavery and Black Maternal Practices”

Thomas A. Foster, Howard University, “Rethinking Rufus: Sexual Violations of Enslaved Men”

Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers, University of California, Berkeley, “Mistresses of the Market: White Women and the Economy of American Slavery”

11:00 AM-1:00 PM

10. Plenary: Slavery and Digital Humanities

Jessica M. Parr and Amber Stubbs, Simmons University, “Digitizing Incarceration: A Database of Unfreedoms”
Daryle Williams, University of Maryland, “Unnamed/Unknown: Encoding Dilemmas of Enslaved.org”

Jessica Marie Johnson, Johns Hopkins University, “Full Use of Her: Freedom, Slavery, and Possession in 18th Century Louisiana”

Bryan Wagner, University of California, Berkeley, “Louisiana Slave Conspiracies”

LUNCH | 1:15-2:30 pm

2:45-4:30 PM


Christopher S. DeRosa, Monmouth University, “The Officers of the Reconstruction Army and the Rights of Freed People”

William Horne, Villanova University, “‘You have no right to carry a watch’: White Supremacist Thought in the Union Army”

Ryan J. McMillen, New York City College of Technology (CUNY), “‘We Did Not Come Here to Be Whipped’: White New York Officers and Black Louisiana Resistance in the United States Colored Troops, 1863-1865”

Marcy S. Sacks, Albion College, “I Shall Forward You My Contraband”: Slave Owning Fantasies among White Union Soldiers during the Civil War”

12. Emerging Perspectives on Public Memory and Popular Representations of Anti-Black Violence

Erica Ball, Occidental College, “The Politics of Pain: Violence in Popular Representations of Slavery”

Tyler Parry, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, “I Can’t be Scared of No Dog”: Visualizing Canines and Anti-Black Violence”
Allison Page, Old Dominion University, “Needed More than Ever”: Re-Watching Roots Alongside #Black Lives Matter”


Tamara K. Lanier, Vice President of the New London, CT NAACP Branch, “Sankofa: Slave Descendants, Archival Institutions, and the Question of Image Ownership”

Anne Bouie, Artist, “Material Culture and the Visual Arts As Tools of Resistance to Enslavement”


La Vaughn Belle, Artist, “How to Survive Colonial Nostalgia”

4:45-5:00 PM

14. Closing Remarks: Michelle D. Commander

RECEPTION (Langston Hughes Lobby)