EXHAUSTION

TIRED BODIES, TIRED WORLDS

an interdisciplinary graduate student conference

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

FRANKE INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES
NOVEMBER 15-16, 2018

Thursday, November 15

9:30-10:15 Conference registration

10:15 – 10:30 Opening Remarks

10:30 – 12:00pm **Refusal and Recuperation**
Chair: Dr. Sophia Azeb, Provost's Postdoctoral Fellow in English

Garments Against Women's Noninformational Lyric
Dandi Meng: PhD Student, Department of English, UCLA

Black, Blue, Blur: Reading the Ellipsis in John Keene's "Blues"
Rebekah Waalkes: PhD Student, Department of English, Tufts University

"Rising out of a pile of trash": Economy and Disposability in Eric Gansworth's *Smoke Dancing*
Andy Lindquist: PhD Student, Department of English, University at Buffalo

12:00 – 1:00pm Lunch (provided)

1:00 – 2:30pm **Structuring Exhaustion and Exhausting Structures**
Chair: Jordan Pruett, PhD Student, Department of English

Suspended Declension: Dead Labour, Automation, and Economies of Exhaustion
Devin Wangert: PhD Student, Visual & Environmental Studies Department, Harvard University

Overworked and Overfitted: Algorithmic Exhaustion in Computational Aesthetics
Gary Kafer: PhD Student, Department of Cinema and Media Studies, University of Chicago

One-Dimensional Exhaustion: Marcuse and the Economism of Thought
Nica Siegel: PhD Candidate, Political Theory, Yale University

2:40 – 4:10pm **Endurance and the Politics of Chronicity**
Chair: Tien-Tien Jong, PhD Student, Department of Cinema & Media Studies

Illness and Labor in Bob Flanagan's *The Pain Journal*
Adam Mitts: PhD Student, Department of English, University at Buffalo

Bad Habits Die Slow: Numbing and Exhaustion in *Don't Let Me Be Lonely* and "Dear Mama"
Xindi Li: PhD Student, History of Consciousness, UC Santa Cruz

Sick Time, Sleepy Time, Crip Time: Against Capitalism's Temporal Bullying
Taraneh Fazeli: Curator-in-residence, Bemis Center for Contemporary Art

4:10 – 4:30pm Coffee break

4:30 – 6:00pm **In the Era of Exhaustion: Political Undercurrents and Critical Hope**
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Macarena Gómez-Barris
Chairperson of the Department of Social Science and Cultural Studies and Director of the Global South Center (GSC) at Pratt Institute.

6:00 – 7:00pm Keynote reception (light refreshments provided)

Friday, November 16

8:00am Twenty Minute Still: morning meditation at Bond Chapel
**meeting place and time to be announced*

9:00 – 10:30am **Archives of Absence and Loss**
Chair: Bellamy Mitchell, PhD Student, Committee on Social Thought and Department of English

Her Black is Woman, Her Story Untold: Narrative Displacement as Ethical Absence in Maryland Police Reports
Gabrielle Bozarth: Legal Assistant, White and Case LLP

Despair, "The Awakening," and Environmentalism in *The Beautyful Ones Are Not Yet Born* by Ayi Kwei Armah and *Amour* by Marie Vieux-Chauvet
Zach Torp: PhD Student, English Literature and Media Arts, USC

Disposable Fictions in Jamie Berrout's *Incomplete Stories and Essays*
Tony Wei Ling: PhD Student, Department of English, UCLA

10:45 – 12:00pm **Laboring Imaginations**
Chair: Steven Maye, PhD Candidate, Department of English

Made Future: William Blake's Political Ecology
John Patrick James: PhD Student, Department of English, UC Berkeley

Dispossession and Reproductive Labor in Helena María Viramontes's *Under the Feet of Jesus*
Robert Mendoza: PhD Student, Department of English, UCLA

12:00 – 12:45pm Lunch (provided)

12:45 – 1:45pm **Self-care: an untapped value proposition**
A workshop moderated by Julie Edwards, Director of Health Promotion and Wellness and Rachel Kyne, Postdoctoral Humanities Teaching Fellow in English

2:00 – 3:15pm **Faculty Roundtable**

Benjamin Morgan, Associate Professor of English at the University of Chicago; Director of Undergraduate Studies

Kelly Wisecup, Associate Professor of English at Northwestern; Director of Undergraduate Studies; Co-Director of Northwestern's Center for Native American and Indigenous Research

Corey Byrnes, Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese Culture at Northwestern University; Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities Environmental Humanities Workshop

3:15 - 3:45pm Coffee break

3:45 – 5:15pm **Choreographies of Release and Relief**
Chair: Evan Pensis, PhD Student, Department of Music

Survival as Nightlife: The Awakening Glamour of Kia LaBeija
Hilary Rasch: PhD Student, Department of English, Brown University

"I need to tire my body": Exhaustion and the Political Economy of Nightlife in Lagos (Nigeria)
Chrystel Oloukoï: PhD Student, African and African American Studies (primary field: Anthropology, secondary field: Critical Media Practice), Harvard University

Dancing through Exhaustion: How NIC Kay's 'GET WELL SOON' Seeks Wellness in White Spaces
Rosalia Lerner: PhD Student, Critical Dance Studies, UC Riverside

6:00pm Graduate student pizza party

With special thanks to the following departments for their generous support:
Anthropology, Art History, Cinema & Media Studies, English, and Theatre & Performance Studies

CSGS Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, The University of Chicago
The Nicholson Center for British Studies
GC Graduate Council, The University of Chicago
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