What We CAN Do When There’s Nothing To Be Done

Strategies for Change

An Anniversary Celebration

10 Years of the Center of the Study of Social Difference
5 Years of Women Creating Change

socialdifference.columbia.edu
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

September 28, 2018
The Forum at Columbia University, 605 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027

How can we imagine justice, practice solidarity and create change across barriers of social difference in today’s political landscape? As the acceptance of inequality has become the new norm to a degree we might have deemed unthinkable, and as public dialogue has reached an impasse, protest and resistance continue.

This conference brings together scholars, artists, and practitioners from around the globe whose work can inspire new ways of thinking, seeing and listening, and productive strategies of intervention for our time.

The Center for the Study of Social Difference is an interdisciplinary research center that was founded in March 2008 at Columbia University to support collaborative projects that address gender, race, sexuality, and other forms of inequality to foster ethical and progressive social change. Bringing Arts and Sciences faculty into conversation with faculty from Columbia’s professional schools and Global Centers, along with scholars, artists, writers, activists, and policymakers in the United States and abroad, CSSD deepens Columbia’s partnerships at home and abroad.

The Center’s work has two overarching research themes: Women Creating Change and Imagining Justice.

The Women Creating Change initiative was founded at the Center for the Study of Social Difference in 2013 and engages distinguished feminist scholars from diverse fields throughout Columbia University who focus on contemporary global problems affecting women and on the roles women play in addressing these problems.
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PROGRAM

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9:30am: Introductions

10:00am-11:30am: “Crossing Borders: Refugees, Migrants, Stateless Lives”
a roundtable with:
   Diana Taylor, University Professor, New York University; Director, Hemispheric Institute of
   Performance and Politics
   Lyndsey Stonebridge, Professor of Humanities & Human Rights, University of Birmingham, UK
   Debarati Sanyal, French, University of California, Berkeley
   Juan Carlos Ruiz, priest and co-founder of the New Sanctuary Movement
   Mae Ngai, Moderator, History, Columbia

11:30am: Coffee break

12:00pm-1:30pm: “Protest and Social Movements”
a roundtable with:
   Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, African-American Studies, Princeton University
   Rema Hamami, Anthropology and Institute of Women’s Studies, Birzeit University, Palestine
   Ayse Gül Altinay, Anthropology, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey
   María José Contreras, School of Theatre, Catholic University, Santiago, Chile
   Farah Jasmine Griffin, Moderator, African American Studies, Columbia

1:30pm: Lunch

3:00pm-4:30pm: “Arts of Intervention”
a roundtable with:
   Ricardo Dominguez, The Electronic Disturbance Theater (EDT); Visual Arts, UC-San Diego
   Jeanine Tesori, composer and musical arranger
   Sama Alshaibi, visual artist; Photography and Video Art, University of Arizona
   Saidiya Hartman, writer; English and Gender Studies, Columbia University
   Carol Becker, Moderator, Dean of Columbia University School of the Arts

4:30pm: Coffee break

5:00pm-6:00pm: “Facing the Present, Imagining the Future”
a conversation with:
   Masha Gessen, journalist and National Book Award winner for The Future Is History: How
   Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia
   Judith Butler, Comparative Literature, University of California, Berkeley
   Bernard Harcourt, Moderator, Columbia Law School

6:00pm-7:30pm: Book signing, reception and celebration