

Critical Perspectives Speaker Series III

18 April 2014

Çekmeköy Campus, Room: FEAS 116

PROGRAM

13:00-14:20

Speaker I: Prof. Rosa-Linda Fregoso, University of California Santa Cruz

Femicide (Women's Killings) in Latin America, Human Rights and the Limits of Carceral Feminism

In this paper I will discuss the strengths and limitations of the new juridical framing of gender-based violence in Latin America with the promulgation of femicide/femicide laws in several countries throughout the region and relate my discussion to the framing of violence against women as a human rights violation. My remarks are partly based on a paper written in Spanish, entitled "Violencia de género ante el Derecho y los derechos humanos," in which I engage with the dual meaning of the term "derecho" in Spanish: as "Law" (el Derecho) and as "rights" (derechos humanos). I also draw from my research on femicide in Mexico and more recent project of decolonizing the liberal humanist and universalist framing of rights discourse.

14:20-14:40 Coffee Break

14:40-16:00

Speaker II: Prof. Herman Gray, University of California Santa Cruz

Television as a Resonance Machine: Identity, Politics, Neoliberalism

Television studies has productively theorized and richly detailed the shift from a politics of representation to a politics of subjection and subjectivity. This line of research draws from the literature on neoliberalism and subjection and involves studying television texts—most notably the genre of reality television—that celebrate and reward enterprise, mobility, and achievement especially on the part of diverse communities like women, gay and lesbian, and racial and ethnic groups. Where these concerns with television as a mode of subjection and representation as a form of cultural politics have reached a kind of common place in academic discourse, I want to propose a conception of television, and media more generally, that shifts our angle of vision from signification and representation to resonance and experience. This shift involves thinking with post representational approaches to cultural life, notably but not limited to affect studies. The paper seeks to understand the cultural politics of media visibility in the post racial, post network era not merely as the quest for greater representation or more accurate media depictions as a bid on social and cultural justice, but as forms and expressions of public feeling, modes of engaging with the traces and ineffable but collective dimensions of social power. This line of research requires reading television texts differently, not as struggles to be seen, even what it means, but as expressions of what it feels like to

live under neoliberal forms of rule and subjectivity. I explore these issues through a series of television and Internet texts that will serve as the basis of this theorization and analysis.