

Gender, Sexuality, Queer and Trans Studies Write Back

The Empire Writes Back (Ashcroft, Griffiths, Tiffin 1989, 2002) was the first published collection of texts dealing with postcolonialism. The post- and neocolonial condition had provoked a radical critique of the Global North's notions of literature (the title references Salman Rushdie's 1982 The Empire Writes back with a Vengeance). Today, global economic, sovereign and epistemic violence show that many aspirations of a century of revolutions have not yet been achieved, which in turn has continued to engender new forms of resistance. However, in the face of new populist appropriations of activism, an analysis of politics and revision of concepts of resistance are now urgently needed. This is particularly the case in relation to gender and sexuality since the gender order is the realm in which inclusions or exclusions, and claims to power tend to be strongly demarcated especially in times of transition. Gender must, however, be thought in terms of its intersection with constructions of Race, Class, Nation, Ability, and Religion.

It is precisely these questions that the researchers of the Humboldt-Princeton Strategic Partnership Grant Symposium will interrogate: How concepts of resistance and representation are shifting towards questions of subject formation and agency in connection with materiality, performativity, performance, becoming and futurity in today's world. Furthermore, the symposium explores where and how post/decolonial, post-secularist and queer approaches inform each other. Which traces of the gendered racialization of the U.S. and Europe's colonial endeavors need to be highlighted and what are their legacies for our present? How can we understand resistance, subversion, and the social imaginary if they have to be appreciated in their diversity of different forms of materialized life experience? What adequate answers do Gender, Sexuality, Queer and Trans Studies provide against economic and epistemic violence and towards a radical democracy today?

**Zentrum für transdisziplinäre Geschlechterstudien (ZtG) /
Centre for Transdisciplinary Gender Studies**
at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
and **Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies (GSS)**
at Princeton University

Organisation

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Registration (open until June 12) and Details

<http://www.gender.hu-berlin.de>

Date

June 15-16, 2017

Location

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Unter den Linden 6 (UL6)
Room 2249a

Public Transport

S1, S2, S5, S7, S9 (Friedrichstraße)
U6 (Friedrichstraße)
Bus 100, 147, 200, TXL (Staatsoper)
Tram M1, 12 (Am Kupfergraben)

Conference language

English

Sponsored by

Humboldt-Princeton Strategic Partnership Grant

<http://www.gender.hu-berlin.de>

Zentrum für transdisziplinäre
Geschlechterstudien (ZtG)



Humboldt-Princeton
Strategic Partnership Grant Symposium

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Zentrum für transdisziplinäre
Geschlechterstudien

Thursday, June 15, 2017

11:00 am **Welcome and Introduction**
Claudia Schmidt-Memmler (International Strategy Office, HU)
Ulrike Auga, Gabriele Jähnert, Yumin Li (ZtG)

11:15 am **Opening Lectures**
Chair: Sophia Ermert

Ulrike Auga, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Michel Foucault's Confessions of the Flesh and the Performative and Material Body in the Documentary Fake Orgasm

Dara Strolovitch, Princeton University
When Bad Things Happen to Privileged People: Race, Gender, and the Political Construction of Crisis and Non-Crisis

1:00 pm Lunch Break

2:30 pm **Panel 1**
Intersexuality and Trans
Chair: Eveline Kilian

Catherine Clune-Taylor, Princeton University
Intersexuality and Gender Dysphoria as Disorders of Cisgender Function: An Exercise in Critical Feminist Disability Studies

Ulrike Klöppel, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Biopolitics and Counter-Biopolitics of Gender Change in the German Democratic Republic

Gayle Salamon, Princeton University
Private Places and Fantasy Spaces: On 'Bathroom Bills' and State-Sponsored Detransitioning

4:00 pm Coffee

5:00 pm **Panel 2**
Cultures of Sexuality
Chair: Katharina Mangold

Regina Kunzel, Princeton University
The Rise of Gay Rights and the Disavowal of Disability

Andreas Kraß, Benedikt Wolf, Hannes Hacke and Janin Afken, Research Center for Cultural History of Sexuality, Recent German Literature and Queer Studies at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Short Talk: Cultures of Sexuality – Presentation of the Research Center for the Cultural History of Sexuality

Beate Binder, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Disentangling HIV/AIDS policies: Research projects on the AIDS-Crisis and Political Mobilization

Christine Wimbauer, Almut Peukert and Mona Motakef, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Ambivalent Recognition Order. Doing reproduction and doing family beyond the heterosexual nuclear family

7:30 pm Dinner

Friday, June 16, 2017

10:00 am **Panel 3**
The Afterlife of Slavery and African American Literature
Chair: Gabriele Dietze

Tala Khanmalek, Princeton University
Legal Binds: Reexamining the 1871 Free Womb Law Alongside Gayl Jones' *Corregidora*

Elahe Haschemi Yekani, University of Flensburg/ZtG
Queer Ethics of Reading: The Archive of Slavery between Affect and Surface

Wallace Best, Princeton University
Looking for Langston: Themes of Sexuality and Subversion in the Life and Work of Langston Hughes

12:00 am Lunch Break

1:30 pm **Panel 4**
Gender on Stage and Screen
Chair: Sofia Varino

Brian Herrera, Princeton University
Was Virginia Calhoun's Problem Misogyny or Madness?: A Methodological Ruminations

Yumin Li, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Shape Shifters: Cross-dressing and sexual deviance Piccadilly (1929) and Shanghai Express (1932)

3:00 pm Coffee Break

6:00 pm **Guided Tour at Schwules Museum***

<http://www.schwulesmuseum.de/en/news/>

7:00 pm **Reception at Schwules Museum***