

Radical Philosophy Association

Spaces of Control: Confronting Austerity and
Repression

Eleventh Biennial Meeting
November 6-9, 2014
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, New York



Thursday, Nov. 6

Session 1: 2:00-3:30 PM

Panel A: Critiques of Technology

Chair: Robbie Cormier, Stony Brook University

Richard Daniels, Oregon State University, "Science, Technology, Political Delusion"

Patrick Durkin, Stony Brook University, "Gestell at Work in Capitalism and the Production of
Infinite Ends"

Gino Signoracci, University of New Mexico, "The Microrepressions of Everyday Life"

Panel B: Nietzsche and Politics: Tragic Affirmation, Convalescence, and Disability

Chair: Joshua Mills-Knutsen, Bellarmine University

Jose Rosales, Stony Brook University, “Tragic Community: Nietzsche and Philosophy as a Political Practice”

Jared Bly, Villanova University, “Bataille and Nietzsche: Convalescent Politics against Liberal Hegemony”

Kelsey Borrowman, Villanova University, “Curative Temporalities and Controlling Crip Futures: Nietzsche on Disability”

Session 2: 3:45-5:15 PM

Panel A: War and Drones

Chair: Nick Braune, South Texas College

John Kaiser Ortiz, Millersville University, “Sophocles and Soldier Suicide”

Harry van der Linden, Butler University, “Deadly Surveillance: Drone Warfare”

Panel B: Justice, Mass Incarceration, and the Predator State

Chair: Brandon Absher, D’Youville College

Mecke Nagel, State University of New York at Cortland, “Ubuntu and Criminal Justice Ethics: A Path towards Transformative Justice”

Eva Boodman, Stony Brook University, “Marx, Richie, and Gilmore: A Race- and Gender-Centered Immanent Critique of Mass Incarceration”

Andrew Dobbyn, Stony Brook University, “Welcome to the Terrordome: Fictitious Capital, Automation, and the Predator State”

Panel C: Anarchist Thought

Chair: Jose Rosales, Stony Brook University

Nathan Jun, Midwestern State University, “Contemporary Anarchist Philosophy: A Brief Critical Survey”

Alberto Hernandez-Lemus, Colorado College, “Pensiero Debole in Latin American Territories Outside State Structures”

Obed Frausto, Universidad Nacional, Autonoma de Mexico, “Ricardo Flores Magón: A Mexican Critic and Anarchy Theorist in Exile”

Plenary Panel: 5:30-7:00 PM

Separation Walls, Monumental Public Art, Counter-Spaces of Resistance

Chair: Eduardo Mendieta, Stony Brook University

Mary Watkins, Stony Brook University, “Limit Acts at the Border between Citizens and Immigrants”

Ed Casey, Stony Brook University, “Border Wall as Monumental Symbolic: Incongruities and Inequities at La Frontera”

Fred Evans, Duquesne University, “Citizenship and Public Art: The Political Aesthetics of New York’s 9/11/01 Memorial”

Friday, Nov. 7

Session 3: 9:00-10:00 AM

Panel A: Bankrupting the Social: Neo-Liberalism, Detroit, and Constitutive Exclusion

Chair: Jeffery Nicholas, Providence College

Jasmina Tacheva, State University of New York, University at Buffalo, “Capitalism’s Privatization and the Killing of the Social”

Gail Presbey, University of Detroit Mercy, “Detroit’s Bankruptcy: Moral Issues”

Panel B: Critical Phenomenology of Space and Embodiment

Chair: Phillip Nelson

Joel Reynolds, Emory University, “The Ableist Conflation: Disability, Phenomenology, and the Control of the ‘I Can’

Fulden Ibrahimhakkioğlu, University of Oregon, “The Ethics of Taking Up Space: Bodily Entitlement and ‘Creating Space’ for the Other”

Panel C: Animal Oppression: Bad Faith and Materialism

Chair: Tanya Loughhead, Canisius College

Suzanne Risley, Independent Scholar, “If We Were Really Being Deceived: Bad Faith and the Spaces of Animal Oppression in the U.S.”

James Stanescu, George Washington University, “Animals, Cartesianism, and Democratic Materialism”

Panel D: Race, Reparations, and Hip Hop

Chair: Phil Opsasnick

John Exdell, Kansas State University, “Materialist Theory and Racial Reparations”

Melvin Armstrong, Jr., Robert Anthony Ward, and Jonathan L. Hamilton, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, “Hip Hop as an Emancipatory Project and the U.R. Movement”

Session 4: 10:15-11:15

Panel A: The Systematic Imperative for Radical Resistance

Chair: Brandon Absher, D'Youville College

Jenny Strandberg, Stony Brook University, "Political Pathologies and Natural Disasters: Diagnosing an Unhealthy Planet"

Chris Manno, Stony Brook University, "Capital's Telos and Eudaimonia"

Panel B: Immigration, Medicalization, and Enforcement

Chair: Egbert Higinio, San Jose State University

Alberto Bejarano Romo, University of Memphis, "Are We There Yet?: Medicalization and the Mechanisms of Inclusion and Exclusion in U.S. Immigration"

José Mendoza, Worcester State University, "Enforcement Matters: Reframing the Debate Over Immigration"

Panel C: Erich Fromm and Social Repression

Chair: Gino Signoracci, University of New Mexico

Nick Braune, South Texas University, "Police Interrogation and False Confessions: A Frommian Critique"

Joan Braune, Mount Mary University, "Apocalyptic Shock: The Judge Rotenburg Center and Catastrophic Messianism"

Panel D: Finance and Empire

Chair: Joshua Mills-Knutsen, Bellarmine University

Tony Smith, Iowa State University, "The End of One American Century... and the Beginning of Another?"

Karl Beitel, Independent Scholar, "Rethinking Value in the Age of Derivatives and Non-Convertible Credit: An Investigation into the Nature of World Money and the World Market"

Lunch: 11:30-12:15

Keynote Address: 12:30-2:30

Chair: Patrick Murray, Creighton University

Saskia Sassen, Columbia University, “When Complexities Produce Simple Brutalities”

Session 5: 2:45-4:15 PM

Panel A: Neo-Liberalism, Republicanism, and Solidarity

Chair: Anne Pomeroy, Richard Stockton College

Cliff Durand, Center for Global Justice, “Contradictions of Neo-Liberalism”

Richard Schmitt, Worcester State College, “Solidarity – What It Is and Is Not”

Norm Fischer, Kent State University, “A Revitalized Marxist Politics Linked to Classical Republicanism”

Panel B: Austerity and the Common Good

Chair: José Mendoza, Worcester State University

Jeffery Nicholas, Providence College, “Where I and We Come Together: Confronting Austerity and Repression through the Common Good”

George Furlas, University of Oregon, “Austerity as Neo-Orientalist Domination”

Jean Gregorek, Canisius College, “Representing Austerity Ireland: Ireland’s Ghost Estates in Fact and Fiction”

Panel C: Beyond Marxism?

Chair: Claudia Leeb, Washington State University

Nikolay Karkov, State University of New York at Cortland, “Autonomist Marxism in Post-Socialist Eastern Europe: Some Problems of Translation”

Christian Lotz, Michigan State University, “Society Does Not Exist?: A Critique of Recent Post-Marxism”

Henry Theriault, Worcester State University, “Post-Capitalist Extractionism and Social Response”

Panel D: Humanitarianism and Global Justice

Chair: Christa Hodapp, University of Massachusetts at Lowell

Mladjo Ivanovic, Michigan State University, "Holding Hands with Death: The Limits of Our Humanitarian Present"

Sebastian Purcell, State University of New York at Cortland, "Liberal or Liberated Spaces: Dussel and Rawls on Global Justice"

Rochelle DuFord, Binghamton University, "Tyranny, Illegitimacy, and Global Government"

Plenary Panel: 4:30-6:00 PM

The University Today

Chair: Anne Pomeroy, Richard Stockton College

Michael Baur, Fordham University, "Disrupting Our Own Space: The Modern American University as the Site of Production, Consumption and Alienation"

Tanya Loughead, Canisius College, "What is Critical Thinking?"

Joshua Mills-Knutsen, Bellarmine University, "Can Higher Education Be Revolutionary?: Marx, Foucault, and the Institution of Higher Learning"

Dinner: 6:00-7:15 PM

Performance: 7:30-9:00 PM

Old Furnace Artist Residency: A Home, an Institution, a Parasite

Artists: Jon Henry, Peter Christenson, Daniel King, Gregory Hatch, Anna Lise Jensen, and Miho Tsujii

Saturday, Nov. 8

Session 6: 9:00-10:30 AM

Panel A: Marx, Value, and the Critique of Capitalism

Chair: Tony Smith, Iowa State University

Jeanne Schuler, Creighton University, “Capitalist Crisis and the Terms of Discourse”

Dennis Badeen, Trent University, “Fusing the Atoms – Marx’s Ontological Critique of the Asocial and Ahistorical Character of Orthodox Economics”

Patrick Murray, Creighton University, “Capital’s Reach – How Capital Subsumes and Shapes”

Panel B: Unions, Cooperatives, and Democratic Workplaces

Chair: Gertrude Postl, Suffolk County Community College

Forrest Perry, St. Xavier University, “The Educative Potential of Workplace Democracy: A Critical Reading of Jane Addams on Educational Methods”

Margaret McLaren, Rollins College, “Microfinance Institutions and Cooperatives: Exploitation or Empowerment?”

Milton Fisk, Indiana University, “Unions and Socialism”

Panel C: Daydreaming as a Subversive Act: Marcusean Reflections on Space, Time, and Community

Chair: Brandon Absher, D’Youville College

Joseph Trullinger, George Washington University, “Leisure Is Not A Luxury: The Revolutionary Promise of Reverie in Marcuse”

Shelly Johnson, University of Kentucky, “Subversive Play in Totalitarian Spaces: Disrupting the One-Dimensional Classroom”

Bailey Brotherton, Mississippi State University, “Dwelling in Another: The Restorative Power of Myth in Heidegger and Marcuse”

Panel D: Theorizing the Revolutionary Subject

Chair: Nikolay Karkov, State University of New York at Cortland

Scott Ritner, The New School for Social Research, “The Afflicted Class: Simone Weil and Walter Benjamin on the History of the Oppressed (Toward a Prolegomena to Thinking Precarity)”

Mario Saenz, Le Moyne College, “The Revolutionary Subject: Marx, Menchú, and Payeras”

David Miller, University of Western Ontario, “Liberating Spaces or Liberating Subjectivities?: A Question for Radical Politics”

Session 7: 10:45-12:15 PM

Panel A: Re-Interpreting Marx

Chair: Christian Lotz, Michigan State University

Michael Kryluk, Stony Brook University, “Species-Being in the ‘Mature’ Marx”

Anne Pomeroy, Richard Stockton College, “On Lives: Precarious and Degraded”

Tom Jeannot, Gonzaga University, “Social Control and the Dictatorship of the Factory Clock”

Panel B: Praxis, Strategy, Prefiguration

Chair: Shelly Johnson, University of Kentucky

Ryan Knight, University of Hawaii at Manoa, “The Politics of Prefiguration: Theorization, Strategy, Potential”

Karsten Struhl, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, “Bahktin’s Carnavalesque as Political Praxis: Another World is Possible”

Skramz Geist, Binghamton University, “The Impossibility of Confrontation”

Panel C: (Social) Media, Violence, and Control

Chair: Joseph Trullinger, George Washington University

Brandon Absher, D’Youville College, “Speaking Authentically: Communication in an Age of Information Overload”

Richard Peterson, Michigan State University, “Nonviolence, Epistemology, and Media”

Gertrude Postl, Suffolk County Community College, “Control as Self-Control: From Foucault’s Panopticon to Social Media”

Panel D: Critical Theory and the Concept of Utopia

Chair: Sarah Vitale, Ball State University

John Abromeit, Buffalo State College, "From Marx Back to Fourier?: Herbert Marcuse's Reconsideration of Utopian Socialism and Its Contemporary Relevance"

Maria Erbia Cassia, Federal University of Campinas, Brazil, "Utopia in the Genesis of Critical Theory"

W. Mark Cobb, Bucks County Community College, "Herbert Marcuse and the Utopian Imagination"

Lunch: 12:30-2:00 PM

Business Meeting: 2:00-3:15 PM

Session 8: 3:30-5:00 PM

Panel A: Reading Thomas Piketty's *Capital in the 21st Century*

Chair: José Mendoza, Worcester State University

Tony Smith, Iowa State University, "A Note on Piketty and the World Market"

Nanette Funk, Brooklyn College, "What We Do and Don't Learn from Piketty"

Richard Daniels, Oregon State University, "Inequality, History, Capital"

Panel B: Beyond Gender Equality

Chair: Joshua Mills-Knutsen, Bellarmine University

Erika Soto, Independent Scholar, "Equality and Its Invisible Subjects: The Case of CeCe McDonald"

Christa Hodapp, University of Massachusetts at Lowell, "She Hates Me: Men's Rights Activism as Social and Political Discipline"

Panel C: Critical Theory: Totalitarianism, One-Dimensionality, and Utopia

Chair: Joan Braune, Mount Mary College

Sarah Vitale, Ball State University, “Utopia and the Politics of Hope: Marx, Bloch, Benjamin”

Claudia Leeb, Washington State University, “Adorno, Arendt, and Totalitarian Power”

Ronald Aronson, Wayne State University, “*One-Dimensional Man* at Fifty”

Panel D: Territory, Borders, and Indigenous Rights

Chair: Alberto Bejarano Romo, University of Memphis

Osiris Gonzalez, Universidad Nacional Metropolitana, “Free Trade, Multiculturalism, and Indigenous Rights”

Egbert Higinio, San Jose State University, “Phenomenology of a Guatemalan Territorial Claim”

Plenary Panel: 5:15-6:45 PM

Towards Aesthetics of Resistance

Chair: Jeanne Schuler, Creighton University

Anne O’Byrne, Stony Brook University, “‘A Living Man Declared Dead’: Taryn Simon and Lines of Blood”

Juan Guerrero, Stony Brook University, “On Aesthetics of Resistance Against Terror: Exvotos in Puerto Rico and Knitted Stories from Mampuján”

Eduardo Mendieta, Stony Brook University, “Spaces of Torture and Brutality: The Aesthetics of Humanizing Victims”

Banquet: 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Keynote Address: 8:00-10:00 PM

Chair: Tanya Loughead, Canisius College

Lisa Guenther, Vanderbilt University, “The Creaturely Politics of Prisoner Resistance”

Sunday, Nov. 9

Session 9: 9:00-10:30 AM

Panel A: Sovereignty and Democracy: Rousseau, Foucault, and Agamben

Chair: David Miller, The University of Western Ontario

Kevin Jobe, Stony Brook University, "Potestas Publicum: Towards a Critical Theory of
'Democratic' Police Powers"

Travis Holloway, The Pratt Institute, "Occupying with Rousseau: On the Inevitable Crisis of
Representation and Revocation of Sovereign Power"

Session 10: 10:45-12:15 PM

Panel A: Freedom, Constraint, and Banal Repressions

Chair: Joel Reynolds, Emory University

Nicolas Veroli, Marist College, "Freedom is Not a Thing!: Escape from the Neo-Liberal Prison"

Soren Whited, Stony Brook University, "Constraint, Consciousness, and Freedom in Freudian
Psychoanalysis"

Stephen Bourque, Temple University, "The Mundane Repression of Modernity"