



Comedians Tim Barnes, Sonia Denis, and Rebecca O'Neal in conversation with Professor Lauren Berlant following their performance on Dec. 1, 2015 as part of the *They've Got a Mouth on Them* series. The series explores politically-difficult art and continues this quarter with events on February 18 and 25.

## A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

As we move into the New Year, I want to thank you for your continued support of the CSGS. As you know, the Center is celebrating its **20th anniversary** in 2016. With your help, we aim to build and significantly increase our newly established endowment and secure the future of the Center for generations of students and faculty. Please speak with us or visit the CSGS website to see how you can donate or get involved in the fundraising activity.

Looking towards the future, we are planning spring quarter events that will take a critical look at the development of gender and sexuality studies and reflect on possible trajectories in the years to come. We are eager to hear from those of you who have been (or would like to be) involved with the Center about the kinds of discussions you would like to see. Although a lot has changed since 1996, many of the issues that inspired the founding generation of students and faculty to organize around the Center persist: diversity in faculty hiring and student admis-

sion, the discussion of gender and sexuality in the curriculum, and the larger social and political problems of exclusion that these entail. At the same time, the presence of the CSGS on campus has opened a space in which marginalized voices can be heard and new debates can be had. The challenge is to sustain a dynamic relationship to a changing campus environment and to matters of concern for society at large. We encourage you to bring your ideas to the Center as we collaborate on how to move forward in the coming years.

We hope you will join us this quarter for the Center's upcoming events: **Professor Martha Nussbaum**, Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics, University of Chicago Law School will deliver the 2016 Iris Marion Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture. Her talk, "Disgust or Equality? India's Battle over Sexual Orientation Law" will be on Tuesday, March 1, 4:30 p.m. in Social Sciences 122.

On January 20, the Center will host a workshop and lecture with **Katha Pollitt**, the

## WINTER EVENTS AT-A-GLANCE

### Fri January 8

Opening reception, "Please Unfold: Five Years of the F.E.M.M.E. Zine"

### Wed January 20

Katha Pollitt, "PRO: Reclaiming Abortion Rights"

### Thurs February 4

Kyla Wazana Tompkins, "On The Gelatinous"

### Thurs February 18

Bhanu Kapil, "Shame May Be Fatal: Notes on narrative and the nervous system"

### Thurs February 25

Eric A. Stanley & Chris Vargas, *Criminal Queers*

### Tues March 1

Martha Nussbaum, "Disgust or Equality? India's Battle over Sexual Orientation Law"

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award-winning poet, essayist, and columnist for *The Nation*. Her visit will center on her book *Pro: Reclaiming Abortion Rights* (Picador, 2014), a powerful argument for abortion as a moral right and social good which was named a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2014. The lecture will be held at Kent Chemical Laboratory, Room 107 at 4:30 p.m. Please check the calendar for more events of the Center's ongoing **Precarious Citizenship Series**, which this year focuses on the attacks on reproductive rights and the implications for the exercise of full citizenship.

**Professor Lauren Berlant**, George M. Pullman Distinguished Service Professor, Department of English has organized stellar programming this fall and in the coming quarter under the auspices of the **LGBTQ Studies Project** and the **Artists' Salon**. The events of her series, "They've Got a Mouth on Them" cross over comedy, witnessing, narrative, liveness, and the possibility that the changes aesthetic pleasure induce can have a memorable and positive impact. Don't miss **Bhanu Kapil** on February 18-19 and filmmakers **Eric A. Stanley & Chris Vargas** on February 25. Please see the column on page 3 for more details. On February 4, **Kyla Wazana Tompkins** will discuss, "On the Gelatinous," part of her project looking at multiple forms of movement – affective, emotional, political and physical – as they coalesce in and around particular food textures, building on her work in critical race and queer theory, food studies, and American cultural and literary history.

In January, the Center is pleased to host "Please Unfold: Five Years of the F.E.M.M.E. Zine," an exhibition and program series curated by undergraduate students **Bea Malsky** and **Jean Cochrane**. The show will open on January 8th on the first floor of the Center and is drawn from artist **Amber Sollenberger's** F.E.M.M.E. zine, which chronicles an ongoing queer becoming and political awakening. This retrospective brings together the first years of the F.E.M.M.E. zine and selections from Sollenberger's personal collection. The accompanying series asks, What can we do with zines? And what can zines do to us? Four panel discussions will focus on *Opening*, *Making*, *Collecting* and *Studying* on Friday evenings in January at 7 p.m.

**Professor Amanda Sharkey**, Associate Professor of Organizations and Markets, Booth School of Business, is curating the Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop this quarter under the theme, "Gender and Work." Please see the full schedule on page 4 of this newsletter.

And please mark your calendars for Alumni Weekend, June 3-4, 2016! The Center will host a reunion of its fellows of the last twenty years with panel discussions on activism and scholarship inside and outside the academy with a party on Saturday night that is open to all.

Linda Zerilli  
Charles E. Merriam Distinguished Service Professor,  
Political Science and the College;  
Faculty Director, CSGS

## College News

### The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program

The Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality offers a major, with a choice between a generalist path and discipline-based path. Many of our majors, usually those who choose the discipline-based path, also pursue and complete one or even two other majors. We also offer a minor, which makes the most sense for students whose majors have little overlap with our courses. Descriptions of major and minor requirements can be found at <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/>. If you have questions about the major or minor and want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, call or email student affairs administrator Sarah Tuohey (773-702-2365; [stuohey@uchicago.edu](mailto:stuohey@uchicago.edu)) to talk or set up a meeting.

### Spring Courses

For the first time, this Spring Quarter the CSGS will offer courses taught by two graduate student team-teachers. The courses were chosen among several strong proposals from advanced doctoral students from different PhD programs who share academic interests in connection with gender and sexuality studies. GNSE 23103: "Women Possessed: Religion, Gender, and Sexuality in Early America" will be taught by Alison Davis of the Divinity School and Katherine Krywokulski of the English Department. GNSE 23104: "Gender, Sexuality, and Islamic Traditions," will be taught by Mariam Seibani of the Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations program and Timothy Gutmann of the divinity school. Check out all offerings on our Courses web page at <http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic/courses.shtml>.

### Undergraduate Summer Internships for 2016

Once again, the CSGS will offer funding for up to four internships at gender- and LGBTQ-related service, educational, or activist organizations in the U.S. The deadline to apply for funding is Friday, February 26, 2016. Please contact Sarah Tuohey at [stuohey@uchicago.edu](mailto:stuohey@uchicago.edu) or 773-702-2365 for more information and to get the application form and guidelines.

#### CSGS Staff

Linda Zerilli, *Faculty Director*

Gina Olson, *Associate Director*

Sarah Tuohey, *Student Affairs Administrator*

Tate Brazas, *Program Coordinator*

Eleonora Edreva, *Event & Social Media Intern*

## Series Spotlight: *They've Got a Mouth on Them*

What happens when performance, pleasure, and politics come together? How do they challenge and change each other? What happens to pleasure when politics is in the room and what happens to politics when comedy, trauma, and searching minds converge? What is relationship between consciousness raising and pleasure stimulation?

This year, the **Artists' Salon** and the **LGBTQ Studies Project** at the Center for Study of Gender and Sexuality, with support from the Chicago Performance Lab and Infrastructures of the Comedic, are sponsoring events that cross-over comedy, witnessing, narrative, liveness, and the possibility that the changes aesthetic pleasure induce can have a memorable and positive impact.

All performances will have a public question and conversation phase.

### Thursday, February 18

Bhanu Kapil, "Shame May Be Fatal: Notes on narrative and the nervous system"

4:30-6pm

CSGS - 5733 S University Avenue

A content more volatile: than what contains it. This is a brief talk on narrative and the nervous system: how syntax, for example, registers the non-verbal aspects: of the scene. What is a scene? How can performances build the novel from the bottom-up, the inside-out? How might [could] a writer return to writing what is not or never the writing-to-be? "A sentence is a nerve throbbing on the riverbank." And so on. With some thinking about how a novelist might overcome the extreme sense: of being exposed: to view. What the novel-shaped space is. Rather than the novel: itself.

### Friday, February 19

**Workshop** | Bhanu Kapil, "THE MONSTER: A workshop on narrative form and touch"

12-1:30pm

CSGS- 5733 S University Avenue



Still from *Criminal Queers* (dir. Eric Stanley & Chris Vargas, 2013, which will be screened and followed by a discussion with the filmmakers at the Logan Center on Thurs, Feb. 25 at 7pm.

### Thursday, February 25

Eric A. Stanley & Chris Vargas, *Criminal Queers*

7-9pm

Logan Center (915 East 60th St), Screening Room 201

*Criminal Queers* visualizes a radical trans/queer struggle against the prison industrial complex and toward a world without walls. Remembering that prison breaks are both a theoretical and material practice of freedom, this film imagines what spaces might be opened up if crowbars, wigs, and metal files become tools for transformation. Follow Yoshi, Joy, Susan and Lucy as they fiercely read everything from the Human Rights Campaign and hate crimes legislation to the non-profitization of social movements. *Criminal Queers* grows our collective liberation by working to abolish the multiple ways our hearts, genders, and desires are confined. (USA, 2013, 70 mins)

Screening of the film, followed by discussion with the filmmakers, Eric A. Stanley & Chris Vargas, and Professor Lauren Berlant.



Hanna Holborn Gray, former University president and professor of history emeritus, discussing the reissue of *More than Lore: Reminiscences of Marion Talbot* at the CSGS on Thursday, November 5, 2015 as part of CSGS' 20th Anniversary and the University of Chicago's 125th Anniversary Series.

# Gender Studies Workshop & Working Group

On alternating Tuesdays, the **Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop** and the **Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group** meet in the seminar room at the Center from 4:30-6 pm. The Workshop features a quarterly theme curated by a faculty member and papers are pre-circulated. The Working Group is a forum for graduate students to workshop research and writing at any point in the progress of their work, as well as to request help on specific aspects of their projects.

## Winter 2016 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

**Professor Amanda Sharkey** (Associate Professor of Organizations and Markets, Booth School of Business) is curating the workshop this quarter under the theme, "Gender and Work."

Great progress has been made toward gender equality in the workplace over the last several decades. Yet, significant gender-based disparities in pay and promotions remain. These differences are rooted in a variety of cultural, social and economic structures, but the workplace environment clearly plays a critical and proximate role in shaping women's career trajectories, thereby influencing the extent of economic equality overall. This quarter's workshop will focus on issues of gender inequality in the workplace, with a particular emphasis on understanding key organizational factors (e.g., formal policies and practices as well as informal cultural aspects of workplaces) that either promote or reduce disparities between men and women on the job.

**January 12th: Jaclyn Wong**, Graduate Student in Sociology, University of Chicago, "Competing Desires: How Young Adult Couples Negotiate Moving for Career Opportunities"

**January 26th: Youngjee Cha**, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology Indiana University, "Are Some Occupations More Family-Friendly than Others? The Effects of Occupational Contexts on Using Leave and Flexible Work Policies"

**February 9th: Amanda J. Sharkey**, Associate Professor of Organizations and Markets, Booth School of Business, "Fitting in?: Gender and the Role of Preference for 'Cultural Fit' in Hiring"

**February 23rd: Adilia E. E. James**, PhD Candidate in Sociology, University of Chicago, "The Unequal Effects of Work Experience on Evaluations of Male and Female Professionals' Leadership Traits"

**March 8th: Jessica Zulema Borja**, Graduate Student in Sociology, University of Chicago, "The Impact of Working Alone: The Experiences of Women in the Trucking Industry"

Papers are made available in advance via our email list. If you are interested in joining the email list, go to <http://lists.uchicago.edu/web/subscribe/sexuality-gender-wkshp> or contact the workshop coordinators, Annie Hefferman and Rebecca Oh, at [gssworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:gssworkshop@gmail.com).

Additional workshop information, including past schedules, can be found at <http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/genderandsexuality/>. If you have any questions or accommodation requests, please don't hesitate to contact the workshop coordinators at [gssworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:gssworkshop@gmail.com).

## Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Working Group welcomes students and papers from any field, discipline, or methodological tradition, as long as the research is relevant to gender and sexuality studies, broadly defined. Submitted work may be partial or rough, including rough drafts of papers or dissertation chapters, work nearing completion, survey designs, literature reviews, or methodological sections. Meeting time consists largely of discussion of the submitted research or work following brief comments from the presenter. We ask that only students, graduate or undergraduate, attend.

This quarter, the working group will meet January 19th, February 2nd, February 16th and March 1st.

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the Working Group e-mail list, or are a person with a disability who may need assistance, please contact the Working Group coordinators, Omie Hsu and Katie Hendricks at [gssworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:gssworkinggroup@gmail.com).

Be a part of the conversation!



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