all lectures are FREE and open to the public

Malik Gaines

Thursday, Sept. 28
5:30pm
BAMPFA
(Berkeley Art Museum)

Join New York–based writer and artist Malik Gaines for a reading from his new book, Black Performance on the Outskirts of the Left, which traces a circulation of political ideas through performances of the 1960s and beyond, following a route from the US to West Africa, Europe, and back. Chapters explore American singer and pianist Nina Simone, Ghanaian playwrights Eliu Sutherland and Ama Ata Aidoo, Afro-German actor Gunther Kaufmann’s film work with Rainer Werner Fassbinder, and San Francisco’s Cockettes troupe and their collaborator Sylvester. Gaines, an assistant professor of performance studies in the Tisch School of the Arts, has performed and exhibited extensively with the group My Barbarians. A backgrounder follows the reading.

Chitra Ganesh

Wednesday, Oct. 25
7:30pm
Barrows Hall, Rm 126

Chitra Ganesh’s drawing-based practice brings to light narrative representations of femininity, sexuality, and power typically absent from canons of literature, history and art. Her wall installations, comics, photography, and mixed media works on paper often take historical and mythic texts as inspiration and points of departure. Ganesh graduated from Brown University in 2006 with a BA in Comparative Literature and Art-Semiotics, and received her MFA from Columbia University. Notable international exhibitions include the Asia Society in New York, Fondazione Sandretto, Kunsthalle Exnergrasse, and Queens Museum, with solo presentations at PS1/MOMA, The Andy Warhol Museum, Gothenberg Kunsthalle and the Brooklyn Museum. Ganesh has received numerous grants including a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, a 2017-18 Pollock-Krasner Grant and currently holds a Hodder Fellowship at Princeton University’s Lewis Center for the Arts. Ganesh has been influential in a variety of disciplines including critical theory and gender studies. Her work often uniting elements from dance, painting, sculpture, theater, and music. She has been making films and producing film installations for over twenty years, including Ten Thousand Waves, Vagabondia, and Long Road to Mazatlan.

Michael Ned Holte

Monday, Oct. 30
7:30pm
Barrows Hall, Rm 166

Michael Ned Holte is a writer, independent curator, and educator based in Los Angeles. He has organized numerous exhibitions, including “TLDR” at Artopia in Auckland, New Zealand, “And Per Se Are” at Commonwealth & Council, Los Angeles, “Support Group” at Cottage Home, Los Angeles, and, with Connie Butler, the 2014 edition of the “Made in L.A.” biennial at the Hammer Museum. In 2016, he organized the exhibition “Routine Pleasures” at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture at the Schindler House, Los Angeles, and edited a companion book of the same title. A frequent contributor to Artforum, his texts on art and culture have also appeared in Afterall, Art Journal, The Brooklyn Rail, East of Borneo, Frieze, and X-Five. Holte has been Co-Director of the Program in Art at CalArts since 2014. Previously he taught at the University of Southern California and has been a member of the visiting faculty at the Core Program at CalArts since 2009. Holte’s first book, Now, at 7:30, was published by Primary Wave in 2011, and his second book, Ten Thousand Waves, was published by Xtra in 2015. His most recent book, Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask (70 min screening followed by Q & A), is forthcoming from Crown Publishers. Holte has been Co-Director of the Program in Art at CalArts since 2014. Previously he taught at the University of Southern California and has been a member of the visiting faculty at the Core Program at CalArts since 2009. Holte’s first book, Now, at 7:30, was published by Primary Wave in 2011, and his second book, Ten Thousand Waves, was published by Xtra in 2015. His most recent book, Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask (70 min screening followed by Q & A), is forthcoming from Crown Publishers.

Framed by the Left, this major book by Frantz Fanon offers a poetic treatment of gay black poet Langston Hughes and the Harlem Renaissance. His multi-screen installations and accompanying photographic works for museums and galleries explore fractured narratives of memory and desire, often uniting elements from dance, painting, sculpture, theater, and music. He has been making films and producing film installations for over twenty years, including Ten Thousand Waves, Vagabondia, and Long Road to Mazatlan.

Judith Butler is a Maxine Elliot Professor in the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley. Her work has been influential in a variety of disciplines including critical theory and gender studies. She has served as Founding Director of the Critical Theory Program at the University of California, Berkeley. She has received many of the highest honors in the humanities, including the Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished Achievement Award and the Adorno Prize from the City of Frankfurt in honor of her contributions to feminist and moral philosophy. In addition, she was the past recipient of several fellowships, including Guggenheim, Rockefeller, Ford, and the American Council of Learned Societies.

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