

“Remapping the Erotic” Workshop
April 23-24, 2015 at Northwestern University



Speakers:

Jafari S Allen is Associate Professor of African American Studies and Anthropology. Professor Allen works at the intersections of (queer) sexuality, gender and blackness. A recipient of fellowships from the National Science Foundation, Social Science Research Council Sexuality Research Program, and Rockefeller Foundation (Diasporic Racisms Project); he teaches courses on the cultural politics of race, sexuality and gender in Black diasporas; Black feminist and queer theory; critical cultural studies; ethnographic methodology and writing; subjectivity, consciousness and resistance; Cuba and the Caribbean. Dr. Allen is the author of the critical ethnography, *¡Venceremos?: The Erotics of Black Self-Making in Cuba* (Perverse Modernities series of Duke University Press, Fall 2011), and editor of *Black/Queer/Diaspora* – a special issue of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. His work can also be found in, for example: *American Ethnologist* (Volume 39 Number 2); *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*; *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society*; *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*; *Handbook of Sexuality, Health and Human Rights*, edited by Richard Parker and Peter Aggleton, and a number of other publications. Allen is also the author of the introduction– “Crucial Palimpsest: Re-Reading Brother to Brother”– to the Redbone Press edition of *Brother to Brother: New Writings By Black Gay Men*, originally edited and introduced by Essex Hemphill and conceived by Joseph Beam.

Trevor Hoppe is a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Criminology, Law & Society at University of California at Irvine. His research examines the punitive social control of sex and disease. He is currently working on two book projects: a monograph on the criminalization of HIV, “Punishing Disease,” and a forthcoming collection of essays co-edited with David Halperin, “The War on Sex.” Starting Fall 2015, he will be Assistant Professor of Sociology at University at Albany, SUNY.

Elena Shih is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown University's Watson Institute for International Studies and next fall will begin as an Assistant Professor of American Studies. Shih's dissertation, "The Price of Freedom: Moral and Political Economies of Human Trafficking Rescue in China, Thailand, and the U.S.," is a multi-sited and global ethnography based off 40 months of fieldwork on efforts to combat human trafficking in Beijing, Bangkok and Los Angeles. Drawing on fieldwork as a participant action researcher with faith-based and secular social movement organizations--ranging from grassroots evangelical Christian missionary projects, to sex worker rights cooperatives, to the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking--her dissertation explores the mobilization of rights and morality in between the state and the market in the contemporary movement against human trafficking.

Eli Vitulli earned his PhD in American Studies from the University of Minnesota in 2014. His work examines the history of the incarceration of trans and gender nonconforming people in the US. His writing has appeared in *GLQ*, *Transgender Studies Quarterly*, *Social Research and Sexuality Policy*, and *Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict and World Order*. He currently teaches at DePaul University.

Kai M. Green is a writer, scholar, poet, filmmaker, abolitionist, feminist and whatever else it takes to make a new and more just world. Kai completed his graduate work at The University of Southern California in the Department of American Studies and Ethnicity. He also received graduate certificates in Gender Studies and Visual Anthropology. Kai is invested in developing models of healthy and loving Black masculinities. Through writing and organizing Kai has become a strong, visible voice in the Black Trans community and in the LGBT community generally.

April Sizemore-Barber is a Visiting Assistant Professor in Women's Studies at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. She received her PhD in Performance Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, with a designated emphasis in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She is currently working on a book project, *Prismatic Performances: Queer South African Identity and the Fragmentation and the Rainbow Nation*, based on her dissertation research.

Joseph Jay Sosa is a cultural anthropologist whose work connects Latin American political systems to questions of transforming queer life in the global South. His dissertation, *São Paulo Has Never Been Pinker* accompanies LGBT activists who work across sites critical to contemporary governance in post-authoritarian Brazil. Combining ethnographic participation in a social movement with an attention to crowd theory and protest aesthetics, the dissertation explores ideological orientation as a particularly queer experience of political life. Jay is currently a PhD Candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago.

Kirk Fiereck received an Ph.D. and M.Phil. from Columbia University in Medical Anthropology from the Department of Sociomedical Sciences. He also has an M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Based on more than two years of ethnographic research in South Africa, my book, "Authenticating Sexuality: Sexual Ideology and HIV Science in South Africa," examines how black South Africans produce new forms of hybrid queer personhood through the juxtaposition of multiple gender and sexual identities. In doing so, they rearticulate discourses of cultural authenticity and scientific rationality about "African sexuality." As the Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Sexuality and Queer Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, he is participating in the Penn Humanities Forums on Color (2014-15) and Sex (2015-16). As a queer medical anthropologist, his courses engage issues at the intersection of queer, medical and economic anthropology and integrate science, feminist and postcolonial studies perspectives. These courses include: Sexual Ideology (Fall 2014); Culture, Sexuality and Global Health (Spring 2015); Queer Values (Fall 2015); Bodies and Power in Africa (Spring 2016).

Cookie Woolner is the 2014-15 African American Studies Postdoctoral Fellow in Case Western Reserve University's History department. She received her doctorate from the University of Michigan in the History and Women's Studies joint program in 2014. She is currently working

on a manuscript entitled, “The Famous Lady Lovers:” African American Women and Same-Sex Desire Before Stonewall. Her paper today is based on an article that will be published this summer in the Journal of African American History’s upcoming special issue on gendering the carceral state.

Publishing Representative:

Ilene Kalish is Executive Editor at New York University Press. She acquires books in the areas of Sociology, Criminology, Gender Studies and Politics. With twenty years of experience in academic publishing, she has published books for the general reader as well as for the scholarly and professional reader. She has also been an editor at Routledge and Prentice Hall. She received a Bachelor’s of Arts in English Textual Studies and in Policy Studies as well as a Masters of Arts in English from Syracuse University. Recent books include: *The Tolerance Trap: How God, Genes, and Good Intentions are Sabotaging Gay Equality*, by Suzanna Walters, *Pray the Gay Away: The Extraordinary Lives of Bible Belt Gays*, by Bernadette Barton, *Respect Yourself, Protect Yourself: Latina Girls and Sexual Identity*, Lorena Garcia, *Kids Gone Wild: From Rainbow Parties to Sexting, Understanding the Hype over Teen Sex*, by Joel Best and Katie Bogle and *Fat Gay Men: Girth, Mirth and the Politics of Stigma*, by Jason Whitesel.

Graduate Student Commentators:

Andrew Brown is a PhD Candidate in Performance Studies at Northwestern University. Their research draws on five years of collaborative ethnographic performances made with queer refugees in South Africa. These performances on stage and in everyday life work to create alternative representations of gender, sexuality, and ethnicity on the continent and in Diaspora. Andrew's dissertation, *Refugitive Visuality* argues that performance constructs experimental geographies of African sexuality and re-imagines the established visuality of queer refugees internationally. Next year, Andrew will be joining Western Washington University as Assistant Professor of Performance Art.

Raff Donelson is earning a JD as well as his PhD in philosophy from Northwestern. His research interests include moral philosophy, philosophy of law, and criminal law. He is currently writing a dissertation on methodology in philosophy of law. Before coming to Northwestern, he earned his MA at the University of Chicago and his BA at Williams College.

Beth Hartman is a Ph.D. candidate in cultural anthropology, and she is a Sexualities Project at Northwestern (SPAN) Graduate Student Fellow. Her dissertation research focuses on contemporary striptease-related practices: exotic dance, neo-burlesque, and fitness/leisure pole dancing. Drawing on ethnographic and ethnomusicological research she conducted in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, Hartman analyzes the relationships among music, dance, commodification, and health, investigating how notions of sexually “safe” and “unsafe” modes of performance are expressed sonically and through movement.

Jeff Kosbie is completing the JD/PhD program (sociology) at Northwestern. He researches how law creates inequalities around gender and sexuality, and how it is used as a tool to challenge those inequalities. His dissertation, *Contested Identities: A History of LGBT Legal Mobilization*

and the Ethics of Impact, tells the history of the LGBT legal field. Drawing on archival research and interviews, he shows how "LGBT rights" as a category is created and contested by the major LGBT legal organizations.

Alex Lindgren-Gibson is a doctoral candidate in the history department at Northwestern, where she studies the history of modern Britain and empire. Her dissertation, entitled "British Working-Class Culture and Family Life in Victorian India: Renegotiating Class, Sexuality and Race, 1858-1914," rethinks the history of British class formation through an imperial lens. Her research is located at the intersection of scholarship on the British colonial world, class formation, family history, and the histories of race, gender, and sexuality. Alex received her BA from Lawrence University, her MA from Arizona State University, and is currently a Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Fellow.

Shoniqua Roach is a PhD Student in Performance Studies. Her work investigates black feminist performance and visibility relative to how the black female body is re-envisioned and constructed from a range of signifying practices: literary forms, vernacular expressions, and visibility and sonics in popular culture. These examinations lead to questions that complicate contemporary political economies of race, class, gender, and sexuality.

Anna Terwiel is a doctoral candidate in Political Theory, finishing a dissertation on hunger striking as a form of embodied resistance. At Northwestern, she is affiliated with the Gender & Sexuality Studies cluster and she is a graduate fellow at the Medical Humanities program. In addition to teaching classes in Gender & Sexuality Studies and at the Feinberg School of Medicine, Anna has taught at Stateville Prison through the Prison and Neighborhood Arts Project (P-NAP).

Stefan Vogler is a PhD student in sociology at Northwestern University where he is also affiliated with gender and sexuality studies and legal studies. His research interests include sexuality, gender, law, political sociology, and the sociology of science and knowledge. His current project examines how state actors understand sexuality in political asylum claims based on sexual orientation, where petitioners are required to prove their sexual identities to adjudicators.