

**WORKING CLASS CULTURE AND COUNTER CULTURE
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
SPONSORED BY
THE WORKING CLASS STUDIES ASSOCIATION
JUNE 14-17, 2007
MACALESTER COLLEGE, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA**

Conference co-chairs: Peter Rachleff and Barb Jensen

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For more information and the conference registration form:

<http://www.macalester.edu/history/workingclass/index.html>

ROOM CODES:

GEORGE DRAPER DAYTON DORMITORY (GDD)

CAMPUS CENTER (CC)

INCLUDES GRILLE, SECOND FLOOR, & JOHN B. DAVIS AUDITORIUM

JOHN B. DAVIS AUDITORIUM (JBD) – THIS IS IN THE CC

WEYERHAUESER CHAPEL (CHAPEL)

OLD MAIN (OM)

CARNEGIE (C)

ALUMNI HOUSE

KAGIN COMMONS (KAGIN)

WEYERHAUESER HALL

ART GALLERY

**ALL BOOK SALES AND DISPLAYS AND ALL LITERATURE AND INFORMATION
WILL BE LOCATED IN THE CAMPUS CENTER**

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFASTS ON FRIDAY AND BREAK REFRESHMENTS WILL
BE SERVED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CC**

HOT BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED IN THE GRILLE ON SATURDAY MORNING

**LUNCHESES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR \$7.50 PRE-PURCHASE ON THURSDAY,
FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY IN THE GRILLE**

THERE WILL BE AN ART SHOW IN THE COLLEGE GALLERY (DAY HOURS)

PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Wednesday evening 6/13

7 – 10 PM Social gathering (Alumni House)

Thursday 6/14 9 am – 11 :30 am

1. Tours (pick up outside Weyerhaeuser Hall on Macalester Street, just south of Snelling)

Deindustrialization of St. Paul

- David Riehle, local labor historian and activist

Telling the Stories of Working Class Neighborhoods

- Paul Schadewald

2. Special Screening : Two New Documentaries on Italian Immigrant Stonecutters (JBD)

Se le pietra sapesse parlare – If Stone Could Speak

Randy Croce, University of Minnesota, filmmaker

The Road From Alfedena

Christine Zinni, Randforce Associate, Buffalo, NY, filmmaker

Both filmmakers will be present for discussion. You can find descriptions of these films in the descriptions of the Saturday night film festival later in the schedule.

Conference registration opens 11 :00 AM (Campus Center)

THE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday 6/14 noon – 1pm

Preliminary meeting of Working Class Studies Chorus with Janet Stecher (JBD)

Thursday 1-3 pm

WORKING CLASS CULTURE AND COUNTER-CULTURE (JBD)

Betsy Leondar-Wright, author of *Class Matters* and co-author of *The Color of Wealth*

David Roediger, author, *Wages of Whiteness* and Prof of History, University of Illinois

Ricardo Levins-Morales, Northland Poster Collective

David Greene, Professor of Psychology, Ramapo College

Thursday 3 :30- 5 pm

ROUNDTABLE: THE MAKING OF AMERICAN WORKING CLASS LITERATURE (JBD)

Chair and Comment : Janet Zandy, ed., *American Working Class Literature : An Anthology*

Jeanne Bryner, Community Affiliate, Center for Working Class Studies, Youngstown State

Nick Coles, University of Pittsburgh

John Gilgun, Missouri Western University

Larry Smith, Bowling Green State University and Bottom Dog Press

John Crawford, University of New Mexico and West End Press

And others ...

CLASS, HISTORY, AND SELF-REPRESENTATION (OM 009)

“Modern in Every Respect”: *Black Chicago’s Culture of Class Mobility, 1941 – 1949*

Jeff Helgeson, grad student, History, University of Illinois-Chicago

St. Paul Workers Celebrate Labor Day

Steve Trimble, independent scholar, St. Paul

Teachers, Unionism, and the Politics of Class

David Rathke, Illinois Education Association

WORKING CLASS HISTORY: TWO FILMS (OM 002)

“*Uneasy Pieces*”: *Voicing the History of Homestead’s Steel Workers* (45 mins)

James V. Catano, Prof, English, Louisiana State University

This film traces and critiques Homestead, Pennsylvania’s attempts to replace its steel production capacity (once the heart of the nation’s industry) with heritage tourism as the foundation for an economy seriously on the rocks.

“*Mother Jones : America’s Most Dangerous Woman*” (23 mins)

Rosemary Feurer, Assoc Prof, History, Northern Illinois University

This new documentary shows how this iconic labor heroine used class and gender boundaries to shape an identity that allowed her to become an effective organizer. This film features historic photographs and live footage, as well as a moving “music video” of the Ludlow massacre.

LATINO LABOR RIGHTS ORGANIZING: ALTERNATIVES TO GLOBALIZATION
WORKSHOP (OM 011)

Eduardo Cardenas and Teresa Ortiz, Research Center of the Americas

WORKING CLASS CULTURE AND MEDIA ACTIVISTS, I (OM 010)

Moderator: Howard Kling, Labor Education Service, Univ of MN

Working Class Culture, Women Activists, and the New Media

Christine Zinni, Randforce Associate

cfzinni@hotmail.com

Ruth Meyerowitz, Professor, American Studies, SUNY-Buffalo

Torn Between Capital and Labor: Media Workers and the Coverage of Industrial Relations in Nigeria

Funmi Adewumi, senior lecturer, University of Lagos (Nigeria)

“What Is to Be Done?” Can the New Media Save the Working Class

Ed Felien, editor/publisher, THE PULSE OF THE TWIN CITIES

WORKING CLASS STUDIES ON YOUR CAMPUS/IN YOUR COMMUNITY:
ORGANIZING STRATEGIES (Chapel)

Sherry Linkon & John Russo, Center for Working Class Studies, Youngstown State University

Michael Zweig, Center for the Study of Working Class Life, SUNY-Stonybrook

Liesl Orenic, Chicago Center for Working Class Studies

John Beck, “Our Daily Work/Our Daily Lives,” Labor and Industrial Relations,
Michigan State University

Thursday 5 :15 – 6 :45pm

CHOIR REHEARSAL (JBD)

Thursday 7 :30- 9 :30 pm

CULTURAL PLENARY: POETRY, PROSE, AND PERFORMANCE (JBD)

Line-up to be announced: mix of scheduled performers and open mic

Mark Nowak, curator

Friday 6 /15 8 :30 am – 10 :00 am

COMBATting INTERNALIZED OPPRESSION :
A WORKSHOP FOR LABOR ACTIVISTS (OM 011)

« David Forrest, » factory worker, activist, and author

WORKING CLASS WOMEN: LITERATURE, REPRESENTATIONS, AND
AUTHORSHIP (OM 002)

*Sentiment and Squalor: Picking Through the Wreckage to Find Meaning in Carolyn
Chute's "Letourneau's Used Auto Parts"*

Samantha Maziarz, grad student, Youngstown State Univ

Alice Munro: As Working Class Fiction Writer

Larry Smith, Prof Emeritus, Bowling Green State Univ

*The Isolation Myth: Exploring the History and Contemporary Work Roles of Wisconsin
Farm Women*

Jeanie Geurink, Asst Prof, Journalism, Univ of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

EX-INMATES STRUGGLE TO JOIN THE WORKING CLASS (Chapel)

All presenters work with the Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis

Sam Grant, Director of Projects

Guy Gambill, Advocacy Coordinator

Joshua Bertsch, Administrative Assistant

CLASS IN THE CLASSROOM: TEACHING STRATEGIES (JBD)

Discourse Community as a Foundation for Teaching Research and Writing

Tess Evans, grad student, English, Wright State Univ

Jacqueline Preston, grad student, English, Univ of Wisconsin-Madison

Resisting Tradition, Inviting Experience: Using Literature Ladders On-Line

Jan Schmittauer,, Ohio University - Chillicothe

Sue Lape, Columbus State Community College

Teaching the Problem of Whiteness: Thoughts on Race and Class

Ray Mazurek, Assoc Prof, English, Penn State Univ-Berks Campus

COUNTRY MUSIC: WORKING CLASS LIVES AND STORIES (OM 009)

Something to be Proud of: The Irony of Class Consciousness in Contemporary Country Music

Reece Peck, grad student, Communications, U of Cal at San Diego

The Hillbilly Jamboree: Working Class Cultural Values in Branson, Missouri

Joanna Dee, grad student, American Studies, NYU

WORKING CLASS CULTURE AND MEDIA ACTIVISTS, II (OM 010)

The Elimination of the Working Class From the Airwaves and the Fight to Take Back the Broadcast Media

Frank Emspak, Executive Producer WIN-Workers Independent News, on leave from the School for Workers, University of Wisconsin-Extension

Laborfests, Consciousness, and the New Communications Technology and Media

Steve Zeltzer, Labor Video Project, San Francisco

The First Ten Years of the Chicago Labor and Arts Festival

Lew Rosenbaum, Editor, Chicago Labor and Arts Notes

WORKERS' ORGANIZATION: IDENTITY, CULTURE, AND UNIONS (OM 001)

Corporate Co-optation in Practice: The Target Corporation

Alex Urquhart, grad student, American Studies, Univ of Minnesota

The Changing Nature of Working Class Culture under Nigerian Banking Sector Reform

Ifeanyi Onyeonoru, Prof, Sociology, University of Ibadan (Nigeria)

*What It Meant to be "Worker" for 1980s South African Retail Workers:
Articulating Workplace and Home*

Bridget Kenny, Sociology, Univ of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)

*The Industrial (Net)Workers of the World: Solidarity Unionism and the
Reconstruction of the Working Class*

"E.F.", activist, Twin Cities

Friday 10:30 am- Noon

TILLIE OLSEN: HER LEGACY TO WORKING CLASS STUDIES (PLENARY) (JBD)

Janet Zandy

Julie Olsen Edwards

Barbara Jensen

Sherry Linkon

Steve Zeltzer

Cherie Rankin

And others ...

Friday Noon- 1:30 pm

WORKING CLASS STUDIES ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING (JBD)

Friday 1:30 pm- 3:00 pm

**BIG RED SONGBOOK: FANNING THE FLAMES OF DISCONTENT
ROUNDTABLE WITH THE EDITORS/AUTHORS (Chapel)**

David Roediger, Prof, History, Univ of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana

Sal Salerno, Prof, Sociology, Minneapolis Community & Technical College

LABOR MILITANCY IN THE INDUSTRIAL ERA (OM 002)

Industrial Unionism and the Chicago Idea

Nate Holdren, grad student, Comp Lit, Univ of Minnesota

*“The State Constabulary Must Go!” Labor and the Left’s response to the
Pennsylvania State Police, 1890-1917*

Gary Jones, History, Muhlenberg College

*“An Alien Mob of Idlers, Tramps, and Criminals”: Irish Immigrants and the
1870s Anti-Chinese Movement in San Francisco*

Andy Urban, grad student, History, Univ of Minnesota

Working Class Opposition to WWI: Macalester’s Working Class Hero and the IWW

Tom Copeland, independent scholar, St. Paul

AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY AS WORKING CLASS HISTORY (OM 010)

*Gatherers of Acorns and Souls: Work and Identity in Indian-Spanish
California, 1769-1815*

Albert Lacson, Asst Prof, History, Grinnell College

*Working on the River: Race, Labor, and the Colonization of the Mississippi
River Valley*

Adam Waterman, Visiting Instructor, American Studies, Macalester College

On the Water: Ojibwe in the Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Industry, 1870-1942

Chantal Norrgard, grad student, History, Univ of Minnesota

Commentator: Larry Nesper, Prof, Anthropology, Univ of Wisconsin

REPRESENTATIONS OF WORKING CLASS LIFE (OM 009)

Romancing Immigrant Working Class Daughters and Care Work: Remaking Class Dynamics in the Film 'Spanglish'

Mary Romero, Prof, School of Justice and Social Inquiry, Arizona State Univ

Here I am Stuck in the Middle With You": Defining Class in America

Jacqueline Preston, grad student, English, Univ of Wisconsin

HOMELESSNESS & THE CRISIS OF THE WORKING-CLASS: ROUNDTABLE (OM 111)

Moderator: Carolyn Whitson, Assoc Prof, Metropolitan State University

Minda Martin, Asst Prof, Communication, Cal State University-San Marcos and director/producer of documentary *Free Country*, which will be screened Saturday night

Reyne Branchaud-Linsk, Dakota Woodlands Homeless Shelter

Mikkel Beckman, St. Stephen's Church Homeless Shelter

Pam Wynn, Asst Prof, St. Paul's Theological Seminary

CLASS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION (OM 001)

*Starting Young: Presenting Working Class Life in Children's Picture Books:
A Student Action Project*

Julie Olsen Edwards, Early Childhood Education Faculty, Cabrillo Community College,
Santa Cruz, California

*Does School Mediate the Relationship Between Social Class and the Effects of
Parental Involvement?*

Stefanie Estes, grad student, Notre Dame

Capital's Daisy Chain: Exposing Chicago's Corporate Coalition

Lisa Arrastia, grad student, American Studies, Univ of Minnesota

*Re-inventing the Sensibilities of the Craft: Dick Johns and the Education of
Working Class Youth in 20th Century Winnipeg*

Nolan Reilly, Prof, History, Univ of Winnipeg

Friday 1:30 – 3:00 pm

CHORUS REHEARSAL (JBD)

Friday 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

THE CURRENT LABOR CRISIS: NORTHWEST AIRLINES AS A MODEL (OM 002)

The Red Tail (film in progress)

Dawn Mikkleson, producer and director

Panel:

Ted Ludwig, president, AMFA Local 33

Karen Schultz, flight attendant and activist, AFA-CWA

Kip Hedges, baggage handler and activist, IAM Local 1833

THE SOUND AND THE FURY: WORKING CLASS PROTEST MUSIC (OM 010)

Moderator: Sumanth Gopinath, Asst. Prof of Music, U of Minnesota

Billy Bragg's Revival of Aging Anthems: Radical Nostalgia or Activist Inspiration?

David Walls, Prof. Emeritus, Sonoma State University

Songs of Free Men: Paul Robeson and the World Proletariat

Shana Redmond, grad student, African American Studies, Yale

The Folk Process: Protest Songs from Mass Communication to Intellectual Property

Eleanor Walden, independent scholar, Berkeley, California

Something Called the Politics of Lonely: The Politics of the 'Weakerthans'

Jonah Butovsky, Asst. Prof. of Labor Studies, Brock Univ., Ontario

Tim Fowler, undergrad student, Brock University, Ontario

WORKING CLASS LIFE: DISCOVERY, DEFINITION, AND EXPRESSION (OM 009)

View From Martin's Mountain

Margaret Costello, independent scholar and electrician

"You're Supposed to be Nice": Women, Work, and Conflict in Peer Relations

Julie Withers, instructor, Sociology, Butte Community College

WORKING CLASS LITERATURE: TEXTS, CHARACTERS, PROJECTS (OM 111)

Answerability and Working Class Text

John Kirk, Research Fellow, Working Lives Research Institute (London)

From Hard-Boiled to Tender-Hearted: Changing Images of the Fictional Private Eye

Tim Sheard, author

Literature's Influence on Working Class Radicalism

Mitchell Newton-Manza, College of DuPage (Chicago)

The New Deal: Burkean Identification and Working Class Poetics

William DeGennaro, Asst Prof, Rhetoric, Univ of Michigan-Dearborn

LABOR HISTORY AND THE POLITICS OF DIFFERENCE (Chapel)

"The Union of All Oppressed Peoples Against Imperialism": Diasporic Black Radicals and Anti-Colonial Internationalism in the League Against Imperialism, 1927-1929

Minkah Makalani, Asst Prof. History, Rutgers Univ

"At the Frontier of Service": The Work of Negro Labor Intellectual Women and The Construction of Black Historical Knowledge

James Robinson, grad student, Univ of Iowa

Intersectionality and/or Simultaneity: A Feminist Historical Perspective

Lois Helmbold, Chairperson, Women's Studies, Univ of Nevada-Las Vegas

CREATIVE ORGANIZING: WORKSHOP (OM 003)

Satire, Cartoons, Collages: A Hands On Workshop

Gary Huck, United Electrical Workers, Labor Cartoonist

A VIEW FROM THE CHEAP SEATS: ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS, WORKING
CLASS STUDENTS, AND THE COMMODIFICATION OF COLLEGE (JBD)

Moderator: Renny Christopher, Interim Assoc V-P for Academic Affairs, Cal State Univ at
Channel Islands

*White Collar, Pink Collar, White Tassel, Pink Tassel: Tenured and Contingent Labor
United Together in California*

John Yudelson, Business & Communications, Cal State Univ at Channel Islands

Class and Stress: Working Class Emergencies and Academic Routines

Robert Gremore, Prof, Lit and Language, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul

First Class or Working Class? Problems and Possibilities in Online Humanities

Courses for the Working Class Student

Carolyn Whitson, Assoc Prof, Metropolitan State Univ, St. Paul

Friday 5:00 pm- 6:30 pm (CC 216)

GRADUATE STUDENT SOLIDARITY MEETING

Friday 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm

BANQUET (Kagin)

The Conference Labor Chrous, organized by Janet Stecher will perform
Working Class Studies Association Awards to be announced

Friday 9:00 pm- 11:00 pm (JBD)

POST-BANQUET CULTURAL CELEBRATION

Schedule to be announced

Mark Nowak, curator

Saturday 6/16 8:30am – 10am

THE WORKING CLASS AS COUNTER-CULTURE TO THE MIDDLE CLASS (Chapel)

Class in the Culture Wars: Manners, Morals, and Money on “Roseanne”

Melissa Williams, grad student, American Studies, University of Minnesota

“Overrun with Lawless, Drunken, Filthy Bands of Motorcycle Fiends”: The Working Class and Motorcycle Culture in Postwar America, 1940s – 1960s

Randy McBee, Assoc. Prof. of History, Texas Tech University

“Go Get ‘Em Tigers”: The 1968 Detroit Tigers and Working Class Culture

Ryan Pettengill, grad student, History, Michigan State University

Amateur Soccer Clubs and Neighborhood Organizations in Working Class Sao Paulo, Brazil, 1945 – 1978

Paolo Fontes, Visiting Scholar, Latin American Studies, Princeton University

THE VIEW FROM THE FACTORY FLOOR (OM 002)

By These Hands: Industrial Labor in Minnesota (slideshow)

Dr. David Parker, occupational epidemiologist & photographer

The View From the Factory Floor

“David Forrest,” factory worker, author, and activist

Organizing Machine and Robot Local 1: Can Machines Be Part of Working Class Studies And What Would It Look Like If They Were?

Jeff Manuel, grad student, University of Minnesota

ENGAGING CLASS AND ETHNICITY: WORKSHOP ((OM 011))

Share the Gelt! Exploring Jewish People’s Relationship to Class, Money & Economic Justice

Deborah Rosenstein, Labor Educator, University of Minnesota

Community Organizing Through Story-Telling: The RAICES Project

Amalia Anderson, Director, The Main Street Project, Minnesota

Diane Finnerty, Institute for the Support of Latino Families and Communities, Iowa

TELLING THE STORIES OF WORKING CLASS NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE TWIN
CITIES (JBD)

Rondo Neighborhood – Home of Black St. Paul

Chris Wells, Asst Prof, Environmental Studies, Macalester College

Lake Street and the New Immigration

Paul Schadewald, asst director, Civic Engagement Center, Macalester College

Laura Zeccardi, undergrad student, Macalester College

Away From the Ivory Tower: Public History Collaborations Across Class and Educational Lines

Andy Urban, grad student, History, University of Minnesota

Caitlin Cook-Isaacson, undergrad student, University of Minnesota

WORKING CLASS LITERATURE: TEXTS, CHARACTERS, PROJECTS (OM 001)

Answerability and Working Class Text

John Kirk, Research Fellow, Working Lives Research Institute (London)

From Hard-Boiled to Tender-Hearted: Changing Images of the Fictional Private Eye

Tim Sheard, author

Literature's Influence on Working Class Radicalism

Mitchell Newton-Manza, College of DuPage (Chicago)

The New Deal: Burkean Identification and Working Class Poetics

William DeGennaro, Asst Prof, Rhetoric, Univ of Michigan-Dearborn

CULTURAL ACTIVISM AND LABOR ACTIVISM (OM 010)

Incomplete History of Labor Cartooning (slideshow)

Gary Huck, labor cartoonist, United Electrical Workers, Pittsburgh, PA

Solidarity Through Singing

Janet Stecher, director, Seattle Labor Chorus

The "Culture Works" Project

Joe Uehlein, Labor Heritage Foundation

CLASS ON CAMPUS: THE TIME IS NOW? (OM 009)

Class is Never Dismissed: Making a Film About Working Class Students
Cara Sharpes and Melissa McDonald, undergrad students, Smith College

Class on Campus
Felice Yeskel, Director, Class Action

Saturday, 10:30 am – Noon

ACTIVISM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY (JBD)

Roger McKenzie, British Trades Union Congress

Rose Brewer, African American Studies, University of Minnesota

Jerry Tucker, Co-convenor, Center for Labor Renewal

Felice Yeskel, Director, Class Action

Javier Morillo, President, SEIU Local 26

Marv Davidov, General Strike for Peace

Saturday 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

CLASS EDUCATION IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY (OM 011)

The Rouge Forum: Workers' Self-Education
Rich Gibson, coordinator, The Rouge Forum, Dearborn, Michigan

Representing the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919: A Museum Exhibit
Sharon Reilly, curator, Manitoba Museum, Winnipeg

Survival Schools: Highlander and Beyond
John Crawford, publisher, West End Press

UNION STRUGGLES: GENDER, RACE, AND SEXUALITY (JBD)

Solidarity and Sacrifice: Women on Strike

Roxanne Newton, Mitchell Community College (North Carolina)

Flight Attendant Unionism in a Moment of Danger: Activist Histories for a New Political Agenda

Ryan Murphy, grad student, American Studies, Univ of Minnesota

Organizing Latino Construction Workers in Arizona: A Cultural Challenge

Denisse M. Roca Servat, grad student, Arizona State Univ

Black Self-Organization in the Trade Unions: Resistance as Tradition

Roger McKenzie, TUC Midlands Regional Secretary (UK)

WHO TOOK THE WORK OUT OF NEW ORLEANS WORKING CLASS CULTURE?

(slideshow and discussion) (OM 010)

Presenter: Joan Clingan, Graduate Faculty, Humanities and M.A. Program Director,
Prescott College, Arizona

Commentator: Phyllis Walker, Pres, AFSCME Local 3800, Univ of Minnesota

CLASS ON CAMPUS: PEDAGOGIES (OM 002)

Remembering: Inviting Working Class Culture into the Classroom Through Storytelling

Sailor Holladay, grad student, UMass

Rachel Wagner, grad student, UMass

Successes and Failures in "Class"

Cara Okopyn, Assistant Professor, Liberal Studies, Grand Valley State Univ (Michigan)

THE WORKER AS ARTIFACT IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN LITERATURE
(OM 001)

'Selling Out': Systematizing Culture in Louise Erdrich's "The Tomahawk Factory"
Michele Fazio, grad student, English, SUNY-Stony Brook

'Commodification of Memory': Historical Authenticity in Philip K. Dick's "The Man in The High Castle"
JoAnne Ruvoli, grad student, English, Univ of Illinois-Chicago

'He's Interested in the Project, Not in You': The Objectified Worker in Ellen Slezak's "If You Treat Things Right"
Cherie Rankin, grad student, English, Illinois State Univ

CULTURAL WORK AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION (OM 009)

"None of Us Have Ever Been on Stage Before": The Development of Organic, Working Class Community Theater in Denver
James Walsh

Class Action: Liberatory Theater for Critical Pedagogy
Michel Coconis, director, Online CJ Degree Program, Ohio Dominican Univ

The Sound of Work
David Engen, Asst Prof, Speech Communications, Minn State Univ – Mankato
Carolyn Mager, student, Minn State Univ – Mankato

Political Uses of Ringtones
Sumanth Gopinath, Asst Prof, Music, Univ of Minnesota

SURVIVAL AND RESISTANCE IN WORKING CLASS CULTURE (OM 111)

Popular Poetry in San Diego/Tijuana Region: Embodied Communication
Jen Vernon, research fellow, University of California at San Diego

The Uses of Humour: How Working Class People Use Humour to Survive Class Power
Jean Bridgeman, sociology, National University of Ireland

Counseling: Tool For Social Change or Maintaining the Status Quo?
Wade Hannon, Assoc Prof, Counselor Ed, North Dakota State Univ

Saturday 3:30 pm- 5:00 pm

LABOR AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS: OUR POSITION, OUR ROLE (OM 009)

Labor's Stake in the Climate Crisis Debate

Joe Uehlein, Labor Heritage Foundation

Labor and Sustainability: Facing the Challenges

Christine Frank, IATSE Twin Cities and Labor and Sustainability Coalition

Lynn Hinkle, UAW Local 879, Ford, St. Paul

THE PRESSURES AND POSSIBILITIES OF WORK (OM 010)

The Disappearance and Reappearance of Health Claims Against Overwork

Alan Derickson, Prof, History, Penn State Univ

Use Them Up and Wear Them Out: Flight Attendants and the Problem of Fatigue

Drew Whitelegg, Director of Special Projects, Emory Center for Myth and Ritual in Am Life

"We Are Not Babysitters": A Struggle for Pay and Recognition

Julie Willett, Assoc Prof, History, Texas Tech Univ

REFLECTIONS OF WORKING CLASS TEACHERS (OM 002)

Life on the Border II : Messages to the Working Class Academics Discussion List

David Greene, Prof of Psychology, Ramapo College

One More Dirty Secret : How Cultural Capital Divides the Working Class

Christine W. Heilman, Asst Prof, Rhetoric/Composition, College of Mt. St. Joseph

Thoughts on a Life Less Traveled

Sara Appel, grad student. Program in Literature, Duke University

Queering in/of Class : A Working Class Queer Talks Pedagogy

Amber Clifford-Napoleone, Instructor, Anthropology, University of Central Missouri

ART, MEDIA, POPULAR CULTURE, AND WORKING CLASS CULTURE (OM 001)

Hip Rebellion: Counter-Cultural or Counter-Working Class

Forrest Perry, grad student, Vanderbilt

Laboring the Canvas: Artistic Constructions of the Worker in the 1930s and What This Means for Today's Labor Art

Laura Hapke, Prof, City University of New York and author, SWEATSHOP: THE HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN IDEA?

Young People Fighting for the Working Class: An Overview of the Class-Conscious Youth Culture of the Hardcore Punk Music Scene

Monica Bielski Boris, Labor Educator, Univ of Arkansas at Little Rock

WORKING CLASS WOMEN CHARACTERS IN FILM AND LITERATURE (OM 111)

You Can't Go Home Again ... But You Can't Come in Here Either. The Liminal Women Of Working Class Texts

Robyn Russo, grad student, Georgetown Univ

Toward a New Myth: Bone as a Working Class Heroine in "Bastard Out of Carolina"

Jennifer Didsbury, grad student, Georgetown Univ

All Sass and No Class: Working Class Roles by Oscar-Nominated Women

Kathryn Jett, grad student, Georgetown University

URBAN WORKING CLASS CULTURES AND POLITICAL CULTURES (JBD)

Moderator: Tom O'Connell, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul

Building a Working Class Socialist Subculture in Milwaukee

Elizabeth Jozwiak, Asst Prof of History, Univ of Wisconsin-Rock County

Why Bingo Matters: Working Class Cultures and Political Cultures

Eric Fure-Slocum, Asst Prof of History, St. Olaf College

Separate Lanes: Race, Bowling, and Working Class Solidarity in Detroit

David Lewis-Colman, Asst Prof of History, Ramapo College

commentator: Mary Wingerd, Asst Prof of History, St. Cloud State Univ.

Saturday 8:00 pm- 11:00 pm

WORKING CLASS CULTURE AND COUNTER-CULTURE FILM FESTIVAL

Screenings will take place at 8:00 PM and 9:15PM so that viewers can see more than one film. It is our intent to have filmmakers present if possible to engage viewers in conversation.

Meridel LeSueur: My People Are My Home (45 minutes) (OM 001)

Using Meridel LeSueur's texts (as read by her in voice over) and interviews with her, this 1976 film explores the history of the Midwest in an evocative, compelling fashion, linking the past (1930s) to the then-present (1976) and, now, to our present. Made by the Twin Cities Women's Film Collective and out of circulation for decades, it has been transferred to DVD while maintaining its gorgeous cinematography and color.

Neala Schleuning, who participated as a member of the Twin Cities Women's Film Collective in the making of this film and has authored many books in working class studies, including *A SONG WE SANG WITHOUT KNOWING* (1984), will be present for audience discussion.

Free Country (approx 60 minutes, still in progress) (OM 002)

Free Country explores the impact of poverty on family life in America. Using her maternal Native American family history, Minda Martin, Assistant Professor of Communications, California State University-San Marcos, examines how home and homelessness is closely related to larger socio-economic events and political decisions. The American Dream promises affluence and domestic stability in return for hard work. *Free Country* critiques this assumption by examining the impact of class, ethnicity, and income on opportunity. The film is divided into three parts: "Free Land," "Free Money," and "Free Way." "Free Land" investigates Martin's maternal Native American background, looking at how her great grandparents became homeless as a result of federal relocation programs. The ensuing rootlessness would again become a feature in her grandfather's generation. "Free Money" focuses on the repetition of the insecurity in Martin's mother's life, in which frequent economic hardship and homelessness were facts of life. "Free Way" takes a reflexive turn to look at how art can be used as a tool for processing loss, reclaiming space, and authorizing one's voice as a descendant of the working poor.

Filmmaker Minda Martin will be present for discussion.

Our 'Hood: Stories From the South Shore (2006) (30 minutes) (OM 010)

A close-up look – written, edited, directed, and produced by the young people in the film, in association with Stan West, Yves Hughes, Jr., and Columbia College Chicago -- at how boys and girls tell stories differently, from the viewpoints of Black teens at a Chicago south side high school where poverty, violence, and abuse guide many narratives. The filmmakers themselves become part of the story when one of the three girls producing this gritty work witnessed her eleven year old cousin's murder in an accidental shooting. The focus group featured in this documentary helped process not only the story but also the anger which arose in this crisis.

Mutilated Rest (2005) (20 minutes)

Two families of Chicago Black educators go to Kenya to inquire into whether Africans would want Black Americans to ever come back. They do all this while their parents are dying and amid news of Masai girls undergoing female genital mutilation as well as atrocities being visited upon neighboring Rwandan and Sudanese refugees.

Both of these films were made by Stan West, filmmaker and faculty member at Columbia College Chicago, in collaboration with various colleagues, community, and family members. Stan had an opportunity to teach a workshop this weekend with high school students and, therefore, will not be with us.

Transnational Tradeswomen (2007) (62 minutes) (OM 009)

Transnational Tradeswomen looks at issues facing women construction workers in 6 Asian countries: Thailand, Taiwan, India, Pakistan, Singapore, and Japan. The film's significance is to make connections among the conditions facing women workers in Asia and parts of the global North without resorting to universal categories or solutions. *Transnational Tradeswomen* examines the gendering of work in various economic and cultural contexts, as well as the impact of globalization on the employment of poor women who do manual labor.

Filmmaker Vivian Price, labor educator and assistant professor, California State University – Dominguez Hills, will be present for discussion.

The Ladies Bridge (2006) (27 minutes) (OM 011)

The Ladies Bridge investigates a piece of British urban folklore: during the Second World War women rebuilt Waterloo Bridge, a central London landmark and strategic river crossing. In the absence of any documentary evidence, this story has been kept alive by the riverboat pilots who take tourists up and down the Thames, pointing out the bridge as “the ladies’ bridge,” and also within the building industry by the firm who built the bridge and by women manual workers. The filmmakers talk to a range of people, including river pilots and women who worked in manual jobs during the war. The film represents the power of oral history to sustain stories about work and working people.

Filmmaker Christine Wall, herself a carpenter and joiner for twelve years before becoming an architect and a Ph.D. in Architecture, will be present for discussion.

Breaking Walls (2004) (47 minutes) (OM 111)

Breaking Walls is an optimistic film tracking three people whose roads entwine near a wall in the village of Kar'a, in Israel. One is the international (US) artist Mike Alewitz, who dedicates his art to the status of workers; the second is Danny Ben-Simhon, who abandoned a promising artistic career to work with the Workers' Advice Center, which provides education, information, and support to Palestinian workers; and the third is Musav Salameh, a construction worker, who is kept apart from his parents in the West Bank by Israel's separation wall. Salameh came to Alewitz's mural project as an observer but he quickly took brush in hand. Although the film starts with Salameh's doubts about painting the wall, it ends in a moving scene in the Beit Berl Art College. Salameh, together with Ben Simhon, other building laborers and art students, set up an impressive exhibition, at the center of which are paintings done on walls that they built themselves in the college's gallery.

Filmmakers Yonatan Ben Efrat, Sarit Maor, and Dalit Lilienthal, could not be with us. They encourage us to visit their website at <http://www.video48.com>

Class Is Never Dismissed (in progress) (C 06)

This is a documentary-in-progress made by a undergraduate students at Smith College about the experiences of working class students at this elite "Seven Sisters" Ivy League institution. The filmmakers speak on camera themselves and they interview other Smith students from working class backgrounds.

Filmmakers Carla Sharpes and Melissa McDonald will be present to discuss their film, their process, and their experiences in higher education.

Meeting Face to Face: The Iraqi-US Labor Solidarity Tour (2006) (27 mins) (C05)

In the spring of 2006, a delegation of Iraqi union activists toured the US. This documentary film traces their experiences meeting American trade unionists at union halls and public gatherings across the country.

Executive Producer Mike Zweig will be present for discussion, joined by local activists from MNLAW (Minnesota Labor Against War).

Se le Pietra Sapesse Parlare – If Stone Could Talk (2007) (60 minutes) (JBD)

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, thousands of stonecutters immigrated from northern Italy to Barre, Vermont, known as the “Granite Capital of the World.” They created magnificent stone monuments that still grace cities across America. But the dust from the carving process caused silicosis that killed most of these artisans before they reached the age of 50. Their unions, informed by socialist and anarchist beliefs, fought over decades for safer workplaces, saving their industry and the lives of future carvers.

Against the backdrops of the this struggle and the stonecutters’ sculpture, this documentary explores the question of identity. How did these immigrants maintain their artistic, cultural, and radical political traditions in a very different society? How did the newcomers adapt and how did they, in turn, transform their new homes? Finally, how did their children navigate between two cultures? The documentary was shot in central Vermont and northern Italy, documenting the art, culture, and immigration experience from the perspectives of families in both countries.

Filmmaker Randy Croce, labor educator at the University of Minnesota, will be present for the discussion of this film in Thursday morning’s pre-conference screening. He will not be able to join us on Saturday night.

The Road from Alfedena (45 minutes – still in progress)

This documentary is the first part of an intended two part series on the experiences and perspectives of Italian immigrant stone cutters from Alfedena, in the Abruzzo region, and their descendants who settled along the Erie Canal in upstate New York.

Filmmaker Christine Zinni, a participant in an oral history project in the Buffalo, New York, region, called Randforce Associates, and a graduate student in American Studies at SUNY-Buffalo, will be present for discussions after this film.

Sunday 6/17 9:30 am- 11:00 am

WORKING CLASS POLITICAL THEORY (OM 011)

The Futility of Politics and Property Conventions as the Basis of Unmerited Privilege and Class
Steven Ericsson-Zenith

The Contributions of Frantz Fanon to Our Understanding of Class and Race
Gary Hicks, organizer and activist, Boston

Nascent Working Class Political Economy: The Evocation of Organization and Resistance in William Manning and David Walker
David Arenas, Saint Xavier University

DEINDUSTRIALIZATION, CULTURE, AND RESISTANCE (OM 010)

Ford, the Dam, and Corporate Welfare

Brian McMahon, independent historian, St. Paul

The Corporate Attack and the Fight Back

Earl Silbar, adult educator and labor activist, Chicago

Look Who's Not Talking: Public Discourses about Labor, Unemployment, and Joblessness

Stephanie Martin, grad student, Univ of Cal – San Diego

CLASS ACTS: WHAT CULTURE DOES (OM 009)

The Dissertation of a Factory Worker

Paul Greider, Asst Prof, Sociology, St. Cloud State Univ

Hope for the Future: Human Nature and Working Class Culture

Susan Rosenthal, doctor, psychotherapist, and author

Class Straddlers in the U.S. Women's Liberation Movement

Christie Launius, Asst. Prof. English and Director, Women's Studies, Augusta State University

WORKING/POVERTY CLASS ACADEMICS: STRIVING TO SURVIVE IN THE
“KNOWLEDGE FACTORY”
A ROUNDTABLE BOOK DISCUSSION (OM 001)

Muzzati & Samarco, eds., *Reflections from the Wrong Side of the Tracks: Class, Identity and the Working Class Experience in Academe*

Tokarczyk & Fay, eds., *Working Class Women in the Academy: Laborers in the Knowledge Factory*

Dews & Law, eds., *This Fine Place So Far From Home: Voices of Academics from The Working Class*

Ryan and Sackrey, eds., *Strangers in Paradise: Academics from the Working Class*

Participants in the roundtable:

Caroline Rosen, Center for Teaching & Learning, Univ of Minnesota

Deb Wingert, Education Psychology, Univ of Minnesota and Univ of St. Thomas

Maureen Clark, grad student, Sociology, Univ of Minnesota

Colleen Myers, Center for Teaching & Learning, Univ of Minnesota

MID-20TH CENTURY LABOR ACTIVISM (JBD)

Doing What They Had to Do: Working Women in the Early Years of the Great Depression, 1930-1932

Annessa Ann Babic, grad student, State Univ of NY-Stony Brook

Oakland's Work Holiday: The 1946 General Strike

Gifford Hartman, independent scholar, San Francisco

Negotiated Paternalism Among Steel and Pottery Workers in Northern West Virginia, 1945-1965

Lou Martin, grad student, History, West Virginia Univ

LABOR HISTORY AND WORKING CLASS MEMORY (OM 002)

Historical Memory and the Homestead Strike of 1892

Joel Woller, Asst Prof, History, Carlow Univ, Pittsburgh

“When Hell Moves Close to Earth” : Centralia as Metaphor in Contemporary Poetry

Karen Weyant, Asst Prof, English, Jamestown Community College, NY

“Remembering Virden” : The Creation of Rank-and-File Unionism, 1898-1930

Rosemary Feurer, Assoc Prof, History, Northern Illinois Univ

*Rusting Factories, Gentrified Spaces: The Commodification of Working Class
Storyscapes*

Laura Hapke, author, SWEATSHOP: THE HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN IDEA? And
Professor, City University of New York

Sunday 11:30 am- 1:00 pm

CLOSING DISCUSSION: THE FUTURE OF WORKING CLASS CULTURE (JBD)