

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Cultural Analysis & Theory

About Us

Comparative Literary & Cultural Studies have joined talents and forces with Women's & Gender Studies to form the Department of Cultural Analysis & Theory. CAT is a dynamic transdisciplinary space for the scholarly exchange of methods and concepts for analyzing complex social and cultural phenomena. We're committed to the critical study of the transnational and transcultural flow of peoples, capital, media, and ideas as well as the production, dispersion, and reception of literary, visual, digital, and material cultures; and the theories and practices of social and political movements. Meow!

News

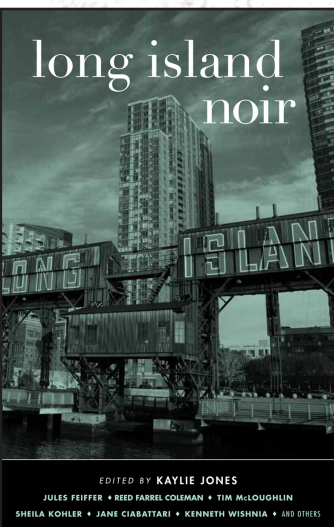
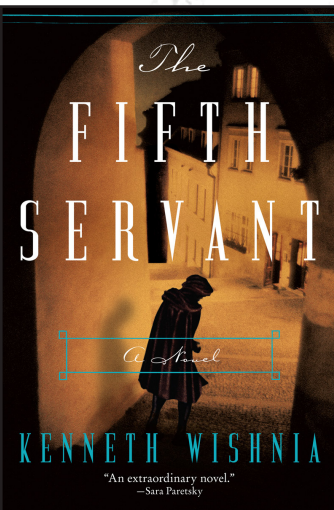
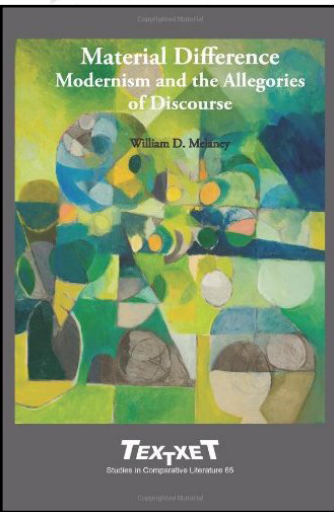
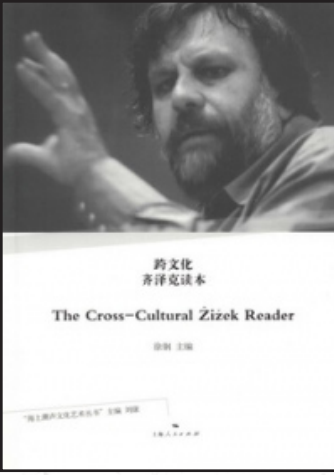
We are thrilled to welcome *three* new faculty to Cultural Analysis & Theory this Fall!

Kadji Amin received his Ph.D. in Romance Studies (French) with a graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies from Duke University in 2009. His research and teaching interests include queer historiography and temporality, affect studies, literary modernism, transgender studies, and French cultural studies. His research focuses on queer counterhistoriographies that disrupt contemporary narratives about gay and lesbian history and politics. "Untimely Genet," his current book manuscript, contributes to this project by inquiring into the historical, temporal, and affective dissonances between French author, playwright, and activist Jean Genet's modes of pre-Stonewall queerness and the political desires of the present.

Nancy Heimstra is a political and cultural geographer whose interests include global migration, immigration enforcement practices, 'homeland security', racialization, and Latin America. Nancy finished her Ph.D. last August at Syracuse University, and she just completed a year as a Scholar in Residence at Emerson College in Boston. Her research, grounded in feminist epistemology, uses qualitative methodologies to scrutinize ways in which political policies shape everyday life. Nancy's current project, based on fieldwork in Cuenca, Ecuador, focuses on consequences of U.S. migrant detention and deportation in countries of migrant origin. She also enjoys working with students to link what they are learning to personal experience.

Liz Montegary received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis in Cultural Studies and her M.A. from Rutgers University in Women's and Gender Studies. Liz's research interests include feminist and queer theory, LGBT activism and queer politics, histories of travel and tourism, the militarization of everyday life, and mobility, dis/ability, and the body. She is currently working on her book manuscript, tentatively titled "Queer Mobilizations: The Transnational Circuits of U.S. Lesbian and Gay Politics." This project traces the history of lesbian and gay travel during the 20th century in order to illustrate how global networks of exchange shape mainstream lesbian and gay activism in the United States.

... check out the new faculty Q & A on the last page!



Recent Publications & Awards **Kudos!**

A **dozen** of our current graduate students gave papers at this year's ACLA Conference on the theme, "Collapse/Catastrophe/Change," held in Providence, Rhode Island, March 29-April 1, 2012.

Martina Koegeler won the Katherine Rodier Travel Award (\$250) to present a paper at this year's MELUS and USACLALS joint conference.

The William Higinbotham Video Game Archive was awarded the 2012 Douglas A. Noverr Grant for Collection Enhancement for Institutions to Build Popular Culture and American Culture Research Collections, based on a proposal written by **Laine Nooney**, **Raiford Guins**, and Kristen Nyitray (Melville Library).

Laine Nooney was selected to be a participant in this summer's 2nd Annual Princeton-Weimar Summer School for Media Studies, to held at Princeton University, 17-23 June 2012 and her "tumblr," *Academic Coach Taylor*, was featured in *New York Magazine's* "Approval Matrix" under the "Brilliant and Highbrow Quadrant." The text for the tumblr's most famous meme, "Clear Thesis, Strong Analysis, Can't Lose," was written by **Sarah Paruolo**.

E. Ann Kaplan received an Honorary Degree from Josai International University at a ceremony held on 2 April 2012 in Tokyo. She's also seen another five articles published since our last installment.

Ray Guins organized a panel – "Locating the Object in Visual Culture Studies" – for the 2012 International Association for Visual Culture's semi-annual conference, *Now! Visual Culture* at NYU 31 May–2 June 2nd and the special themed issue of the *Journal of Visual Culture* which he edited – "Ways of Seeing 40th Anniversary Issue" – is due out in August 2012.

Sofia Varino was awarded a very generous doctoral fellowship from the Foundation for Science and Technology of the Portuguese Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

Krin Gabbard's "Friz Freleng's Jazz: Animation and Music at Warner Bros" appeared in *The Wiley-Blackwell History of American Film*, Vol II: 1929-1945 (Cynthia Lucia, et al. eds., Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012, pp. 379-396).

"Nation in Remarque's *All Quiet on the Western Front* and Eastwood's *Flags of our Fathers*" by **Brent Smith-Casanueva** was published in *CLCWeb: Comparative Literature and Culture* 14.1 (2012). <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/clcweb/vol14/iss1/9/>

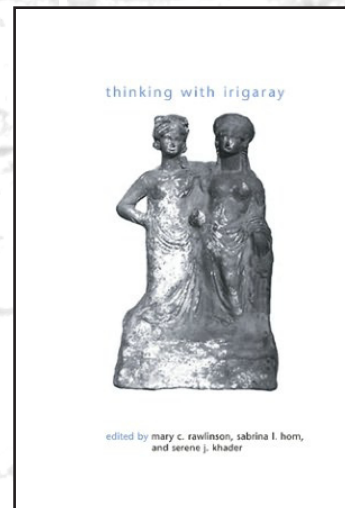
E.K. Tan's translation, 「歌羅巴的前生今世」 "Was Will Europa." Trans. E.K. Tan. 《齊澤克跨文化讀本》 *The Cross-Cultural Žizek Reader*. Eds. Gary G. Xu. Shanghai: Shanghai renmin chubanshe, December 2011.

Mary C. Rawlinson co-edited volume (with Sabrina Hom and Serene Khader), *Thinking with Irigaray* appeared in late 2011 with SUNY Press.

I-Te Rita Sung received the 2011 Dissertation Fellowship in Japanese Studies provided by The Japan Foundation. The fellowship will facilitate her research in Japan for a year on post-millennium Japanese "Pure-Love" films.

Izabela Kalinowska-Blackwood edited a special issue of the Polish journal, *Historyka*, entitled "Kochanki i matki: melodramatyczny wymiar przyjaźni polsko-radzieckiej" (Mothers and Lovers: Melodramatic Dimension of Polish-Soviet Friendship) n° XLI, 2011: 53-63.

Evren Akaltun has been selected to attend the Institute for World Literature summer program in Istanbul, which is organized by Harvard University. The Institute for World Literature is a month-long immersive course for graduate students, college and university faculty, and scholars in the methods and texts of World Literature.



Alumni News

Rafe Dalleo (class of 1998), whose book, *Caribbean Literature in the Public Sphere*, we announced in Kudos n° 3, was tenured and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor at Florida Atlantic University.

Professor **William Melaney** (class of 1989) is currently Chair of the Department of English and Comparative Literature at the American University in Cairo. His recently published book, *Material Difference: Modernism and the Allegories of Discourse* (New York and Amsterdam: Rodopi Press, 2012), is based on a conceptual interface between Adorno's Critical Theory and Derrida's deconstruction. This new book, which was published by one of the leading presses for work in comparative literature, is particularly concerned with the transatlantic aspects of literary Modernism. Also, William's recently published articles include "Blanchot's Inaugural Poetics: Visibility and the Infinite Conversation," in *Analecta Husserliana CX* (2011): 467-83. And he will be giving a paper entitled, "Rancière's Aesthetic Criticism: Revisiting the Present Age," at this year's IAPL Conference in Tallinn, Estonia, where Jacques Rancière will be the guest of honor. He continues to live less than one mile from Tahrir Square.

Kenneth Wishnia (class of 1990) has been promoted to full Professor of English at Suffolk Community College (Grant Campus). Ken's first novel, *23 Shades of Black*, was nominated for the Edgar Allan Poe Award, and is now out in a new edition from PM Press, which will be reprinting the five novels in that series. His latest novel, *The Fifth Servant*, got starred reviews in *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*, was an Indie Notable selection, a "Best Jewish Book of 2010" according to the Association of Jewish Libraries, won a Premio Letterario ADEI-WIZO (the Italian chapter of the Women's International Zionist Organization), and was a finalist for the Sue Feder Memorial Historical Mystery Award.



New Faculty Q & A

What are you doing for fun this summer?

KA: This summer, I'm looking forward to relaxing on the back porches and beaches of North Carolina with my dear friends and queer kindred. I will also be practicing trumpet and harmonica with my band, Humble Tripe, in preparation for the band's June 17th show with My Gay Banjo in Washington D.C., to which you are all invited. Humble Tripe's second CD, *Stones*, will be released in the fall.

NH: I plan to hang out a lot with my 4 year old son, drawing crazy pictures with sidewalk chalk, flying kites, and playing with his stomp rocket. I will also spend a week or so at a family cabin near Rangeley, Maine – messing about in boats and going on hikes in search of moose. Before the move to New York at the end of July, I hope to catch one more Red Sox game at Fenway.

LM: I have a hectic summer ahead of me. I'm teaching two summer classes and then moving to New York, but I'm still hoping to squeeze in some fun. I'm planning a short trip to Acadia National Park for my birthday, and I'll be joining my family for our annual vacation in Holden Beach, NC. Oh, I should also admit that I'll be abandoning my critiques of inter/nationalism for a few days and settling in to watch the Summer Olympics with friends.

What do you look forward to in joining us at Stony Brook?

KA: As a graduate student, my wildest dream would have been to land a Queer Studies job in a research university in or near New York City. As you can imagine, I am thrilled to be achieving this dream. I am also enthusiastic about this opportunity to contribute to and help shape the new interdisciplinary CAT department, which mirrors my training and my research interests in comparative literature, cultural studies, and women's and gender studies.

NH: I am looking forward to joining CAT's dynamic, interdisciplinary program at this formative time, and becoming part of a department so packed with students and faculty working on a wide range of fascinating projects. I am impressed by the department's emphasis on both teaching and research, and am excited by the opportunity to work with both grad and undergrad students.

LM: I don't think I could be more excited about my new position. I'm thrilled to be joining an innovative interdisciplinary department, and I'm delighted to be starting alongside Kadji Amin and Nancy Hiemstra. I can't wait to kick off the fall by teaching a graduate elective on mobility studies. Basically, I'm eager to learn more about the historical roots of CAT, and I look forward to helping shape the future of the department.

Sponsored Events Kudos!

Long Table Discussion: "*The Horse Who Drank the Sky: Film Experience Beyond Narrative and Theory*." was held Thursday, September 22 from 4 - 6 p.m. The speaker was Murray Pomerance, Professor in the Department of Sociology at Ryerson University

GRIDLOCK: A Graduate Student Conference + Pop-up Exhibition hosted by the Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory. October 14-15 at the AC Institute, a Chelsea-based art gallery located at 547 W. 27th St, 6th Floor

Sexual Violence Against Women in the DRC: Population-Based Estimates and Determinants, Dr. Tia Palermo, Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine, Graduate Program in Public Health Wednesday, September 21, 2011

"Save Our Children": Conservative Politics and Sexual Conflict in the 1970s Dr. Gill Frank, ACLS Faculty Fellow, Department of History. Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Salander/Blomkvist: Challenging Stereotypes in the Millennium Trilogy, Linda Stein, artist, and Michael Kimmel, Distinguished Professor, Sociology, Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Annual Stony Brook English Department Graduate Student Conference 2012 "Instrument, Image, Ekphrasis: Intersecting Genres of Knowledge" February 25, 2012. Stony Brook Manhattan Campus, Keynote Speaker: Laura Kipnis

The Fifth Annual Philosophy and the Arts Conference and Art Exhibition on the theme of "Still Life?" took place at the AC Institute March 30-31, 2012

Philosopher, radio commentator, and former President of the Collège International de Philosophie, François Noudelmann, delivered a lecture on 26 April on the occasion of the English translation of his book, *The Philosopher's Touch: Sartre, Nietzsche, and Barthes* at the Piano, Columbia UP, 2012