

SOCIETY FOR CRITICAL EXCHANGE

WINTER THEORY INSTITUTE

February 7-10, 2019

FOURTEEN DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS FROM THE U.S. AND EUROPE IN THREE DAYS OF ENGAGING DISCUSSION.

SOCIETY FOR CRITICAL EXCHANGE

About SCE The SOCIETY FOR CRITICAL EXCHANGE is North America's oldest scholarly organization devoted to theory. Our various interdisciplinary projects, conferences, and symposia serve to advance the role of theory in academic and intellectual arenas. Our projects encompass a broad spectrum of disciplines, most prominently literary and cultural studies, legal studies and practices, economics, philosophy, and pedagogy.

The 2019 Institute The Society for Critical Exchange (SCE), this year co-sponsored by the Department of English at Florida State University, and the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Houston-Victoria, is pleased to announce the topic of the tenth annual SCE Winter Theory Institute: *Control*.

At the present, control modulates conditions of permanent crisis, endless environmental degradation, and creative destruction making every aspect of society less habitable and more insufferable. From the increasing financialization of everyday life to the growing administration and automation of social processes, control has come to take on an expanding and expansive role in the contemporary world—one that is neither ontologized nor automated but rather engineered for polarization and the increasing transfer of wealth upwards. Still, whether the present cultural and political moment calls for a move beyond the conceits of Deleuze and other twentieth-century speculation on control is open for debate.

The following presenters will be addressing these issues and other topics of interest.

Frida Beckman

Frida Beckman is Professor of Comparative Literature at the Department of Aesthetics and Culture at Stockholm University, Sweden. Recent work includes the monograph *Culture Control Critique*, the critical biography *Gilles Deleuze*, and the edited collection *Control Culture*.

"Paranoia and Control"



Frida Beckman



Maria Cristina Iuli

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Maria Cristina Iuli is a professor of American Literature and American Studies at Università del Piemonte Orientale, Vercelli, Italy. She is author, among others, of *Effetti Teorici: critica culturale e nuova storiografia letteraria Americana*; *Giusto il tempo di esplodere: il romanzo pop di Nathanael West*; and *Spell it Modern: Modernity and the Question of Literature*.

Andrew Culp

Andrew Culp teaches Media Theory in the faculty of Aesthetics and Politics at the California Institute of the Arts. He is the author of the book *Dark Deleuze*, and his work has appeared in many venues including *Society and Space*, *Parallax*, *The Alienocene: Journal of the First Outernational*, and *Radical Philosophy*.

"Control after Cybernetics"



Andrew Culp



Aaron Jaffe

Aaron Jaffe

Aaron Jaffe is Frances Cushing Ervin Professor of American Literature at FSU. He has published extensively on modern and contemporary literature and cultural theory, including *Modernism and the Culture of Celebrity*, *The Way Things Go: An Essay on the Matter of Second Modernism*, and the forthcoming book *Spoiler Alert: A Critical Guide*.

"Remote Control"

Jeffrey R. Di Leo

Jeffrey R. Di Leo is Dean of Arts & Sciences and Professor of English and Philosophy at the University of Houston-Victoria. He is also Executive Director of SCE. His recent books include *Higher Education under Late Capitalism* and the *Bloomsbury Handbook of Literary and Cultural Theory*. His forthcoming book, *The End of American Literature*, will be out this spring.

"Sound Control"



Jeffrey R. Di Leo



Mark Jarzombek

Mark Jarzombek

Mark Jarzombek is Professor of the History and Theory of Architecture at MIT. He has published and lectured on a wide range of topics, both historical and theoretical. His most recent book is *The Digital Stockholm Syndrome in the Post-Ontological Age*.

"Algorithmic Volumification and the Ambivalence of Control"

Grant Farred

Grant Farred is the author, most recently, of a trio of works on sport and the event. These books are: *In Motion, At Rest: The Event of the Athletic Body*; *The Burden of Over-Representation: Sport, Race, and Philosophy*; and, *Entre Nous: Between the World Cup and Me*.

"Uncommon Sense: A Brief Treatise on Thinking"



Grant Farred



Frances McDonald

Frances McDonald

Frances McDonald is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Louisville. Her current book project proposes that laughter, as a messy burst of spit and sound that "cracks up" the individual, might be best understood as an affect. She is also the co-founder and editor of *thresholds*, a digital zine for creative-critical scholarship.

"Slow / Stutter / Stop: Experiments in Unlearning"

Stanley Gontarski

S. E. Gontarski is Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor at Florida State University. He has recently published: *Understanding Bergson*, *Understanding Modernism* and *Understanding Deleuze*, *Understanding Modernism*. His latest works include *Beckett's Happy Days: A Manuscript Study* and *Revisioning Beckett*.

"Cut-ups, Pick-ups and the 'Limits of Control': Burroughs to Deleuze"



Stanley Gontarski



Rita Raley

Rita Raley

Rita Raley teaches in the Department of English at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has published on subjects ranging from Global English and universal alphabets to tactical media, dataveillance, machine translation, and electronic literature.

"Algorithmic Control"

Robin Truth Goodman

Robin Truth Goodman is a Professor and Associate Chair of English at Florida State University. She is currently completing a monograph entitled *Promissory Notes: On the Literary Conditions of Debt* and editing two volumes for Bloomsbury: *The Bloomsbury Handbook of 21st Century Feminist Theory* and *Understanding Adorno, Understanding Modernism*.

"Mimesis Unto Death"



Robin Truth Goodman



Kenneth J. Saltman

Kenneth J. Saltman

Kenneth Saltman is a Professor at The University of Massachusetts. His most recent books include *The Swindle of Innovative Educational Finance*, *The Politics of Education, Second Edition*, and *Scripted Bodies*.

"Salvational Super-Agents and Conspiratorial Secret Agents: Conspiracy, Theory, and Fantasies of Control"

Jessica Hurley

Jessica Hurley is a Harper-Schmidt Fellow in the Society of Fellows and Collegiate Assistant Professor in the Humanities at the University of Chicago. She is completing a book titled *Infrastructures of Apocalypse: American Literature and the Nuclear Complex* and working on a second, *Nuclear Decolonizations*.

"Infrastructure Beyond Control: Clowning the Nuclear Age"



Jessica Hurley



Rebekah Sheldon

Rebekah Sheldon

Rebekah Sheldon is Assistant Professor of English at Indiana University and the author of *The Child to Come: Life After the Human Catastrophe*. She is currently at work on a new project about queer occultism.

"Again, the Future"

The Institute will take place from **Thursday, February 7 to Sunday, February 10** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Presentations will take place at Florida State University. Additional details regarding the Society for Critical Exchange or the upcoming Winter Theory Institute can be found at the Society for Critical Exchange's website (<http://societyforcriticalexchange.org/>) or by contacting **Executive Director Jeffrey R. Di Leo** (dileo@symploke.org).