ESTABLISHING THE INTERIOR

Media

Texts
Sample Module

Media

Readings

Themes
colonialism and the nation
speculative care
hospitality
mutual aid

Questions
To establish the interior within the problematic of insurgent domesticities in Dheepan:

○ We saw the “interior” as configured of landscapes of intimacies. We noted several terrains and points of sheer intimacy. We acknowledged the ways that intimacy as represented in the film was coerced. Perhaps intimacy is always coerced, in a sense, or requires duress to unfold?
○ To establish the interior, we looked to the material and sensorial, through a range of forms (furniture, a room of one’s own, a sewing machine, potable water), to find epistemologies and affective regimes with which to work. It seemed those epistemologies and affective properties were a means and ends for each of us.
○ We read interiors through a range of violences (of the state, of gangs as the lineage of state denial of political economies, of domestic spaces…).
○ We underscored speaking in terms of multiplicities, not standardizing ‘domesticity’ or ‘insurgency.’
○ We rooted our discussion in colonialism. While acknowledging having moved beyond Fanon (that the struggle has become much more complicated than an anticolonial one or even a postcolonial one that has not resolved in viable nation-states, and acknowledging the feminist critiques of Fanon), we agreed that we are not ready to move completely away from colonialisms as the foundational analytic for the interior, or for insurgent domesticities.

This teaching tool was prepared by the Insurgent Domesticities working group.