



A still from Divorce Italian Style, directed by Pietro Germi (1961). Martha Feldman, Edwin A. and Betty L. Bergman Distinguished Service Professor, Music, Romance Languages and Literatures, and the Humanities in the College, will deliver the 2020 Iris Marion Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture, "The Castrato Phantom," on Wednesday, January 22 at 4:30pm.

A Note from the Director

Dear Friends of the Center,

The beginning of a new decade is a great time to take stock of what has been accomplished and where we want to go. In 2016, we celebrated our 20th anniversary with two major symposia that brought together founders, former directors and graduate student fellows to reflect on the history and growth of the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality. The establishment of the Center in the 1990s and its growth in the 2000s staked a claim for feminist and queer scholarship at the University of Chicago under the leadership of professors **Leora Auslander** (History), **Lauren Berlant** (English), **Rebecca West** (Emerita, Cinema and Media Studies/Romance Languages), **George Chauncey** (formerly of History), **Deborah Nelson** (English), and **Jane Dailey** (History). A space for scholars at all stages who took up gender and sexuality as an object of inquiry, the Center has developed a curriculum, established an undergraduate major and minor, and later a graduate certificate, and supported faculty and student research by hosting many significant programs and conferences.

Gina Olson, our Associate Director, was an integral part of this growth (beginning in July, 2000), as she is today.

Prof. **Linda Zerilli** joined the University of Chicago in 2008 with half-line appointments in Political Science and Gender and Sexuality Studies. Under her leadership as faculty director, the 2010s ushered in a new era of growth for the Center. Linda funded faculty projects on a wide array of topics and methods of inquiry, expanded support for graduate student fellows and worked tirelessly on the much-needed renovations at 5733 S. University. Gina Olson was instrumental in these efforts, and in establishing and fundraising for two new endowment funds at the Center. These funds allow the Center to stand on firmer ground and will support graduate research and a new annual lecture series hosting LGBTQ speakers from the public sphere.

The Center added two full-time staff, **Tate Brazas**, our Program Coordinator (2014), and **Bonnie Kanter**, our Student Affairs administrator (2018), both of whom are essential to our

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FEATURED EVENTS

Wed Jan 22
2020 Distinguished Faculty
Lecture: Martha Feldman,
"The Castrato Phantom"

Thu Jan 23
Rafiki with Erin Moore

Thu Jan 30
Feminist/Queer Praxis:
Drag King 101

Fri Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, & 21
Care@Chicago: Gentle yoga
with Anna Schabold

Mon Feb 10
Kim TallBear, "Settler Love Is
Breaking My Heart"

Thu Feb 13
Galentine's Day Study Break

Fri Feb 21
Elissa Washuta and Theresa
Warburton, "Shapes of
Native Nonfiction"

Mon Feb 24
Lori Marso, "Dear Dick: Feminist
Politics of the Epistolary"

Thu Feb 27
Feminist/Queer Praxis:
Call the Midwife

Mon Mar 9
Megan Tobias Neely,
"Hedged Out: Inequality and
Insecurity on Wall Street"

Tue Mar 10
Ryan Young, "Niizh
Manidoowag Resistance"

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continued success and whose stellar work is fostering ever-more growth at the Center. In 2018, Prof. **C. Riley Snorton** joined the Department of English as Professor and the CSGS as an affiliate, where he is in residence, teaches in the core curriculum and serves as Director of Studies. **Lucy Pick** (Divinity), interim Center director for 2016-17, and **Jennifer Wild** (Cinema and Media Studies), our Director of Studies in 2016-2019, created new initiatives to expand our graduate certificate program. We now have certificate options with most of the MA programs on campus, including MAPSS, MAPH, SSA, and the Divinity School. Most notably in this decade, however, was the launch of the first undergraduate Core sequence related to gender studies: Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations. Having started with two sections in 2012, we will expand to seven sections in 2020 – and begin a new Gender Civ study-abroad program in Hong Kong!

As our 25th anniversary approaches in 2021, we are looking to the next decade of the CSGS and how we will continue to build and expand the place of gender and sexuality scholarship at the University of Chicago. We remain committed to advancing scholarship at all stages – from student research grants and dissertation fellowships to faculty research funding. Each year we fund a variety of faculty projects, supporting ongoing faculty research on campus. This year, we are launching a junior faculty research grant to support the work of our newest faculty affiliates, while continuing to foster course development through small research grants. We will continue our efforts to support the hiring of gender and sexuality scholars across campus, as we witness through our courses and certificate program that this area of inquiry is deeply relevant to many students coming to the university. Finally, we plan to launch new fundraising efforts in 2021 that will allow us to expand the possibilities of support we can offer. Stay tuned!

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In the immediate future – Winter 2020 – we have a great schedule of events. On Wed, Jan 22 at 4:30pm we will host our annual **Iris Maron Young Distinguished Faculty Lecture**, featuring **Martha Feldman**, the Edwin A. and Betty L. Bergman Distinguished Service Professor, Music, Romance Languages and Literatures, and the Humanities in the College, speaking on “The Castrato Phantom: Masculinity and the Sacred Vernacular in Twentieth-Century Rome”. Prof. Feldman is a cultural historian of European music, with a focus on Italy, and is on the faculty of the Departments of Music and Romance Languages and Literatures. She is the author of several monographs, including *Opera and Sovereignty: Transforming Myths in Eighteenth Century Italy* (University of Chicago Press). *Opera and Sovereignty* won the esteemed Gordon J. Laing Prize from the UChicago Press in 2010 – making Prof. Feldman the second woman on the faculty to ever win the prize since it was established in 1963. [**Jean Comaroff** won in 1992 and the prize has since gone to two more women – **Alison Winter** (2014) and former Center director **Deborah Nelson** (2019)]. Prof. Feldman is also co-organizing with Prof. **Kara Keeling** (Cinema and Media Studies) a conference titled *Errant Voices: Performances beyond Measure* from May 28-31 on voices that defy categorization and resist description or ontological certainty, such as trans, raced, and castrato voices that escape their confines perform or by choice.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Center.

Winter also features a variety of speakers and events organized through our faculty projects and by our faculty affiliates. Prof. **Linda Zerilli** (Political Science, CSGS) has organized a speaker series to accompany her two-quarter course, *Feminism and the Radical Democratic Imaginary*. On Mon, Feb 24 at 4:30pm, **Lori Marso** (Political Science and Africana Studies, Union College) will give the talk, “Dear Dick: Feminist Politics of the Epistolary” at the Center. **The Lexicon Project**, a working group of scholars led by **Daisy Delogu** (Romance Languages and Literatures) that seeks to recover and explore the ways that people wrote and thought about questions of embodiment in the Middle Ages, will focus this quarter on race and the politics of periodization with discussions of readings on Jan 10, 24 and Feb 7. Please see <https://voices.uchicago.edu/lexiconproject/> for more information.

The Center will co-host with the African Studies Workshop and the Film Studies Center a screening of *Rafiki*, an award-winning film directed by **Wanuri Kahiu** about a lesbian relationship and LGBTQ politics in contemporary Kenya. **Erin V. Moore** (BA '07, PhD '16), Post-Doctoral Research Scientist, Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, will serve as discussant for the screening on Thu, Jan 23 at 7pm at the Film Studies Center.

In February, the Center will co-sponsor two events around Indigenous and Native Studies. The **LGBTQ Speaker Series** will co-sponsor with Prof. Lauren Berlant's Worlding, Writing project at 3CT to host Prof. **Kim TallBear** (Native Studies, University of Alberta). TallBear will give a talk, “Settler Love Is Breaking My Heart” on Mon, Feb 10 at 5pm at 3CT and a lunchtime seminar at the CSGS on Tues, Feb 11. Prof. **Anna Elena Torres** (Comparative Literatures) is organizing a discussion with **Elissa Washuta** and **Theresa Warburton**, editors of *Shapes of Native Nonfiction--a new anthology of essays by twenty-seven contemporary Native writers--* on Fri, Feb 21 at 12:30pm in the Social Science Research Building, Room 302. On Tues, Mar 10 at 6pm, the Center will co-sponsor with LGBTQ Student Life, a visit by multi-disciplinary Two Spirit Ojibwe artist from the Lac du Flambeau reservation, **Ryan Young**, whose work focuses on intersections of cultural, gender and sexual identity. They will lead a workshop and discussion, “Niizh Manidoowag (Two-Spirit) Resistance.” Location TBA.

Continuing our tradition of the last four years, the Center has again designated February as **Care@UChicago** month. During the month, we will host weekly free yoga sessions on Fridays Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, and 21 along with a series of social events, including game nights, craft skills workshops and a Galentine's study break on Thu, Feb 13. More information on this quarter's Feminist and Queer Praxis series is detailed later in this newsletter (Student News) and will feature a drag king workshop and a discussion with UChicago Medicine midwives.

We look forward to seeing you over the winter quarter,
Kristen Schilt
Director for the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

Student News

Gender and Sexuality Studies Goes Abroad!

The inaugural GNSE Study Abroad quarter is coming Autumn 2020 in Hong Kong. Applications are currently available through the UChicago Study Abroad website and are due January 27, 2020. There will be three courses offered--two GNSE Civ courses (taught by **Dominique Blucher** and **Kristen Schilt**) and one Cinema course (taught by **Patrick Jagoda**)--that students can use to meet the Arts Core requirement. There is a lot of excitement about this new opportunity for our students.

Winter Courses

This Winter Quarter we are offering a great selection of courses. For our Foundations course, Sociology graduate student **Rebecca Ewert** will teach “Foundations of Masculinity Studies.” Our Concepts course for the quarter, “The Life and Afterlife of Cleopatra” is being taught by Classics PhD student **Jordan Johansen**. We have two Problems Courses available: “On ‘Women’s Writing’” with German Professor **Sophie Salvo** and “Medieval Masculinity” with historian **Jonathan Lyon**. Finally, our six sections of GNSE Civ will continue in Winter Quarter, taught by Professors **Leora Auslander** (History), **Sonali Thakkar** (English) and **Linda Zerilli** (Political Science, Gender and Sexuality Studies) and Anthropology PhD student/CSGS Dissertation Fellow, **Emily Bock**.

Winter Quarter Feminist Queer Praxis

We have two great FQPs, where we consider practices of feminism and queer theory post-degree, planned for Winter Quarter. The first, on Thu, Jan 30 at 5pm in conjunction with the Foundations in Masculinity Theories class, is a workshop entitled “Drag King 101.” Local Drag King **Po’chop** will be talking about the experience of playing with gender onstage and will also give students a chance to try on different drag personas.

The second FQP will be a talk with two of the midwives from the Family Birth Center at UChicago Medicine as they discuss the wide variety of health and medicine related activities that can be accomplished as a Certified Nurse Midwife. This event will be held on Thu, Feb 27 at 5pm as part of Care@Chicago.

CSGS Field Trip

Rather than stay inside all winter, we’re planning to get out and see some of the local gender-related arts and culture options available in the coming months. We’ll be going to see the play **Roe** at the Goodman Theatre in February, which follows the lives of lawyer Sarah Weddington and plaintiff Norma McCorvey (“Jane Roe”) in the years following the Supreme Court decision. The play ties in nicely with the Reproductive Rights section of our Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations class and is a great opportunity for students to learn about the history and context of the case.

Undergraduate Summer Internships for 2020

Once again, CSGS will offer funding for up to four internships at gender- and LGBTQ-related service, educational, or activist

organizations in the US. The deadline to apply for funding is **February 29, 2020**. For more information and a link to the application, go to <https://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/fellowships/internships.shtml> or contact Bonnie Kanter at bonniek@uchicago.edu or 773-702-2365 for more information.

Undergraduate Major/Minor

Undergraduate students interested in the topics of gender and/or sexuality are welcome at the Center and have the option to major or minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies. Students can take GNSE coursework as an independent major, or as a double major where their gender coursework can provide a lens through which they study another discipline. A minor is also available for students who may not be able to complete all the major requirements while also studying another discipline. Currently we have students who are also majoring in Linguistics, Biology, English, Sociology, Cinema and Media Studies and many other areas.

If you have questions about the major or minor and want to talk about how they might fit in with your general academic goals, email Student Affairs Administrator Bonnie Kanter (bonniek@uchicago.edu) to talk through your options. Bonnie will also be holding open office hours Fri, Jan 17 from 10am-12pm and Fri, Feb 21 from 1-3pm in the Community Room at the Center (5733 S University Ave). Stop by to get questions answered (and there will be treats!).

Graduate Student News

Our Graduate Certificate continues to expand! This Autumn we added MAPSS and the MDIV program to the certificate and--starting in 2020-2021--we will be welcoming 2nd year MSW students to the certificate option. This past quarter, two PhD students received the CSGS Certificate: **Lara Janson** (Sociology) and **Isaias Fanlo Gonzalez** (Romance Languages and Literature).

Applications are currently open for **Dissertation/Residential Fellowships** (deadline: **February 16, 2020**) and **graduate teaching** (deadline: **March 1, 2020**). For more information, please go to <https://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/fellowships/> or contact Bonnie Kanter at bonniek@uchicago.edu or 773-702-2365 for more information.

Winter Undergraduate Events

Fri, Jan 17 GNSE Office Hours

Thu, Jan 30 Feminist/Queer Praxis: Drag King 101

Thu, Feb 13 Galentine’s Day Study Break

Fri, Feb 21 GNSE Office Hours

Thu, Feb 27 Feminist/Queer Praxis: Call the Midwife

Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop & Working Group

Workshops and Working Group sessions are held on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:20pm** in the first floor seminar room of the Center at 5733 S. University Avenue.

Winter 2020 Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop

January 14: *Emily Bock*, PhD Candidate, Anthropology, “Waiting in Ball Time.” Discussant: *C. Riley Snorton*, Professor of English Language and Literature and Gender and Sexuality Studies

January 28: *Annie Heffernan*, PhD Candidate, Political Science, “All That’s Left Are Damaged Kids’: Disability Justice in the Wake of the Flint Water Crisis.” Discussant: *Michele Friedner*, Assistant Professor of Comparative Human Development

February 11: *Agatha Slupek*, PhD Candidate, Political Science, “Ours is the Overthrow of Houses’: Aeschylus’ Eumenides and the Feminist Critique of Legalism.” Discussant: *Demetra Kasimis*, Assistant Professor of Political Science

February 25: *Alexander Wolfson*, PhD Candidate, Philosophy of Religions, “Bi-Sexual Ambiguity: Psychic, Somatic Confusion in Freud’s Three Essays.” Discussant: *Patrick Jagoda*, Professor of English Language and Literature and Cinema and Media Studies

March 10: *Demetra Kasimis*, Assistant Professor of Political Science, “Lost in Transit: Kinship, Migration, and the Traffic in Women”

Additional workshop information and past schedules, can be found at <http://voices.uchicago.edu/genderandsexuality/> Papers are made available in advance via our email list. To join, go to <http://lists.uchicago.edu/web/subscribe/sexuality-gender-wkshp> or contact the workshop coordinator, Annie Heffernan (Political Science) at gssworkshop@gmail.com.

Find us on social media

 <https://www.facebook.com/UChicagoGender>

 <https://twitter.com/UChicagoCSGS>

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/UChicagoGender>

 <https://www.instagram.com/uchicagocsgs/>

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.

January 7: *Yaniv Ron-El*, Sociology, “Consumption and Gender: A Course Proposal”

January 21: *Xiaogao Zhou*, Sociology, “Doing Marriage, Constructing Social Heterosexuality: Xinghun in China”

February 4: *Omar Safadi*, Political Science, “Sectarianism and the Sodomite: Homophobia, Communal Identity, and Globalisation in Contemporary Lebanon”

February 18: *Deirdre Lyons*, History, “‘We are Living in a Different Era’: Everyday Intimacy and Citizenship in the Post-Emancipation Period, 1848-1872”

March 3: *Alleson Villota*, University of Tokyo, “Beyond Economic Reductionist Narratives: Alienation, Nostalgia, and Desire for ‘Freedom’ as Push Factors for Japanese Migrant Husbands in the Philippines”

Papers are circulated in advance via e-mail.

If you have any questions, 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, Shannon Morrissey and Agatha Slupek at gssworkinggroup@gmail.com.

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