

**Queer Studies Lecture Series**  
**Spring 2011**  
**Tuesdays 12:00-12:50; Stevenson 1002**  
**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**2/8 Shannon Price Minter, “Do Transsexuals Dream of Gay Rights?”**

In the 1990s, many gay rights organizations opposed including transgender people in the LGB movement. Some responded that trans people should inspire an LGBT movement unified around the principle of gender non-conformity. While that strategy has been powerful, it also has made it harder to focus on race and class. Can we build a shared movement based on recognition of differences? Minter is the Legal Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, a leading LGBT advocacy group. He represented same-sex couples in the landmark California marriage equality case.

**2/15 Francine Ramsey, “Black Lesbians Matter”**

Ramsey is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Zuna Institute, a national advocacy organization for Black Lesbians, and the co-creator of the National Black Lesbian Conference. She has worked for over 20 years with civil rights organizations and LGBT organizations of color. Ramsey will discuss the Zuna Institute’s report, “Black Lesbians Matter: An Examination of the Unique Experiences, Perspectives, and Priorities of the Black Lesbian Community.”

**2/22 Raquel Gutiérrez, “Performing Community the Queer, Brown Way”**

Gutiérrez, a community-based performance artist, playwright, and organizer, will discuss Los Angeles-based Chicana/o and Latina/o art interventions that explore queer lives in working-class neighborhoods. Gutiérrez is a co-founder of the performance ensemble, ButchLalis de Panochtitlan, a group aimed at creating a visual vernacular around queer LA Latinidad. **At 7 PM in Ives Hall, Gutiérrez will perform *MALATHION: LOW HUMAN TOXICITY*, a one-person show.**

**3/1 Carolyn Laub, “The Safe Schools Movement: How We Can ‘Make It Better’ for LGBTQ Youth”**

Laub, Founder and Executive Director of Gay-Straight Alliance Network, will discuss the history of California’s LGBTQ safe schools movement and GSA Network’s Make It Better Project, launched as a response to fall 2010 suicides related to anti-LGBTQ bullying. The GSA Network empowers youth to fight homophobia and transphobia through GSA clubs.

**3/8 Shane Windmeyer, “Campus Pride”**

Windmeyer will lead a program that destroys stereotypes and compels participants to come out as visible allies and leaders for all, including LGBT people. He is founder and executive director of Campus Pride, a national organization for student leaders and campus organizations working to create a safer college environment for LGBT students.

**3/15 Susan Stryker, “Cross-Dressing for Empire: Gender and Sexuality at the Bohemian Grove”**

Stryker, Associate Professor of Gender Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, will explore how late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup>-century cross-dressing at the Bohemian Grove—the exclusive Sonoma County retreat of the ultra-exclusive, all-male Bohemian Club—was integral to how members functioned as masters of the U.S. empire. Stryker is director of the Emmy-winning documentary *Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton’s Cafeteria* and author of *Transgender History*.

**3/22 Martin Manalansan, “The House We Live In: Queer Habitations in the 21st Century”**

Manalansan, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Asian American Studies at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, will discuss the lives of a household of unrelated queer immigrants in New York City. He argues that their lives illustrate the workings of ongoing gentrification, xenophobia and national economic crises.

**4/5 Amanda Littauer, “‘We had the world by the tail!’: Teen Girls and Lesbian Desire in the 1950s”**

Littauer, an assistant professor of History and Women’s Studies at Northern Illinois University, will describe how, in the 1950s, same-sex desiring girls were isolated and punished, but some recall the era as dynamic and pleasurable. Discerning, naming, and acting on their desires, young women created a place for themselves.

**SPECIAL SCREENING—7PM FRI 4/8 & 2 PM SUN 4/10: *La Mission* (2009)** Che Rivera (Benjamin Bratt) is respected in San Francisco’s Mission barrio for his masculinity, strength, and hobby building lowriders. As a reformed inmate, Che’s path to redemption is tested when he discovers his only son, Jes (Jeremy Ray Valdez), is gay. To evolve, Che will have to embrace a side of himself he’s never shown. Co-sponsored with the Sonoma Film Institute (Ives Hall).

**4/12 Ryan Conrad, “Marriage = Death”**

Conrad, founder of the Against Equality digital archives, dissects the affective rhetoric and rights-based discourse mobilized by national gay marriage campaigns. He examines how this collapses queer political imagination into narrow contemporary gay pragmatism. Conrad is an outlaw artist, terrorist academic and petty thief from a small Maine town.

**4/26 Juanita MORE! and Family, “Three Generations of Drag”**

Miss Juanita MORE! has been involved with the HIV/AIDS community in San Francisco since the mid 80’s and remains a tireless activist, fundraiser, DJ, and community builder, continuing to break ground with style and generosity. She will share her drag family and the support, activism, and community in this powerful alternative form of belonging.

**5/3 Coyote Grace, “Folkstastic Trans”**

Watch sparks fly between this acoustic down-home duo, combining guitarist Joe Stevens, a transman from Northern California, with upright bassist Ingrid Elizabeth, a sassy femme originally hailing from Southeastern Ohio. They capture the hearts of audiences nationwide with bluesy folkroots, sweet harmonies, and poignant songwriting.

**5/10 Marilyn Wann, “Another Scary F-word: Confronting Weight-Based Prejudice and Health Messages”**

This talk encourages people of all sizes and sexualities to recognize the impact weight-based messages and beliefs have on our lives, and how fat oppression connects to homophobia, sexism, racism, and the gender binary. Wann has been a fat activist since the mid-1990s, when she was denied health insurance based on weight and created the *FAT/ISO?* zine and book. In 2000, Wann helped convince San Francisco to add height and weight to anti-discrimination laws.

**The Queer Studies Lecture Series is made possible by the Women’s and Gender Studies Department, Queer Studies Minor, and the SSU Instructionally Related Activities Program.**

**Questions? Contact Professor Don Romesburg, WGS, [romesbur@sonoma.edu](mailto:romesbur@sonoma.edu), 707.664.2574**