

2023-2024



BROWN
Center for the Study of
Race and Ethnicity in America

ANNUAL REPORT

The image features a large, ornate wrought-iron gate with a central crest. The crest is the Brown University shield, which is a gold shield with a red cross and four gold squares. The shield is surrounded by a decorative border and topped with a crown. The gate is set against a background of bare tree branches and a light sky. The text is overlaid on the lower portion of the gate.

The Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) at Brown University supports and generates rigorous and accessible research, performance, art, and scholarship on a broad range of pressing issues related to race, ethnicity, and indigeneity to help build greater understanding and a more just world.



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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear CSREA Community,

This year, we (Tricia Rose and Prudence Carter) are happy to jointly release the Annual Report of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) at Brown. As you may have read or heard, after 10 years of dedicated service, Tricia Rose, Ph.D. '93, Chancellor's Professor of Africana Studies, Associate Dean of the Faculty for Special Initiatives, stepped down as CSREA's Director; and Prudence L. Carter '91, Sarah and Joseph Jr. Professor of Sociology, accepted the mantle on July 1, 2024. We have worked to make this transition as seamless as possible so that the Brown community continues to benefit from our initiatives, programs, and scholarly contributions.

CSREA offered a robust slate of programs and programming this past year. We have held a number of well-received events and collaborations. The Cornel West Festschrift, the *Momentum* Imagining Social Justice Art Exhibit, the New Book Talk series, the launch of Tricia's latest book entitled, *Metaracism: How Systemic Racism Devastates Black Lives—And How We Break Free*, and the Center's ongoing work with the Centering Race Consortium, were particularly notable.

In this transitional year of leadership, Prudence is excited to continue the tradition of dynamic and excellent programming, research, and teaching that CSREA supports. Our professional staff is diligently and strategically working to realize new visions as the Center approaches its 40th anniversary in two years.

We remain dedicated to producing new knowledge, deepening, and expanding partnerships, and serving as a central hub for projects that address pressing educational, social, and cultural issues. Our focus continues to be on how the logics and politics of racial and ethnic formation in the United States and beyond continue to shape and affect our society.

As we look ahead, we are eager to enhance further faculty and student support through funded research projects, seminars, and robust intellectual, civic, and cultural engagements. We look forward to sharing some exciting news about upcoming initiatives for 2025 and beyond.

As always, CSREA appreciates your support!

Joy + Justice,



TRICIA ROSE
CSREA Director (2014-2024)

Yours in partnership,



PRUDENCE L. CARTER
Incoming CSREA Director

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

Primarily funded by a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, our fellowship programs build intellectual communities among advanced graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, faculty, and artists researching race, ethnicity, and indigeneity. These initiatives create opportunities for cross-generational and cross-rank mentorship and dialogue.



PRACTITIONER FELLOWS



The Practitioner Fellowship program convenes artists, media makers, and writers to develop creative projects that produce new knowledge of the issues and experiences of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity. Fellows grow in their varied artistic practices through the exchange of multidisciplinary feedback.

MACARENA GÓMEZ-BARRIS

BROWN PRACTITIONER FELLOW

TIMOTHY C. FORBES AND ANNE S. HARRISON UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF MODERN CULTURE AND MEDIA, CHAIR OF MODERN CULTURE AND MEDIA

Macarena Gómez-Barris is a writer and scholar with a focus on the decolonial environmental humanities, authoritarianism, and extractivism, queer Latinx epistemes, media environments, racial ecologies, cultural theory, and artistic practice. Her forthcoming book, *At the Sea's Edge*, (Duke University Press) considers colonial oceanic transits and the generative space between land and sea. She is on the Social Text Collective, co-Director of the Queer Aqui Project at Columbia University, and on the Executive Editor Board of the *Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies* (GLQ). She received the Pratt Institute Research Recognition Award (2021-2022) and the University of California, Santa Cruz Distinguished Alumni Award (2021-2022). She is the author of dozens of essays and curatorial events. She was founder and director of Global South Center at the Pratt Institute's Experimental Theatre Indigenous Initiative.

LISA BIGGS

BROWN PRACTITIONER FELLOW

JOHN ATWATER AND DIANA NELSON ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF THE ARTS AND AFRICANA STUDIES

Lisa Biggs is an actress, playwright, and performance scholar originally from the Southside of Chicago. She is the author of *The Healing Stage: Black Women, Incarceration, and the Art of Transformation* (2022) and currently serves as the John Atwater and Diana Nelson Assistant Professor of the Arts and Africana Studies at Brown University. As an artist and scholar, Dr. Biggs is interested in the theory, practice, and impact of theater for social change, particularly the role of the performing arts in movements for social justice.

KIM DIXON

PRACTITIONER FELLOW

LEXINGTON TRADITIONAL MAGNET SCHOOL PROGRAM, THE LIVING ARTS & SCIENCE CENTER

Kim Dixon's artistic approach draws from her experiences as an African American woman and a background as an archivist/historian. Drawing and sewing are integral to her work, which combines symbolism from the past with academic critique of modern American life. Kim uses fiber arts deliberately to convey layered ideas and explore history's cyclical nature. While whimsical, Kim's style carries elements of "magical realism." Her work challenges stereotypes, particularly those surrounding needlework's domesticity. Through cross-stitching, embroidery, and quilting, Kim deconstructs and explores the cultural experiences of African Americans. Fiber arts powerfully convey messages and disarm viewers, invoking nostalgia while prompting deeper reflection. Work from Dixon's latest "This is America" series has recently been exhibited at the Living Arts & Science Center in Lexington, KY as part of *Reflections: African American Voices on the Past and Present*.

JADE HOYER

PRACTITIONER FELLOW

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ART, CARLETON COLLEGE

Jade Hoyer is an artist whose creative work addresses social issues in media like printmaking and hand papermaking. Through satirical inspection of quotidian materials and objects, her work wryly addresses questions of gender, multiracial identity, and social privilege. Hoyer has been recognized by organizations including the Windgate Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, and the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Her work is part of collections including the Museum at Texas Tech University's Artist Printmaker Research Collection, the Association of Pinoy Printmakers, Philippines, and the Museu da Gravura de Curitiba, Brazil. She is based in Minnesota, where she is an Assistant Professor of Art at Carleton College.

NKIRUKA OPARAH

PRACTITIONER FELLOW

LECTURER IN ART & ART HISTORY, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Nkiruka Oparah is an artist, poet, and designer who works with materials on hand to create works on paper, installations, wearables, and sculpture. Their process-based approach synthesizes digital collage, mark-making, animation, textiles, and experimental printmaking techniques to examine themes of intimacy, relationships to ritual, and matters of the spirit. Through layering and the constant recontextualization of cultural and embodied memories, discarded materials, as well as time-based experiments, they seek to make and unmake self-portraiture as a form.

MARC ANTHONY RICHARDSON

PRACTITIONER FELLOW

CREATIVE WRITING LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Marc Anthony Richardson is an artist and novelist who specializes in visceral, avant-garde fiction and poetry. *Year of the Rat*, a work of autofiction, won an American Book Award and a Ronald Sukenick Innovative Fiction Prize. *Messiahs*, a speculative novel, was a fiction finalist for the Big Other Book Award. *The Serpent Will Eat Whatever is in the Belly of the Beast*, a novel poem, is forthcoming from Dalkey Archive Press. It won a Creative Capital Award, and a Sachs Program Grant for Arts Innovation. He has received grants and fellowships from PEN America, Hurston/Wright Foundation, and many others. He has held residencies from the Vermont Studio Center, Art Omi, and Rhodes University in South Africa. He teaches creative writing at the University of Pennsylvania.

GRACE TALUSAN

BROWN PRACTITIONER FELLOW

LECTURER IN ENGLISH, BROWN UNIVERSITY

Grace Talusan is a Lecturer in the Nonfiction Writing Program in the Department of English at Brown University. Her memoir, *The Body Papers*, won the Restless Books Prize for New Immigrant Writing and the Massachusetts Book Award in Nonfiction. She earned an MFA from the University of California, Irvine, and taught writing at the University of Oregon, Tufts University, and Brandeis University, where she was the Fannie Hurst Writer-in-Residence. Her writing has been supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Fulbright, US Artists, the Brother Thomas Fund, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and residencies at MASS MoCA, Vermont Studio Center, and Hedgebrook.

BROWN FACULTY FELLOWS



KEISHA BLAIN

BROWN FACULTY FELLOW

PROFESSOR OF AFRICANA STUDIES AND HISTORY
BROWN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Keisha N. Blain, a 2022 Guggenheim Fellow and Class of 2022 Carnegie Fellow, is an award-winning historian of the 20th century United States with broad interests and specializations in African American History, the modern African Diaspora, and Women's and Gender Studies. She completed a Ph.D. in History from Princeton University in 2014. She is a Full Professor of Africana Studies and History at Brown University and a columnist for MSNBC--covering race, gender, and politics in historical and contemporary perspectives.

VISITING FACULTY FELLOWS



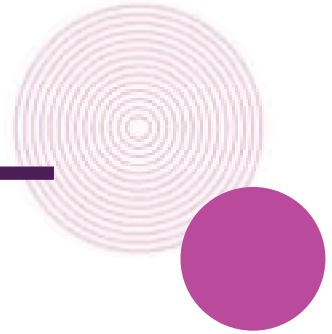
LUCIA HULSETHER

VISITING FACULTY FELLOW

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES,
SKIDMORE COLLEGE

Lucia is a scholar of religion, culture, and politics in the Americas and an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Skidmore College. She has broad interests in religion, culture, and politics in the Americas, with primary intellectual commitments to feminist/queer theory, critical race and ethnic studies, and the histories of social movements. Her book, *Capitalist Humanitarianism* (Duke, 2023), examines the relationship between socialist organizing and neoliberalism, focusing on the impacts of fair trade and microcredit on marginalized communities. At Brown, she is working on a book that will reconstruct the history of Girls' State, the American Legion Auxiliary-sponsored summer camp franchise that, beginning in the 1930s and continuing into the present day, has instructed more than one million young people in the duties and privileges of normative American citizenship. By understanding the trajectory of the longest running and most expansive civic education program in the country, this project maps larger transformations in the U.S. cultural politics surrounding gender, race, sexuality, nation, and the military. Lucia co-hosts the podcast *Nothing Never Happens*, which features discussions on critical pedagogy and radical teaching.

VISITING FACULTY FELLOWS



HEATHER DORRIES

VISITING FACULTY FELLOW

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS STUDIES
& DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING,
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Heather Dorries is an Assistant Professor jointly appointed to the Department of Geography and Planning and Centre for Indigenous Studies at the University of Toronto. Her research focuses on the relationship between urban planning and settler colonialism and examines how Indigenous intellectual traditions—including Indigenous environmental knowledge, legal orders, and cultural production—can provide the foundation for anti-colonial approaches to planning. She is currently revising her book manuscript *Planning the End of the World: Indigenist Planning Theory and the Art of Refusal*, which demonstrates how Indigenous knowledge systems can inform resurgent forms of planning and urbanism. She is a co-editor of the collection *Settler City Limits: Indigenous Resurgence and Settler Colonial Violence in the Urban Prairie West* (University of Manitoba Press, 2019). She is Anishinaabe and a member of Sagkeeng First Nation in Treaty 1.



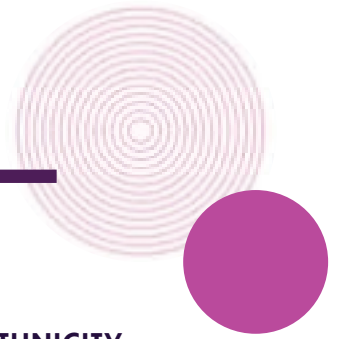
SARAH STEFANA SMITH

VISITING FACULTY FELLOW

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF GENDER STUDIES,
MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Sarah Stefana Smith is a scholar and artist focusing on the intersections of aesthetics, queerness, and affect in Black art and culture. Their current book project, *Poetics of Bafflement: Aesthetics of Frustration*, argues that the art objects of Black women and queer artists produce, maneuver, and/or disrupt the idea of a cohesive nation and provide us with an imaginative vision of what it means to be citizens and humans in a difficult world. Through the visual forms of archives, repurposed materials, and historical narratives, Sarah's studio practice considers questions of repair, disrepair, and lines of demarcation around difference, human, and species. Smith has published widely and exhibited both nationally and internationally, holding residencies at institutions like MASS MoCA and the University of Pittsburgh. Currently, they serve as an Assistant Professor of Gender Studies at Mount Holyoke College and are preparing for a solo exhibition at VisArts in March 2024.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



GABREÉLLA FRIDAY
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN RACE AND ETHNICITY
PH.D., SOCIOLOGY, BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

Gabreélla (Ella) Friday is a postdoctoral researcher dually appointed in the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs and the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at Brown University. Her areas of specialization include jails and incarceration, women, gender and sexuality studies, time and social inequalities, and social movements. She worked as a prisoner's rights advocate, community organizer, and researcher for her forthcoming book project, *Weaponizing and Resisting Time*. Here, she explores incarcerated women's relationship to and resistance of time in a rural upstate New York jail where she conducted four-years ethnographic advocacy. Friday received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Binghamton University in 2022.



MAYA SINGHAL
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN RACE AND ETHNICITY
PH.D., ANTHROPOLOGY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Maya Singhal is an anthropologist interested in crime and mutual aid in African and Chinese diasporic populations. Their research and teaching also deal more broadly with race, capitalism, racial capitalism, and intergenerational conflicts. Their current book project is an ethnographic and historical study of African American and Chinese American self- and community defense in New York City and the histories of extralegal neighborhood protection (e.g. gangs, neighborhood patrols and associations, etc.) that inform these present-day efforts towards safety. Singhal completed their PhD in Anthropology at Harvard University in 2023. They also hold MAs in the Social Sciences and Humanities and Social Thought from the University of Chicago and New York University respectively and a BA in Social and Cultural Analysis from New York University.



GRADUATES AND POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS AT CSREA

CSREA partners with Brown's Graduate School, peer centers on campus, and faculty advisors to support graduate students from Preview Day to the job market. The Center hosts professionalization workshops focusing on necessary skills like grantwriting, offers grants that support dissertation research, and administers fellowships that broaden research horizons and spur interdisciplinary intellectual connections.

GRADUATE FELLOWS



MELAINE FERDINAND-KING
GRADUATE SCHOOL INTERDISCIPLINARY OPPORTUNITY FELLOW
PH.D. CANDIDATE, AFRICANA STUDIES, BROWN UNIVERSITY

Melaine Ferdinand-King is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Africana Studies. She earned her B.A. in Sociology from Spelman College, with concentrations in comparative women's studies and African Diaspora & the World. Her research explores Black aesthetics and culture and intellectual and political histories of the radical tradition. Melaine's dissertation is a cultural study of Afro-Surrealism throughout 20th-century African-American and Afro-Caribbean thought and creative expression. Throughout her time at Brown, she earned two teaching certificates from the Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, and a doctoral certificate in Collaborative Humanities from the Cogut Institute for the Humanities. She's held graduate fellowships and affiliations with the Pembroke Center for Research and Teaching on Women, the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, the Cogut Institute for the Humanities, and the Brown Arts Institute.



SIRAJ SINDHU
GRADUATE SCHOOL INTERDISCIPLINARY OPPORTUNITY FELLOW
PH.D. CANDIDATE, POLITICAL SCIENCE, BROWN UNIVERSITY

Siraj is a Ph.D. candidate in the Political Science department, specializing in political theory. Their overarching research interest concerns how political agents refuse, improvise upon, and transform inherited traditions to articulate new conceptions of collective freedom and flourishing. Their research focuses on late modern and contemporary issues in the marxist tradition, the black radical tradition, and Islamic political thought. Their writing has appeared in the journal Political Theory and in 2023-2024 was a co-organizer of the Political Theory Colloquium at Brown University. They grew up in the north country of New York State and earned a BA at Amherst College.



RESEARCH, GRANTS, & TEACHING

CSREA supports scholarly research and artistic practices that explore the most pressing issues concerning race and ethnicity. Through the Center, faculty and advanced students access the funding, skills, and networks that equip them to interrogate injustice, promote equity, and inspire change at the highest levels.



FACULTY GRANT: REIMAGINING THE STEM FIELD - INDIGENOUS IDENTITY AND HIGHER ED

Course Innovation Grants facilitate the development, revamping, or refocusing of existing courses to more centrally include topics of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity. Since the grant's inception, awardees have built custom experiential learning platforms, hired and trained student researchers, and acquired other key learning supplies as part of ambitious course developments.



AMANDA TACHINE | SPEAKER
Assistant Professor in Educational Leadership
and Innovation, *Arizona State University*



CHRISTINE SMITH | MODERATOR
Associate Director, Undergraduate STEM
Development; Adjunct Lecturer, Engineering,
Brown University

APRIL 25, 2024

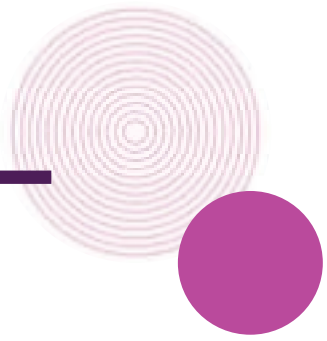
CSREA's Faculty Grant program supports ongoing research by convening strong intellectual communities on campus. Brown faculty members submit proposals detailing events, working groups, or other ambitious inquiries into the most pressing topics pertaining to race, ethnicity, and indigeneity in America for selection each semester.

STEM disciplines in higher education often center and reinforce Western epistemologies and pedagogies, which includes the perception that STEM is objective and not situated in a global context or community. Advancing equity and inclusion in STEM calls for anti-racist pedagogies to reach those students who are marginalized by systems of oppression. Reimagining the STEM Field: Indigenous Identity and Higher Ed features a conversation between Amanda Tachine (Diné)(Arizona State University) and Christina Smith (Diné) (Brown University) about the systemic mechanisms that impact Native American student experiences in higher education with a specific focus on STEM fields and explores ways of reenvisioning educational development and departmental programming to better support Indigenous learners.

This virtual discussion was a CSREA Faculty Grant Event organized by Dr. Christina Smith, Associate Director for Undergraduate STEM Development at the Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning at Brown University.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: RESEARCH GRANTS

The Center's graduate student research grants support advanced dissertation projects in the areas of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity. In partnership with a faculty advisor, awardees gain experience preparing funding proposals, executing research plans, and completing comprehensive post-award reports.



ERIN AOYAMA | PH.D. CANDIDATE, AMERICAN STUDIES

Where Does Memory Live?: Place, Culture, Hauntings in the Afterlives of Japanese American Redress

This research project draws from work on memory and hauntings from scholars writings on Asian American movement building to ask what redress meant for Japanese Americans living and organizing alongside other minoritized communities. How has redress facilitated forms of healing and opened the door to reckoning with Japanese American privilege while, at the same time, solidified certain narratives of model minority exceptionalism?



KIANA KNIGHT | PH.D. CANDIDATE, AFRICANA STUDIES

Translating Black Nationalism: Diaspora, Gender, and Language, 1918-1939

This dissertation examines the pivotal role of women in disseminating Black nationalism through the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) in the United States, Central America, and the Caribbean. This project highlights the cultural and political contributions of UNIA women, emphasizing their impact on Black nationalism and the shaping of national identities.



ALISON WEBER | PH.D. CANDIDATE, BEHAVIORAL & HEALTH SCIENCES

Social Norms Influencing Postpartum Anxiety Symptoms Among Women Living in the US: An Intersectional Approach to Mixed Methods Research

The proposed research examines how interlocking systems of oppression—specifically racism, sexism, and classism—contribute to feelings of anxiety during the postpartum period in the United States. This study will explore mothers' experiences with racialized and class-based gender norms and their impact on mental health, particularly among women of color and those living in poverty. Ultimately, this research aims to shift theoretical insights into actionable advocacy initiatives for improving postpartum mental health.



KATHARINA WEYGOLD | PH.D. CANDIDATE, AMERICAN STUDIES

African American Women and Haiti During the U.S. Occupation, 1915-1934

The dissertation examines African American women's perceptions and activism related to Haiti during the U.S. occupation from 1915 to 1934, focusing on their political, social, literary, and artistic engagement. Through archival research and oral histories, it analyzes how their identities as people of African descent and U.S. citizens influenced their views on the first Black republic and their connections to the broader African diaspora.

CORE PROGRAMS

CSREA's core programs anchor the work that drives our mission forward. Year after year, these offerings attract critical thinkers, highlight cutting-edge scholarship, and establish the Center as a trusted facilitator of transformative conversations and research projects.



SIGNATURE SPEAKERS

DR. JEAN SHIM YUN LECTURE IN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

The Dr. Jean Shim Yun Lecture Series spotlights scholarly research focused on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Each year, the series invites groundbreaking academics and artists to campus to enrich conversations of race, ethnicity, and identity, particularly in context of the immigrant experience.

APRIL 18, 2024

AVA CHIN

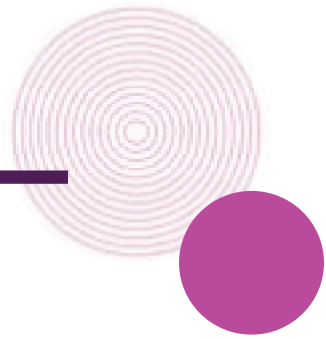
RENOWNED AUTHOR

A professor and a journalist, Ava Chin is the author of the award-winning *Eating Wildly* (Simon & Schuster, 2014), the editor of *SPLIT* (McGraw Hill, 2002), and the former Urban Forager columnist for *The New York Times* (2009-2013). First Prize Winner of the 2015 MFK Fisher Book Awards, *Eating Wildly* was one of *Library Journal's* "Best Books of 2014" and a Goodreads Choice Awards 2014 semifinalist. *Kirkus Reviews* described it as "A delectable feast of the heart."

At this event hosted by CSREA, Ava Chin shared insights into her newest memoir, *Mott Street: A Chinese American Family's Story of Exclusion and Homecoming*, with the Brown community. As the only child of a single mother in Queens, Ava Chin found her family's origins to be shrouded in mystery. She had never met her father, and her grandparents' stories didn't match the history she read at school. *Mott Street* traces Chin's quest to understand her Chinese American family's story. Over decades of painstaking research, she finds not only her father but also the building that provided a refuge for them all.

This event was moderated by Shelley Lee, Professor of American Studies at Brown University.





THIRD RAIL LECTURE

As a signature event, the Third Rail Lecture Series aims to address some of the most thorny and contentious social, political, and cultural issues related to race and ethnicity in contemporary society. These accessible public presentations are designed to inform and move public discussion forward.

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

ROBIN D.G. KELLEY

**DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AND GARY B. NASH ENDOWED CHAIR IN U.S. HISTORY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES**

What was Affirmative Action and Why Does it Matter?

The Supreme Court's overturning of affirmative action, the passage of anti-DEI legislation, and the criminalization of liberal multicultural education have caused panic in higher education. We have attributed this shift to "whitelash" and the neofascist turn in American politics, but it is not new. The assault on affirmative action began at its inception, both as policy and as an idea rooted in color-blind racism and stigmatizing myths of undeserved privilege. To paraphrase W. E. B. Du Bois, the Right murdered affirmative action so completely we do not recognize its corpse. Kelley's "autopsy" will revisit the history of affirmative action, the long war on racial justice in higher education, and offer reflections on the struggle ahead.





2023-2024

IMAGINING SOCIAL JUSTICE ART EXHIBIT

MOMENTUM

Funded by the Mellon Foundation, the Imagining Social Justice Art Exhibit collects expressions of the varied experiences of race and ethnicity present in American society and harmonies, tensions, and questions that arise in their interactions.

This year's exhibition, organized under the theme Momentum, included a collection of 25 works. Across a wide variety of media from local and global artists, the collection conveys a sense of forward movement while exploring the instances of deceleration and even regression contained within, centering on the tensions that reflect the complexities of our times. During its 12-month run, the exhibit was visited by hundreds of community members in open gallery hours and served as a conversational catalyst for discussions of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity on campus and beyond.

As our collection grows, new additions inspire us to plumb our reserves of hope, connectivity, and community as we collectively strive to build a more just and peaceful world.

Where can this momentum take us?



Trinh Mai

And we shall come forth as gold, 2019, Acrylic, charcoal, gold leaf, hand embroidery, and tears shed for refugees on paper

WHAT I AM THINKING ABOUT NOW

A core component of CSREA's mission is supporting the development of cutting-edge, collaborative, intellectual work. "What I Am Thinking About Now" is an informal workshop/seminar series where faculty and graduate students present recently published works and works in progress for early-stage feedback and development.

NOVEMBER 13, 2023

EMPOWERING FAMILIES: BRIDGING THE COMMUNICATION GAP IN HEAD START FOR CHILDHOOD HEALTH AND WELLNESS

ALISON TOVAR

Associate Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Center for Health Promotion and Health Equity
Brown University

Head Start (HS) is a federal program designed to promote school readiness of preschool-aged children from low-income families. HS programs collect children's anthropometric data and communicate results to families to promote health and prevent obesity in enrolled children. Despite these requirements, there is lack of guidance on how programs should be communicating this information to families. Through a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, we convened an advisory group to draft recommendations. This talk presents some of these recommendations and discusses possible next steps on how to best engage with families, particularly those from historically marginalized communities.

DECEMBER 4, 2023

RACIAL INEQUALITIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION OF BRAZILIANS

RUI F. CARVALHO

Doctoral Candidate in Sociology
Brown University

Brazil is one of the most racially diverse countries in the world, with Brazilians racialized as non-White composing the majority of the country's population. Conversely, the Brazilian immigrant populations of Portugal and (even more so) the United States are predominantly composed of folks racialized as White. This talk addresses this empirical puzzle and attempts to identify and discuss the mechanisms that explain such differences, thus uncovering the racialized nature of international migration outcomes.



EVENTS & SYMPOSIA

Each year, the Center presents a slate of events and symposia that bring celebrated scholars to campus and introduce new ways of understanding how race and ethnicity shape society.

Large and small, virtual and in-person, these events respond to the current moment while building foundational knowledge.

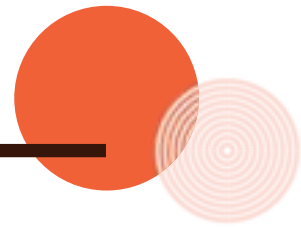


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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.AACRL.ORG
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 **BROWN**
Center for the Study of
Race and Ethnicity in America

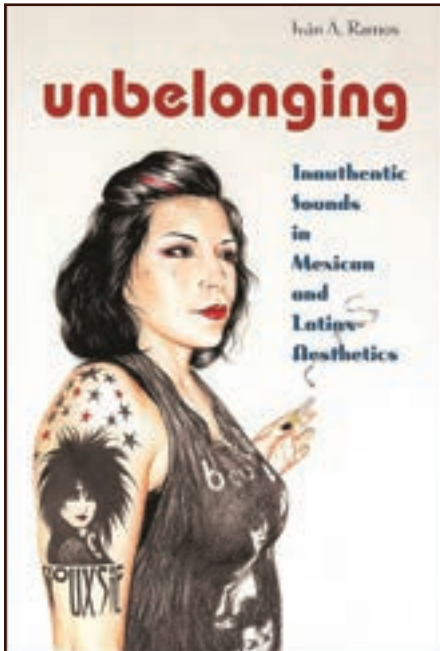
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NEW BOOK TALKS



SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

UNBELONGING: INAUTHENTIC SOUNDS IN MEXICAN AND LATINX AESTHETICS



IVÁN RAMOS

Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies,
Brown University

*Moderated by Macarena Gómez-Barris, Timothy C. Forbes and
Anne S. Harrison University Professor and Chair,
Modern Culture and Media, Brown University*

In what ways can dissonant sounds challenge systems of dominance? In *Unbelonging: Inauthentic Sounds in Mexican and Latinx Aesthetics*, Iván Ramos answers these questions and more through an exploration into Mexican and US-based Latinx artists', writers', and creators' use of the discordant sounds of punk, metal, and rock to give voice to the aesthetic of "unbelonging," a rejection of consumerist and nationalist mentalities. Ultimately, these forms of inauthenticity move beyond negation and become ways to imagine alternative realities.

DECEMBER 7, 2023

BLACK GRIEF/WHITE GRIEVANCE: THE POLITICS OF LOSS



JULIET HOOKER

Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence in
Political Science, Brown University

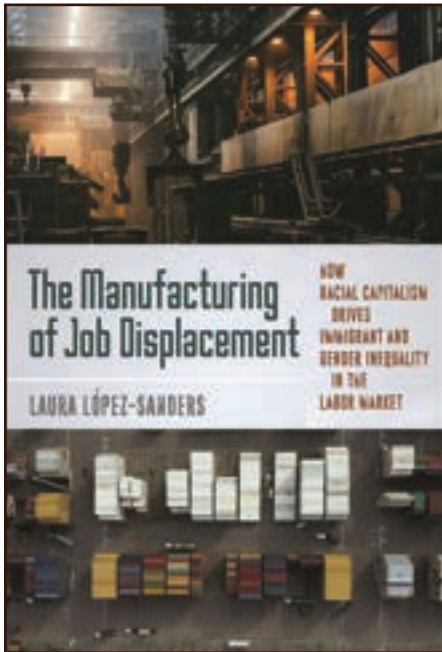
*Moderated by Emily Ownes, David and Michelle Ebersman
Assistant Professor of History, Brown University*

In this book, Juliet Hooker, a leading thinker on democracy and race, argues that the two most important forces driving racial politics in the United States today are Black grief and white grievance. Black grief is exemplified by current protests against police violence—the latest in a tradition of violent death and subsequent public mourning spurring Black political mobilization. The potent politics of white grievance, meanwhile, which is also not new, imagines the United States as a white country under siege.

The New Book Talks series highlights new and notable work from authors internal and external to Brown. The aim is to facilitate thought-provoking and critical engagement with emerging scholarship that helps us understand how we study, research, and engage with analyses of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity.

APRIL 4, 2024

THE MANUFACTURING OF JOB DISPLACEMENT: HOW RACIAL CAPITALISM DRIVES IMMIGRANT AND GENDER INEQUALITY IN THE LABOR MARKET



LAURA LÓPEZ-SANDERS

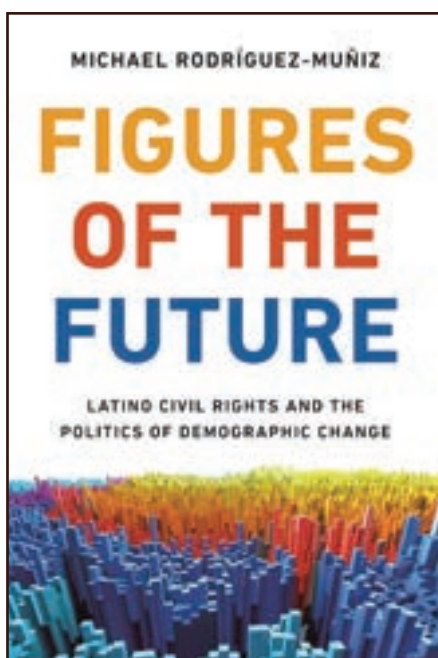
Stephen Robert Assistant Professor of Sociology,
Brown University

*Moderated by Seth E. Rockman, Associate Professor of History,
Brown University*

In *The Manufacturing of Job Displacement*, Laura López-Sanders argues that the walls of American businesses hide a system of illegal practices and behaviors that lead to racial inequality in the labor market. To create a behind-the-scenes accounting of daily factory life, López-Sanders draws on extensive research in South Carolina manufacturing facilities, interviews, and her own experience working at the “bottom” of the labor market.

APRIL 11, 2024

FIGURES OF THE FUTURE: LATINO CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE POLITICS OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE



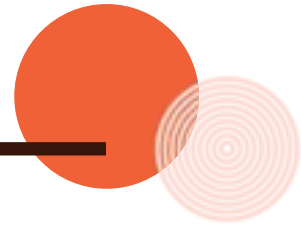
MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ-MUÑIZ

Associate Professor of Sociology,
UC Berkeley

*Moderated by Marques Zarate, Assistant Professor of Political
Science, Brown University*

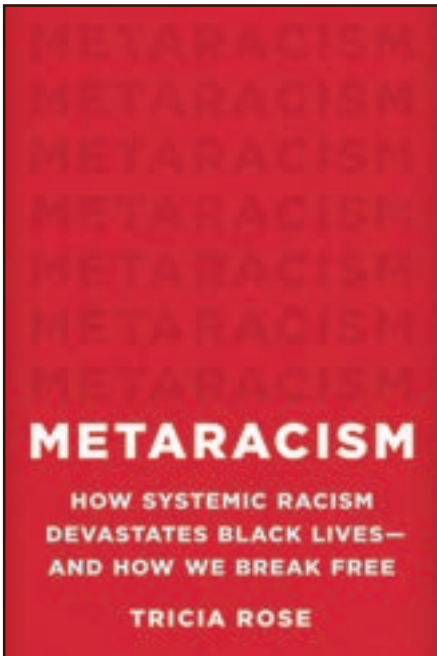
For years, newspaper headlines, partisan speeches, academic research, and even comedy routines have communicated that the United States is undergoing a profound demographic transformation—one that will purportedly change the “face” of the country in a matter of decades. But the so-called browning of America, sociologist Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz contends, has less to do with the complexion of growing populations than with past and present struggles shaping how demographic trends are popularly imagined and experienced.

NEW BOOK TALKS



MARCH 14, 2024

METARACISM: HOW SYSTEMIC RACISM DEVASTATES BLACK LIVES - AND HOW WE BREAK FREE



TRICIA ROSE

Chancellor's Professor of Africana Studies, Associate Dean of the Faculty for Special Initiatives, Director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, Brown University

Moderated by Prudence L. Carter, Sarah and Joseph, Jr. Dowling Professor of Sociology, Brown University

In *Metaracism: How Systemic Racism Devastates Black Lives - And How We Break Free*, pioneering scholar Tricia Rose cuts through the noise with a bracing and invaluable new account of what systemic racism actually is, how it works, and how we can fight back. She reveals how—from housing to education to criminal justice—an array of policies and practices connect and interact to produce an even more devastating “metaracism” far worse than the sum of its parts.





“A brilliant guide to a systemic malady that cannot be denied.”

KIRKUS REVIEWS

“An essential new look at American inequality.”

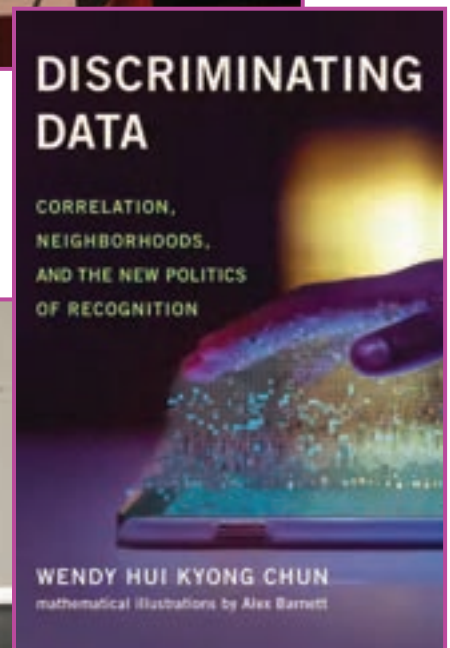
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

EQUILIBRIUM: CONVERSATIONS IN STEM

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

The Equilibrium Discussion Series invites scholars whose work examines the intersections of race and STEM fields—science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Speakers consider topics like algorithmic bias, the built environment, and medical science through the lens of race and ethnicity, with an eye toward possibilities for creating a more just world.

In *Discriminating Data: Correlation, Neighborhoods, and the New Politics of Recognition*, Wendy Chun reveals how polarization is a goal—not an error—within big data and machine learning. These methods, she argues, encode segregation, eugenics, and identity politics through their default assumptions and conditions.



KIM GALLON | MODERATOR
Associate Professor of Africana Studies
Brown University

WENDY CHUN | SPEAKER
Professor in the School of Communication
Director of the Digital Democracies Institute
Simon Fraser University

ARTISTIC PRACTITIONER CAPSTONE

MAY 2 - 3, 2024

The Practitioner Fellowship aims to develop artistic works that explore the intersections, aesthetics, and lived experiences contained within concepts of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity.

During the Spring Capstone conference, CSREA convened its Artistic Practitioner Fellows for a gathering on Brown's campus. After a semester of virtual meetings, the Fellows convened in-person to reflect on the development of their ongoing projects.

Generative keynote presentations by acclaimed interdisciplinary artist Trinh Mai and Brown University's Assistant Professor of Literary Arts Jacinda Townsend offered reflections on their recent work.

Fellows discussed how central issues of identity can be critically approached across medium, and what the overlaps between these multifaceted perspectives reveal.



TRINH MAI

Acclaimed Interdisciplinary Artist

Trinh Mai is a California-based visual artist focused on the intersections of history and present-day experiences within refugee and immigrant communities. Recognized for her impactful work, she has created murals and arts programming that address migration, freedom, and the struggles faced by Southeast Asian families. Currently a California Creative Corps Fellow, she aims to empower young Cambodian women in Long Beach through creative storytelling and community engagement.



JACINDA TOWNSEND

Assistant Professor of Literary Arts, Brown University

Jacinda Townsend is an acclaimed author, best known for her novel *Mother Country* (Graywolf, 2022), which won the 2023 Ernest Gaines Award for Literary Excellence and was shortlisted for the Mark Twain American Voice in Literature and Hurston/Wright Legacy Awards. Her debut novel, *Saint Monkey* (Norton, 2014), received several accolades, including the Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize. Townsend, a former broadcast journalist and antitrust lawyer, has also contributed nonfiction to publications like *Al Jazeera* and *The White Review*.

CORNEL WEST: A FESTSCHRIFT CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 20 - 21, 2023

CSREA hosted a two-day Festschrift celebration in honor of the life and work of Professor Cornel West. This gathering convened scholars, former students, and family to celebrate the extraordinary contributions of a prophetic bluesman in the life of the mind.

Dr. Cornel West, affectionately known to many as Brother West, is the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Chair at Union Theological Seminary. Dr. West teaches on the works of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, as well as courses in Philosophy of Religion, African American Critical Thought, and a wide range of subjects - including but by no means limited to, the classics, philosophy, politics, cultural theory, literature, and music. He has a passion to communicate to a vast variety of publics in order to keep alive the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. – a legacy of telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice.

“

*You've got to be a thermostat rather than a thermometer.
A thermostat shapes the climate of opinion; a thermometer just reflects it.*

- CORNEL WEST





FEATURED SPEAKERS

MATTHEW M. BRIONES

Associate Professor of American History and the College
University of Chicago

ANTHONY E. COOK

Professor of Law; Special Advisor to the Dean for Community and Justice
Georgetown Law School

NKOSI DUBOIS ANDERSON

Assistant Professor of Africana Studies in the Department of Religion
Seton Hall University

JAMES FUERST

Assistant Professor of Writing
The New School

EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR.

James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor in
African American Studies
Princeton University

ROBERT GEORGE

McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Professor of Politics,
Director, James Madison Program
Princeton University

FARAH JASMINE GRIFFIN

William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature
and African American Studies
Columbia University

MARC LAMONT HILL

Professor and Steve Charles Chair in Media Cities and Solutions
Lew Klein College of Media and Communication, Temple University

MARK C. JEFFERSON

Assistant Dean for Community Engagement and Equity
University of Virginia School of Law

SERENE JONES

President and Johnston Family Professor for Religion & Democracy
Union Theological Seminary

ROBIN D. G. KELLEY

Distinguished Professor and Gary B. Nash Endowed Chair in U.S. History
University of California, Los Angeles

DAVID KYUMAN KIM

Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of Religion
University of California, Berkeley

DAVID C. LAMBERTH

Professor of Philosophy and Theology
Harvard Divinity School

STEPHEN H. MARSHALL

Associate Professor of African and African Diaspora Studies & American Studies
University of Texas at Austin

EDUARDO MENDIETA

Professor of Philosophy and Latina/o Studies
The Pennsylvania State University

MARTHA NADELL

Director of Composition, English
Brooklyn College

IMANI PERRY

Carol K. Pforzheimer Professor, Harvard Radcliffe Institute; and Henry A. Morss, Jr.
and Elisabeth W. Morss Professor of Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality
and of African and African American Studies
Harvard University

ANDRE C. WILLIS

Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Brown University

RACE AT THE CENTER OF THE HUMANITIES: FRUITS OF LABOR

MARCH 7, 2024

As part of the Mellon Foundation-funded Race at the Center of the Humanities initiative, CSREA hosts an annual convening of Brown faculty, graduate students, scholars, and practitioners for mini-conferences and workshops that center race in humanistic inquiry.

This year's focus was on race, ethnicity, and foodways or the cultural, social, and economic practices relating to the production and consumption of food as well as the eating habits and culinary practices of a people, region, or historical period. This showcase of new research featured a panel of experts in the field of food studies who shared their work as it pertains to the geographies, economies, and ecologies of foodways and communities of color in the United States.



MIREYA LOZA | SPEAKER

Associate Professor of History and American Studies,
Georgetown University

HI'ILEI HOBART | SPEAKER

Assistant Professor of Native and Indigenous Studies,
Yale University

SHANTI MORRELL-HART | MODERATOR

Associate Professor of Anthropology,
Brown University

JENNIFER LIN LEMESURIER | SPEAKER

Associate Professor of Writing and Rhetoric, Colgate
University

ASHANTÉ M. REESE | SPEAKER

Associate Professor of African and African Diaspora
Studies, UT Austin



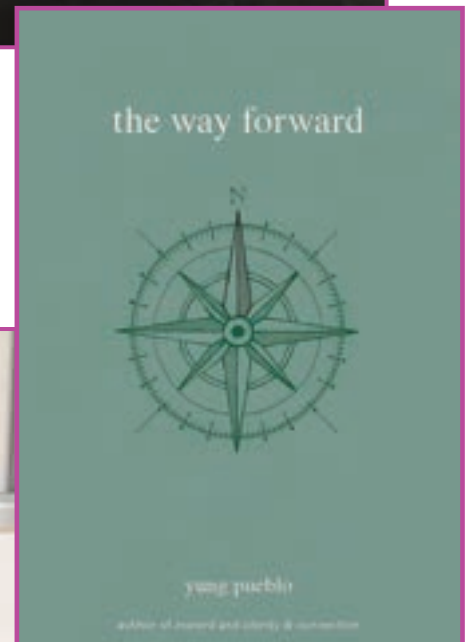
WRITING FOR A BROKEN WORLD: YUNG PUEBLO

NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Writing for a Broken World is a conversation series that features contemporary literary artists who contemplate race, place, and memory in their written worlds. These discussions inspire reflection on the writing process and the power of literature to heal and transform.

The speaker for this event, Diego Perez, is a meditator and #1 New York Times bestselling author who is widely known through his pen name, Yung Pueblo. Online, he has an audience of over 3 million people. His writing focuses on the power of self-healing, creating healthy relationships, and the wisdom that comes when we truly work on knowing ourselves. *The Way Forward* encourages readers to connect more deeply to their intuition, using it to remain focused and grounded amidst a world in constant flux.

This event was moderated by CSREA's Associate Director, Stéphanie Larrieux.



DIEGO PEREZ | SPEAKER
Author of *The Way Forward*

OUR PARTNERS

CSREA works collaboratively with partner departments on campus and peer centers at other institutions to increase reach and capacity.

Whether the Center is leading or supporting, these relationships inspire, challenge, and motivate us to design more effective initiatives, amplify new voices, and contribute to broader conversations.



CENTERING RACE CONSORTIUM

Formed in 2020, The Centering Race Consortium is a partnership sponsored by the Mellon Foundation that focuses on the study of race in the arts and humanities through a combination of research and artistic practice. The four member Centers (Brown, Stanford, Yale and the University of Chicago) collaborate to produce events, sponsor fellowships, and support research across disciplines on their campuses and in their communities.

OCTOBER 27, 2023

REIMAGINING THE UNIVERSITY: RACE AND FREEDOMS

CHICAGO, IL

The Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture (CSRPC) gathered to examine the intersections of race, white supremacy, social justice, and freedoms as they are practiced and censured within and beyond the context of the 21st century university.

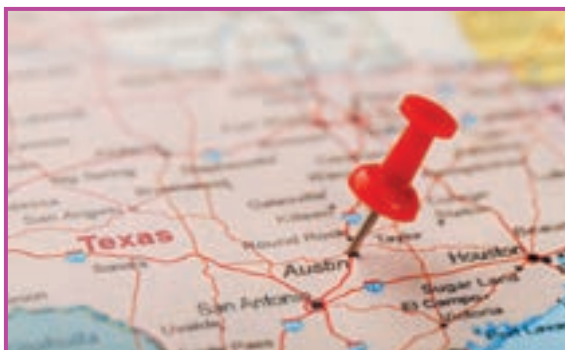


FEBRUARY 9-10, 2024

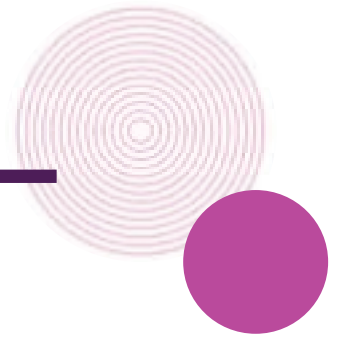
RACE STUDIES IN TEXAS

AUSTIN, TX

The Race Studies in Texas Convening explored how History, Ethnic Studies, and other fields are taught in Texas, and how educators and others are addressing current educational challenges at colleges and universities, and in public conversations.



CO-SPONSORED EVENTS



DECEMBER 5, 2023

CO-SPONSOR: CENTRE FOR MIDDLE EAST STUDIES

The Hamas Attack and Israel's War in Gaza: Historical Context, Significance and Future Scenarios

NOVEMBER 9, 2023

CO-SPONSOR: BROWN DREAM TEAM, SHERIDAN CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

From the Fields to the Classroom: An Evening with Dr. Felipe Lopez Sustaita

OCTOBER 31, 2023

CO-SPONSOR: RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Capitalist Humanitarian: Labor, Loss, and the Study of Religion with Lucia Hulsether

OCTOBER 12, 2023

CO-SPONSOR: ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

L.H. Stallings - Black Saeculum: The Long Beyond Sexuality in Black Film, Literature and Music

OCTOBER 20 - 22, 2023

CO-SPONSOR: SWEARER CENTER

2023 Imagining America National Gathering: Radical Reckoning: Invoking the Elements for Collective Change

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

CO-SPONSOR: BLACK MUSIC LAB

Lynnée Denise: Why Willie Mae Thornton Matters

FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 1, 2024

CO-SPONSOR: CENTER FOR LANGUAGE STUDIES

Modern Languages Conference 2024: Translation Across Disciplines

APRIL 5, 2024

CO-SPONSOR: AFRICANA STUDIES

Global Visions of Freedom: New Perspectives on Black Women & Internationalism

FEBRUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 2024

CO-SPONSOR: ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, NONFICTION WRITING PROGRAM

Inclusive Journalism

CENTER STAFF



TRICIA ROSE

Outgoing Center Director

Chancellor's Professor of Africana Studies



PRUDENCE CARTER

Incoming Center Director,
Sarah and Joseph, Jr. Dowling
Professor of Sociology



STÉPHANIE LARRIEUX

Associate Director



TRAE ALSTON-SWAN

Center Manager



ELLIE WINTER

Communications Specialist



ZACHARY VIEIRA LEGAT

Communications Specialist



KALUM ALLDREDGE

Program Coordinator

FACULTY ADVISORY BOARD



MATTHEW PRATT GUTERL

L. Herbert Ballou University Professor of Africana Studies and American Studies

Guterl is a historian of race and nation, with a focus on US history from the Civil War to the present. He has written four books, including *Seeing Race in America* and *Josephine Baker and the Rainbow Tribe*. Right now, he is working on a global biography of the queer human rights activist, Roger Casement, and a book on class-passing, cross-dressing, and race-passing. He has been awarded fellowships from the National Museum of American History, Yale University, Rice University, and others.



BONNIE HONIG

Nancy Duke Lewis Professor, Modern Culture and Media and Political Science

A 2023 recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship, Honig works in political, feminist, and queer theory, immigration politics, as well as film, classical, literary, legal, and cultural studies. Also affiliated with the American Bar Foundation, Honig's current project, *Doing Things with Words: Virality and Performativity in Democratic and Queer Theory*, draws on ordinary language philosophy, legal studies, and queer theory debates from the 90's, to consider the politics of sexual/racial minoritization.



NOLIWE ROOKS

L. Herbert Ballou University Professor and Chair, Africana Studies

Rooks' work explores how race and gender both impact and are impacted by popular culture, social history and political life in the US. The author of four books and numerous articles and essays, Rooks has received funding from the Ford Foundation, the Mellon Foundation and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation among others. Her most recent book, in which she coined the term "segregonomics," is *Cutting School: Privatization, Segregation, and the End of Public Education*.



AVERY WILLIS HOFFMAN

Inaugural Artistic Director, Brown Arts Initiative

Professor of the Practice, Theatre Arts and Performance Studies and Classics

A writer, artistic director, creative producer and curator of public programs, Hoffman joined Brown University in 2020. In her recent role as inaugural Program Director at Park Avenue Armory in New York, Avery curated and produced innovative and diverse public programming initiatives, including numerous large- and intimate-scale cultural events.

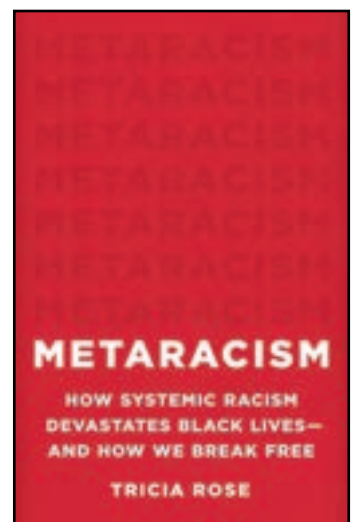
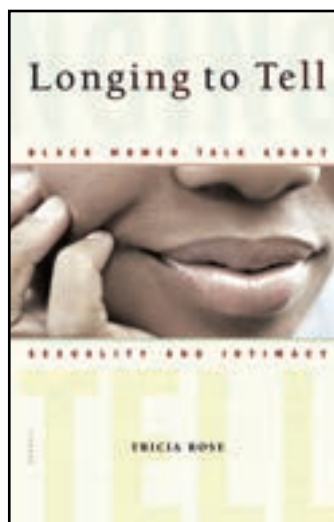
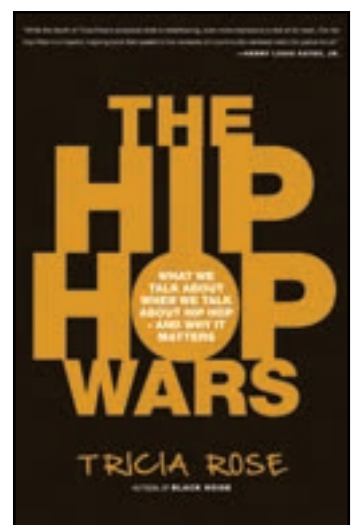
A SPECIAL THANKS

Born and raised in Harlem and the Bronx in New York City, Professor Tricia Rose earned a B.A. in Sociology at Yale and a Ph.D. in American Studies at Brown University.

Tricia has served in faculty positions at NYU and UC Santa Cruz. In 2006, she assumed a faculty position at Brown University. Tricia is currently the Chancellor's Professor of Africana Studies, Director of the Systemic Racism Project, and an Associate Dean of the Faculty for Special Initiatives.

Tricia has received numerous scholarly fellowships including from the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Mellon Foundation and the American Association of University Women.

Tricia served as the director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America for 10 years.





Thank you, Tricia.

BROWN.EDU/RACE
@RACEETHNICITY



TIMELY
RELEVANT
ACCESSIBLE