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# NEWSLETTER

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INTERDISCIPLINARY  
HUMANITIES CENTER

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2010 - 2011



# WELCOME



It is my pleasure to welcome you to this year's programs and initiatives at the IHC.

I am happy to announce our year-long public program *Geographies of Place*, which will examine how ideas of place have been produced and changed through mapping, media, and imaginative labor. Globalization, environmentalism, cognitive science, digital technology and networked media are transforming our notions of geographical space; for this reason it is vital to examine our historical and contemporary perceptions of place. The program developed out of conversations with faculty members over a two-year period. Not only does UCSB have numerous faculty members whose work involves the study of space and place, but we also have resources like an extraordinary collection of architectural drawings in the University Art Museum, an outstanding collection of maps in Davidson Library, and a tremendously innovative interdisciplinary program, the UCSB Center for Spatial Studies, which fosters spatial research and teaching. We will draw from all these sources in this year's programming. For the latest information on *Geographies of Place*, please visit: [www.ihc.ucsb.edu/geographies](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/geographies)

In conjunction with our year-long focus on place, the IHC will join the UC Institute for Research in the Arts and the UCSB Arts Research Initiative in launching the Isla Vista Research and Teaching Initiative this fall. The Initiative will support research projects and course proposals from faculty in the arts, humanities, and the interpretive social sciences that engage IV as a site of investigation and a

laboratory for new research and teaching. For more information on the initiative, visit [www.ihc.ucsb.edu/ivrti](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/ivrti).

Continuing on the success of last year's program, *The Future of the University*, which examined the challenges faced by UC due to the state's budget crisis, the IHC will initiate a series of *Faculty Forums* to examine the recommendations made by the University of California's Commission on the Future (the "Gould Commission"). The Commission's recommendations were made last June and despite their importance, they have received very little analysis. Our first *Forum*, scheduled for October 28, will ask "What do all students need to know?" In short, what kind of knowledge do students have to acquire at the lower division, introductory levels in order to be informed, responsible graduates of UCSB. To facilitate discussion, participants in this roundtable will post their position statements on the IHC website in advance of the event, along with relevant suggested readings. In winter, we will look at the place of online teaching in the undergraduate curriculum, and the Commission's seeming endorsement of the system-wide use of this form of teaching. We will also invite distinguished scholars, known for their analysis of higher education, to discuss the challenges facing the UC system. Our first guest will be Stanley Katz of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton, President Emeritus of the American Council of Learned Societies, who will join us on November 8 to discuss the impact of the funding crisis on graduate and undergraduate education. For information on the *Faculty Forums*, please visit: [www.ihc.ucsb.edu/forums](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/forums).

This year the IHC is pleased to host the Arthur N. Rupe Great Debate. The debate is intended to bring great minds from a variety of fields and disciplines to UCSB to explore societal issues of national and international significance. In conjunction with our *Faculty Forum* series, the IHC will welcome Professor Stanley Fish (Davidson-Kahn Distinguished University Professor and Professor of Law at Florida International University in Miami) and Professor Cary Nelson (President of the American Association of University Professors) to grapple with the topic of "Academic Freedom in a Time of Crisis." Further details about this year's Rupe Great Debate will be available on the IHC website as they are finalized.

As always we are looking forward to working with you in the coming year to support the campus's vibrant intellectual life. I encourage you to participate in some of the many programs and events that IHC offers. Please feel free as well to suggest new ways in which the IHC can serve the faculty and students of UCSB, and the Santa Barbara community.

Ann Bermingham  
Acting Director,  
Interdisciplinary Humanities Center

## FEATURED EVENTS FOR 2010-2011

*All events will take place in the McCune Conference Room, 6020 HSSB, unless otherwise noted.*

Geographies of Place Inaugural Lecture  
TALK: *Isla Vista: A Public Research Lab*  
Kim Yasuda (Art, UCSB)  
Wednesday, October 13 / 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP: *Tools for Map Making: A Geographies of Place Workshop*  
Keith Clarke, Michael Goodchild, Alan Glennon, and Indy Hurt (Geography, UCSB)  
Friday, October 15 / 1:00 – 4:00PM

FACULTY FORUM: *What Do All Students Need to Know?*  
Thursday, October 28 / 3:00 PM

ROUNDTABLE: *The Manhattan Mosque and Burning Qur'ans: Placing an American Dilemma in Perspective*  
Wednesday, November 3 / 4:00 PM  
Corwin Pavilion  
Sponsored by the Dept. of Religious Studies, the Center for Middle East Studies, the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life, the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies, the Center for Cold War Studies and International History, and the IHC.

FACULTY FORUM: Stanley Katz  
(Princeton University)  
Monday, November 8 / 3:00 PM

LOCAL PLACES: *Flying A Studio: Santa Barbara's First Brush with High Tech*  
Dana Driskel (Film & Media Studies, UCSB)  
Wednesday, November 17 / 4:00 PM

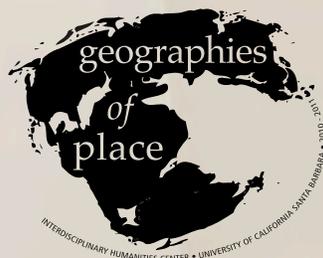
TALK: Edward Soja (Geography, UCLA)  
Tuesday, January 25 / 4:00 PM

TALK: Daniel Rosenberg  
(History, University of Oregon)  
Thursday, February 10 / 4:00 PM

CONFERENCE: *Mapping Place*  
Keynote speaker: map collector David Rumsey  
Friday-Saturday, February 25-26

CONVERSATION: Trevor Paglen (artist) and Lisa Hajjar (Law and Society, UCSB)  
Wednesday, April 14 / 4:00 PM

## NEW SERIES FOR 2010-2011



[www.ihc.ucsb.edu/geographies](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/geographies)



[www.ihc.ucsb.edu/forums](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/forums)

## RESEARCH FOCUS GROUPS

The IHC is sponsoring the following Research Focus Groups for the 2010-11 academic year. The IHC Research Focus Groups bring together faculty and graduate students with shared research interests from different fields and departments to foster the development of interdisciplinary research agendas. The RFGs meet to present work in progress, read and discuss texts and current scholarship, and plan and implement common research projects. For more information, and to find contact information for the following groups, visit:

<http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/research/rfg.html>

For this year, the IHC welcomes two new Research Focus Groups: Keeping Time and Para/Sites.

### KEEPING TIME RFG

Conveners: Jocelyn Holland, Wolf Kittler

The Keeping Time RFG is devoted to thinking about the reciprocal relationships between theories of time and cultural practices of time-measurement and time-keeping. We are interested in studying modernity as a history of widely different and perhaps incompatible notions of time, from Galileo's pendulum to the atomic clock. In the context of the RFG, as well as a lecture series and final conference funded by the NEH, we will focus on case studies from the last four hundred years, where technical innovations go hand-in-hand with new physical theories, groundbreaking philosophical thinking, artistic innovation, and social change. We hope that collaborative research can lead to tangible contributions to the interdisciplinary field of "time studies" and welcome graduate students and faculty members from any related discipline who would like to participate.

### IHC VISITING SCHOLAR

We are honored to welcome Professor Norihiro Katô from Waseda University, Tokyo to the IHC. Professor Katô is a distinguished member of Waseda's School of International Liberal Studies where he teaches classes on Japanese literature and the intellectual and cultural history of postwar Japan. Professor Katô will lecture at the IHC on the popularity of Godzilla in post war Japan.

### PARA / SITES RFG

Conveners: Enda Duffy, Eric Prieto

The Para/Sites RFG proposes as its focus the following intellectual task: the mapping of mutations of the lived experience of space in modernity. The modern era has witnessed, on the one hand, the wholesale homogenization of actually inhabited and differentiated "places" into "non-places," the continuous and ongoing process by which culturally-specific habitations have been flattened into the bland featurelessness which might be "anywhere." At the same time, partially in reaction to this perceived decay of "place" as affective locus, as "home," there has been a rise in interest in specific places and in theories of emplacement and community, whether in the imagined community of the nation, the site of nostalgia and the setting of (sometimes almost erased) historical memory, the potential new community forms enabled across actual spaces by new media, or even the attenuated, uneasy spaces and mock-places of tourism. Between this planet of increasingly abstracted space on the one hand, and a proliferation of uncertain community and home "places" on the other, are numerous sites of contestation, or subversion, and of experiment with the nature and function of space. It is such troublesome and troubling spaces that can be called "para/sites," and these will be the subject of our RFG inquiry.



The IHC is pleased to host a new exhibition space: PLATFORM. Originating from the French word *plateforme*, meaning "ground plan" or "flat shape," PLATFORM is an exhibition space designed to bolster the careers of young international artists through the submission and display of two-dimensional printed media. The exhibit space aims to create bridges between individuals, communities and cultures. All submissions to PLATFORM are completed online and must adhere to the theme and specifications set by the curators. Because of the online submission process, PLATFORM does not require artists to pay submission fees or ship physical art objects, creating an opportunity for artists to participate regardless of their location or resources. The space's inaugural exhibition, *Snarled Megalopolis: Visions of The Emerging Face of Megacities*, will be on view October 7 to December 17 outside 6020 HSSB.

For more information, visit [www.ihc.ucsb.edu/platform](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/platform).

### THE FOLLOWING RESEARCH FOCUS GROUPS ARE RETURNING TO THE IHC THIS YEAR:

#### African Studies

Conveners: Peter Bloom, Mhoze Chikowero

#### Ancient Borderlands

Conveners: Elizabeth Digeser, John W.I. Lee, Christine Thomas

#### Archeology

Conveners: Stuart Tyson Smith, Brice Erickson

#### Food Studies

Conveners: Ali Hendley, Lisa Jacobson, Erika Rappaport

#### History of Books and Material Texts

Conveners: Charlotte Becker, Jim Kearney, Sophia Rochmes

#### Identity Studies

Conveners: Adrienne Edgar, Cynthia Kaplan

#### Language, Interaction and Social Organization (LISO)

Conveners: Mary Bucholtz, Gene Lerner

#### New Sexualities

Conveners: Paul Amar, Mireille Miller-Young

#### Performance Studies

Conveners: Dorota Dutsch, Suk-Young Kim

#### South Asian Religions and Cultures

Conveners: Barbara Holdrege, Mary Hancock

## Featured Fellow

**Deborah Spivak**

*Art History,*

*Taylor and Mathias Film Archive:*

*Ethnographic Study of South American Medicines*

The IHC's Visual, Performing and Media Arts Award has allowed me to pursue an extracurricular project that I have been hoping to work on for some time. Several years ago, a family friend mentioned that she had some silent 16mm films from the early 1960s on South American plant-based medicines. The films were made by her father, pharmacologist Dermot Taylor, and his colleague, botanist Mildred Mathias. I was immediately interested in the films because of my own research in the field of ancient South America, where depictions and archaeological evidence of the use of botanical medicines is common. In viewing the films, I noticed great potential for a wide range of scholarly interest, relating to fields in the sciences and humanities. Finally, with the help of the IHC award, I have begun to archive, restore, and research these films, which are a rich resource not just for scientific and ecological purposes, but also as cultural and historical records. With the help of the IHC award, I hope to bring the films to public awareness, giving students and scholars across disciplines access to this intriguing resource.



Film Still - Deborah E. Spivak  
Image depicts a market stall in the Peruvian highlands where a man sells coca by the kilo to locals. Circa 1960.



Original Photograph: David Vo . 2002

## Isla Vista Research and Teaching Initiative Grants for 2011-2012

**Application deadline: November 15, 2010**

The UC Institute for Research in the Arts, the UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center and the UCSB Arts Research Initiative are pleased to announce a competition for research and educational projects that engage Isla Vista as a site of investigation and a laboratory for new research and teaching.

The Isla Vista Research and Teaching Initiative will support research projects and course proposals from UCSB faculty in the arts, humanities, and the humanistic social sciences. Award amounts will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000; awards will be made for projects beginning as early as Spring 2011 and as late as Winter 2012.

We are particularly interested in receiving proposals for projects that:

- Engage timely and relevant research questions.
- Address a community condition, need or problem.
- Provide new and important information that can promote new research opportunities or civic action.
- Make use of Isla Vista's unique location and demographic
- Foster new relationships or partnerships with Isla Vista organizations in innovative and productive ways that advance both university and community interests.

For details about the application process, sample projects and potential community partners, visit [www.ihc.ucsb.edu/ivrti](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/ivrti).

## IHC AWARDS DEADLINES

**November 15:**

Faculty Release Time Award  
Faculty Individual Research Assistance Award  
Faculty Collaborative Award  
Isla Vista Research and Teaching Initiative Grant

**April 15:**

Faculty Release Time Award  
Faculty Collaborative Award  
Predoctoral Fellowships

**January 18:**

Graduate Collaborate Award  
Visual, Performing and Media Arts Award

**May 16:**

Research Focus Groups  
Research Fellowships

# IHC Fellows and Awards

The following individuals and groups were granted IHC awards during the 2009-2010 academic year:

## Faculty Fellows

### Release Time Award

This award releases faculty from teaching during one quarter in order to concentrate on research projects.

- Mary Bucholtz, Linguistics, *Embodied Language: Discourse and Materiality in Gender and Sexuality*
- Greg Siegel, Film and Media Studies, *Forensic Media: Accidents, Catastrophes, and Cultural Traces*
- Mayfair Yang, Religious Studies, *Re-enchanting Modernity: Sovereignty, Ritual Economy, and Indigenous Civil Order in Coastal China*

### Individual Research Assistance Awards

These awards fund research assistance, travel expenses, and miscellaneous research expenses.

- Peter S. Alagona, History and Environmental Studies, *The California Landscape History Project*
- Brice Erickson, Classics, *Lerna: Archaeology of an Ancient Greek Village*
- Bishnupriya Ghosh, English, *Global Icons in Public Culture*
- Patricia Hall, Music, *The Oxford Handbook of Music Censorship*
- Mira Kingsley, Theater & Dance, *Mira Kingsley: Solo Commissioning Project*
- S. Cecilia Mendez Gastelumendi, History, *The Wars Within: Civil Strife, National Imaginings, and the Rural Basis of the Peruvian State*
- Xiaojian Zhao, Asian American Studies, *Gender and Chinese Immigration: From Kinship Ties to Women's Networks*

### Collaborative Awards

These awards support conferences at UCSB or in the Santa Barbara area, collaborative research or instructional projects by faculty in one or more departments, and initiatives to bring visiting scholars and arts practitioners to campus for collaborative research or teaching.

- Colin Gardner, Art, *Facs of Life*
- Christopher Pilafian, Theater and Dance, and Ninotchka Bennahum, Theater and Dance, *The Speeds Project*
- Christine M. Thomas, Religious Studies, and Elizabeth DePalma Digeser, History, *The Ancient Mediterranean City in Real Space*
- Aranye Fradenburg, English, *Entrenchment and Plasticity: Linguistic and Literary Change*
- Kim Yasuda, Art, Mike Goodchild, Geography, and Martin Raubal, Cognitive Science, *Public Research, Participation, and Place: A Collective Mapping of Isla Vista, CA*

## Junior Fellows

### Predoctoral Research Awards

Pre-doctoral fellowships support doctoral candidates and advanced MFA students whose research facilitates dialogue across the traditional disciplinary boundaries within the arts and humanities, and/or between the arts & humanities, sciences, and social sciences.

- Thomas Carrasco, Chicano Studies, *Oppositional Performance: A Social History of the Avant-Garde Comedy Troupe Chicano Secret Service*
- Hye Jean Chung, Film & Media Studies, *Media Heterotopias: Spectral Effects in Transnational Cinematic Space*
- Haru Ji, Media Arts & Technology, *A-Life Worldmaking as a Contemporary Art*
- Luke Manning, Philosophy, *The Metaphysics of Physical Objects*
- Joshua Neves, Film & Media Studies, *Projecting Beijing: Cinema and Culture in the Olympic-era*

### Graduate Collaborative Awards

These awards support graduate students in organizing conferences, symposia, exhibitions, and performances.

- Matthew Driscoll, Ewa Manek, and Suzy Cincone, East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies, and Lily Wong, Comparative Literature, *"The Translator's Visibility" Inter-UC Graduate Conference & Exhibition*
- Julien Guillemet, French, and Vasilis Tsompanidis, Philosophy, *Chance and Destiny; 10th Graduate Student Conference in French and Francophone Studies*
- A. Wyatt Rounds, Religious Studies, Tracey E. Watts, History, and Jessica Ambler, Art History, *Ancient Borderlands International Graduate Student Conference*
- Alexander Wahl and Lynette Arnold, Linguistics, and Kevin Whitehead, Sociology, *16th Annual Conference on Language, Interaction, and Social Organization: "Interaction, Embodiment, and Materiality"*
- Stephanie Washburn, Art, and Joe Figliulo-Rosswurm, History, *Margaret Thatcher's Garden*

## Visual, Performing and Media Arts Awards

These awards support innovative projects in the visual, performing and media arts that engage creatively with issues of interdisciplinary concern.

- Stephanie L. Batiste, English/Black Studies, *Stacks of Obits: a choreopoem*
- Deborah Spivak, Art History, *Taylor and Mathias Film Archive: Ethnographic Study of South American Medicines*
- Raymond Uhlir, Art, *The Tumulus, The Allegorical, and Sacred Space*

## Research Fellows

The IHC Research Fellowship is for recent UCSB Ph.D.s in the humanities and the humanistic social sciences. The Fellows are affiliated with the IHC and will have opportunities to participate in the Center's classes, activities and research groups.

- Xiao Che, Theater and Dance
- Emily Engel, History of Art
- Rose Hayden-Smith, History
- Danielle Hidalgo, Sociology
- Shalini Karkar, History of Art
- Jacob Latham, Religious Studies
- Laura Miller, English
- Michelle Samura, Education

## UC Humanities Awards

### UC Graduate Fellows in the Humanities

The UC Humanities Network, formed in 2009, links the UC campus humanities centers in a Multi-campus Research Initiative. As part of the new initiative, two Ph.D students were chosen from each campus to be UC Graduate Fellows in the Humanities. Andrea Berez (Linguistics) and Catherine Zusky (English) were chosen to be this year's UC Graduate Fellows. The IHC offers its sincerest congratulations to these talented students.

### California Humanities Scholars Program

The new California Humanities Scholars Program recognizes graduate students working across the broad range of humanities at the University of California and uses their collective expertise, interests and collaborative energy to create a dynamic and interactive virtual network. The California Humanities Scholars will be reporting on the work happening on their campuses and in their various communities through online networking, and will orchestrate a regular discussion forum on the UC Humanities Network website. For 2010-11, the following UCSB students have been chosen as California Humanities Scholars: Desiree D'Allesandro (Art), Amanda Phillips (English), and Dan Reynolds (Film and Media Studies).



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[islavista-arts.com](http://islavista-arts.com)

## IV ARTS NEWS

Now in its sixth year, IV Arts is a grassroots arm of the IHC, actively exploring the relationship between campus and community, culture and civil society, particularly in the neighborhood closest to the university: Isla Vista. While Magic Lantern Films fills Friday and Monday nights with a wide variety of cinematic pleasures from the art- to the grindhouse, IV Live holds down the historic Embarcadero Hall with weekly improvisational theater shows. *Word: Isla Vista Arts & Culture Magazine* is soon to publish its tenth issue, reflecting journalistic concerns from lifestyle features to politically-engaged reporting. Beyond the UCSB student community, *Nuestra Voz* summer theater camp annually reaches into the heart of the I.V. youth community with made-to-order summer theater. All of these endeavors have academic links to courses in the university in Film & Media, Theater and Dance and the IHC, and are turning out students who care as much about improving their minds as bettering the places where they live. Director Ellen Anderson is available for consultation with campus organizations producing or planning new cultural events in Isla Vista: [eanderson@theaterdance.ucsb.edu](mailto:eanderson@theaterdance.ucsb.edu).

## UCIRA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN THE ARTS

[www.ucira.ucsb.edu](http://www.ucira.ucsb.edu)

## UCIRA NEWS

### New Publication | Call for Papers

UC State of the Arts [SOTA] is an irregular publication dedicated to documenting and fostering communication in the arts across the University of California system of 10 campuses. SOTA is published by the University of California Institute for Research in the Arts. The first volume (Summer/Fall 2010) is focused on the theme of "Public Ed and the Public Good" and will focus primarily on the ways in which the California budget crisis is affecting arts departments within the system, and the myriad of critical, pedagogical and creative responses coming from those departments to the budget, university restructuring and privatization trends. SOTA can be read at <http://ucsota.wordpress.com>. A print edition will be issued in November. Submissions are accepted on a rolling deadline.

### Conference | *Future Tense: Alternative Arts and Economies* November 18-21, 2010

The UCIRA is pleased to announce the fourth system-wide State of the Arts Conference, to be held November 18-21st at UC San Diego. The theme of the conference, *Future Tense: Alternative Arts and Economies in the University*, provides a broad umbrella under which to consider the encroaching privatization of public education and the complex mix of economic, cultural and social forces currently placing pressure on the status of the arts within the research university, as well as the notion of the university itself as haven for liberal arts education. For more information, and to register, please visit <http://www.ucira.ucsb.edu>.