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Center for the Humanities at Tufts

September 7, 2017

Welcome to the Center for the Humanities. This year, the Center continues the comparative global humanities project, and our theme will be "Materialisms, Old and New," with topics such as "Imperial Debris and Colonial Presence," "Surrogate Humanity," "Public Amnesias" and "Material Worlds: Genealogies of Race and Nature." In the fall 2017 semester, we host new faculty, postdoctoral, and dissertation fellows, and sponsor lectures and symposia by visiting scholars Ann Laura Stoler, Kalindi Vora, Neda Atanasoski, Mel Y. Chen, Jake Kosek and others. We have a full schedule of lunch seminars, poetry readings and films, and the Humanities Reading Group and the working group on The History of the Book continue.

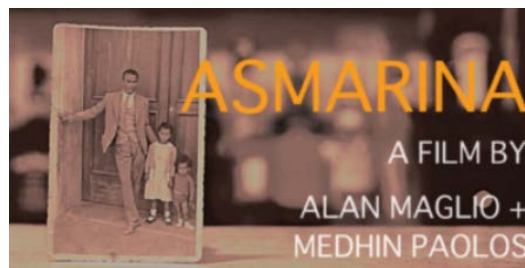
Fall 2017 Events

SEPTEMBER

Sept 26, 5 -7 pm, Tisch 304

"Asmarina"

"Asmarina," is a film by **Medhin Paolos**, which explores the collective memory of Eritrean and Ethiopian community in Italy, who have been present in Italy for more than half a century. Film screening, followed by a



discussion with Paolos. Cosponsored by the [Consortium of Studies in Race, Colonialism, and Diaspora](#).

OCTOBER

Oct 5, 4:30-6:30 pm, Alumnae Lounge

“Surrogate Humanity”

[Neda Atanasoski](#), Associate Professor of Feminist Studies, UC Santa Cruz

[Kalindi Vora](#), Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies, UC San Diego



Neda Atanasoski and Kalindi Vora discuss their co-authored forthcoming book, *Surrogate Humanity*, which elaborates the "surrogate human effect" in the engineering, political, and cultural imaginaries behind recent developments in social, industrial, and military robotics. They analyze the raced and gendered social relations between bodies, both machine and human.



Oct 16, 4:30-6 pm, Alumnae Lounge

“Art and Immigration: One Artist / Several Paths”

[Knaster Artist-in-Residence Wen-ti Tsen](#)

Wen-ti Tsen, the Fall 2017 Knaster Artist-in-Residence at Tufts University, will speak about the role of public art in the politics of immigration in contemporary society, and discusses the different ways that his art and art practices communicate immigrant experiences.



Oct 20, 2:15-3:30 pm

Nelson Auditorium, Anderson Hall

Public Lecture: “In Carceral Motion: Disposals of Life and Labor”

[Ann Laura Stoler](#), Willy Brandt Distinguished University Professor of Anthropology and Historical Studies, The New School for Social Research



In this lecture, the 2017 Tufts Graduate Humanities Conference Keynote Address, Ann Laura Stoler will discuss the matters of life and labor within a social formation increasingly characterized by carcerality and disposability.

Oct 25, 6-8 pm, Rabb Room

[Kathy Fagan](#), Poets Series

Kathy Fagan will read from her latest collection of poems, *Sycamore* (Milkweed Editions, 2017).



NOVEMBER

Nov 14, 4:30-6:30 pm, Alumnae Lounge

“Material Worlds: Genealogies of Race and Nature”

[Mel Y. Chen](#), Associate Professor of Gender & Women’s Studies at the University of California, Berkeley

[Jake Kosek](#), Associate Professor of Geography at the University of California, Berkeley

[Alexander Blanchette](#), Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Tufts

In this symposium, Chen, Kosek, and Blanchette explore alternative biologies of race and racism, not through the most common routes of blood, skin or gene, but through other material biologies and rethinkings of life, matter, human, nature, and machine.



[More Details About Fall 2017 Events](#)

Spring 2018 Events

Spring 2018 Distinguished Visitors include:

**“Mortevivum: Black Photography and Politics of the Visual”
Kimberly Juanita Brown**

**“Readings from The Blue Clerk, ars poetica”
Dionne Brand**

**“Public Amnesias”
Diane O’Donoghue, Aditi Mehta, Kendra Field, Kerri Greenidge, and James Rice**

**“Chinese Surplus: Race and Value in Plastinated Cadaver Exhibits”
Ari Heinrich**

**“Sound Matters”
Nina Eidsheim**

**“The Practice of Diaspora: 15 Years Later”
Brent Hayes Edwards**



Center for
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