

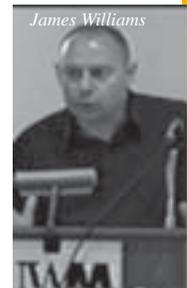
The Films of Anne-Marie Miéville: space, gender, identity



The Center's year began on September 13 with a one-day symposium on the work of filmmaker Anne-Marie Miéville, cosponsored by the UWM Program in Film Studies and organized by the program's coordinator, Vicki Callahan. Although long associated, both personally and professionally, with the pre-eminent *auteur* of the cinema, Jean-Luc Godard, Miéville is an important figure in experimental and documentary film and video in her own right. The conference, which followed a week of Milwaukee premiere screenings of

works by the filmmaker (including two pieces co-directed with Godard), addressed both the uniqueness of Miéville's style and issues of authorship raised by the ongoing collaboration between the two artists.

The symposium, the first event devoted to Miéville's career to be held in the U.S., featured a range of perspectives from international scholars and artists working in film studies, feminist theory, French, film production, and comparative literature. Elizabeth Cowie, James Williams, Catherine Grant (all from the University of Kent-Canterbury) and André Habib (University of Montreal) were the featured speakers, with responses by Laurent Véray (University of Nanterre), Peter Paik, Tami Williams, and Vicki Callahan (all from UWM's Program in Film Studies). Panel chairs Kelley Conway (Film Studies, UW-Madison) Jane Gallop (English, UWM), Cecilia Condit (Film, UWM Peck School of the Arts), and Gilberto Blasini (English/Film Studies) added to the diverse mix of perspectives.



The presentations and the discussions that followed focused particularly on questions of speech and performance and their use in Miéville's work to create a space of inquiry around the heterosexual couple, female desire, and the politics of the subject. Conference participants noted that this space is formally relayed throughout the Miéville films with a particularly rigorous and unusually striking visual style. The symposium's conversation on the politics and aesthetics of this unique filmmaker can be seen as an important first step in rethinking not only Anne-Marie Miéville's contributions to the cinema, but also the cinema (and to the question of authorship) of Jean-Luc Godard.



Over the past ten or fifteen years, the phrase *Across the Curriculum* has acquired some currency in the academy, in such permutations as *Writing across the Curriculum* or *Language across the Curriculum*. The phrase refers to a decentralization of the teaching of skills that a university may deem it particularly important for students to know. Typically, the effort takes the form of additional sections that assign material in original languages to courses on foreign cultures taught in English, or that offer intensive writing instruction in courses outside English departments. *Across the Curriculum* programs may thus entail a substantial redeployment of resources, but their payoffs, in terms of curricular linkages as well as in the skills taught, can also be considerable.

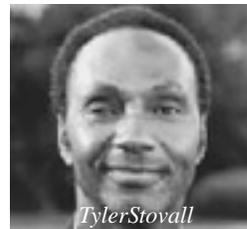
Growing out of a suggestion from my friend Jeffrey Merrick, chair of the history department and a former Center fellow, in the research working group last year, the Center's new curricular initiative has more modest aims, but it involves a similar attempt to look broadly across the curriculum. The initiative seeks to disseminate less a skill, for the various pedagogical units at UWM are already doing that very well, than a quality, what for lack of a better term one might call connectedness: the excitement of connecting cutting-edge research and pedagogy. One model for this effort exists in the form of English 820, a one-credit course offered every fall to students in the Modern Studies graduate program, with readings and discussion tied directly to the work of Center visitors. As the Center pursues interdisciplinary research with broad resonance across the humanities and social sciences, we wanted to think about other kinds of possible links with instruction. So, last winter, we held meetings with chairs and representatives of over a dozen departments and programs, gathering suggestions from them of people they might like to see on campus whose work engages with the broad theme *Geographies of Difference*. As we worked on the schedule of the Center's public events, we stayed in touch with department liaisons about possible avenues of collaboration.

In this area, of course, logistics are all. Arranging a visit to coincide with the semester in which a relevant course is offered is not always possible, and meshing days and times can be even more of a challenge. But the curricular initiative contains within it a host of possibilities, from the listing of Center events on course syllabi to joint sponsorship of speakers with department or program colloquium series to informal meetings of visiting speakers with interested students and faculty. Already, faculty in several different departments have asked for information about including students in their courses in the Center's fall conference, and we hope to arrange several *Class Visits* in the second semester. We will also be soliciting feedback from department chairs and liaisons over the course of the year. I'm impatient by nature, but this seems to me like a very promising start.

– Daniel Sherman

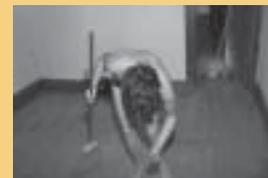
The Center's exploration of the research theme "Geographies of Difference" began September 19 with a well-attended lecture by Tyler Stovall cosponsored by the UWM Department of History and the Center for European Studies at UW-Madison. Stovall, professor of history at UC-Berkeley, presented material from his new research project on black migration from the French Caribbean to France from 1848 to 1945. Stovall's research seeks among other things to test Frantz Fanon's argument in *Black Skins, White Masks* that Antilleans identified with whites while in the Antilles but were forced to confront their blackness when they arrived in France. Following the definitive abolition of slavery in France in 1848, Stovall noted, the black residents of Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Guyane were at once French citizens and colonial subjects; they tended to associate metropolitan France with "liberty" and the Antilles, dominated by a light-skinned elite and a harsh plantation economy, with oppression. Thus, for the students, soldiers, and entertainers who were able to leave the islands, only the journey to the metropole—always imagined in symbolic contrast to the "middle passage" that had brought their enslaved ancestors from Africa to the Caribbean—could make them full citizens.

Although living in Paris did accentuate their sense of difference, Stovall argues that many black Antilleans experienced it as a significant advance on their former lives, as they forged a complex new set of identities, at once black, French, and Caribbean.



New Book by Jane Gallop and Former Fellow Dick Blau

Living with His Camera (Duke University Press, March 2003) is Gallop's nuanced meditation on photography and the place it has in her private life and in her family. A reflection on family, it attempts—like the photographs of UWM Professor of Film Dick Blau, with whom Gallop has been living for twenty years—to portray the realities of family life beyond the pieties of conventional representations. *Living with His Camera* is about some of the most pressing issues of visibility and some of the most basic issues of daily life. Gallop considers intimate photographs of moments both



dramatic and routine: of herself giving birth to son Max or crying in the midst of an argument with Blau, pouring herself cereal as Max colors at the breakfast table, or naked, sweeping the floor. Presenting his photographs and her text, *Living with His Camera* is a portrait of a couple whose professional activity is part of their private lives and whose private life is viewed through their professional gazes.

Center Fellows for 2003-2004



Sukanya Banerjee is assistant professor in the Department of English. Her current, book-length project is entitled, “Imperial Diasporas and the Politics of Nation-Space: Colonial Identities and Metropolitan Englishness (1855-1935).” It examines the negotiations between late-nineteenth

and early twentieth century India and England through the vectors of diaspora and citizenship. Her research and teaching interests include Postcolonial Studies, Victorian Literature and Culture, Women’s Studies, and Studies of Transnationalism and Diaspora. Her essay, “Lady Mary Montagu at the Edges of Europe: ‘I am now got in a New World’” is forthcoming this fall in *Gender, Genre, and Identity in Women’s Travel Writing* ed., Kristi Siegel.

Mark Bradley is associate professor of history. He is the author of *Imagining Vietnam and America: The Making of Postcolonial Vietnam* (2000), which won the Harry J. Benda Prize from the Association for Asian Studies, and is co-editor of *Truth Claims: Representation and Human Rights* (2001). A specialist in international and Southeast Asian history, his research has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Fulbright-Hays. At the Center, he is working on a new project that aims to recover the history of the contested and contingent meanings of the global human rights revolution in the twentieth century.



Kristin E. Espinosa is assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, and a member of the Urban Studies faculty. Her primary research interest has been Mexican migration to the United States, especially migrant social networks, assimilation, and child/maternal health. Other research interests include gender, family, social demography, and survey research methods. Her project at the Center, entitled “Bridges Across Distance: Mexico-U.S. Migrants’ Communication with Home,” focuses on transnational communication as facilitated by the internet and the web. Her Center fellowship is the first to be co-sponsored by the UW System Institute on Race and Ethnicity.

Judith Kenny is associate professor in the Geography Department and a member of the Urban Studies faculty. Her research examines the cultural, economic and political transformation of cities, with particular attention to issues of ethnicity, race and neighborhood change and to the influences of western planning theory on the urban environment. Currently completing *Urban Geography Reader* (with Nicholas Fyfe; forthcoming), her earlier publications appeared in journals such as *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* and *Perspectives on Vernacular Architecture*. At the Center, she will focus on the construction of Milwaukee’s earliest public housing developments and the recent renovation of those sites as a means of examining both popular and specialist discourses relating community, housing and the social contract.



Andrew Kincaid is assistant professor in the English Department. He teaches modern literature and literary theory. His research explores the relationship between urbanism and modernism. His current project is a book on the ways that the ideologies of nationalism and colonialism have affected the physical space of Dublin. He has published in the *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies* (Spring, 2000), *Religion, Education and the Arts* (2003), and *Everything Irish*, an Encyclopedia of Irish history (2003).



Aims McGuinness is assistant professor in the History Department. His research explores linkages between the Atlantic World and the Pacific in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Currently he is completing a book on the California Gold Rush as an event in the history of Latin America, with a focus on Panama. His publications include *Societies After Slavery* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2001), coedited with Rebecca J. Scott, Thomas C. Holt and Frederick Cooper. Aims recently completed a semester-long fellowship at the Huntington Library in San Marino, CA. He is also an avid bagpiper whose performances include opening for the Irish rock group “U2.”

Steven McKay is assistant professor of Sociology/Cultures and Communities and a member of the Urban Studies faculty. His research explores the intersection of global economic restructuring and local labor markets. He is the author of the forthcoming book, *Satanic Mills or Silicon Islands? The Politics of High Tech Production in the Philippines* and his work will appear in an upcoming issue of *Politics and Society*. Steven’s current project, entitled “Suspended Migrants: The Making of Filipino Seafarers” examines the global shipping industry, state-sponsored projects of long distance nationalism, and identity construction among diasporic communities.



Lisa Moline is assistant professor in the Visual Art Department. She has been working collaboratively with artist Lane Hall for the past 12 years. Their work focuses on the non-sentimental depiction of nature—primarily animals—and seeks to explore the boundaries between the natural and the technological. Recent projects involve large-scale digital output that challenge architectural spaces. Moline’s and Hall’s website, badscience.org, currently highlights the *Luminario* project created for the St. Louis Art Fair and Arts in Transit program. Lisa’s project at the Center is entitled “Taxonomies of Difference.”

To close its 2002-03 consideration of war, on May 2 the Center returned to the topics with which we began the year, war and media, and more specifically the world after 9/11. To address this topic, we were fortunate to have with us two distinguished critics, Susan Lurie (English, Rice University) and Susan Jeffords (English, University of Washington). Lurie's talk examined certain troubling images from the 9/11 attacks, notably photographs depicting people jumping from the World Trade Center towers, and traced their reception in, and disappearance from, the media. The formation of a photographic archive of 9/11, Lurie argued, formed part of a larger attempt to construct a position of safe spectatorship for Americans in the aftermath of 9/11, in which the national vulnerability that became so apparent during the terrorist attacks could be returned to the level of the individual bodies the attacks affected directly. Jeffords, known for her work on media coverage of the 1990-91



Gulf War, discussed the ways in which 9/11 provided a new target and focus for pre-existing anxieties about globalization in the United States, notably among white males. She called particular attention to the ways responses to 9/11 recast spatial relations: the crackdown on immigrants, the creation of security perimeters, the sense of global danger attached to local structures. And Jeffords noted that popular narratives about terrorism, in both fiction and film, tend to personalize it and thus reinforce prevailing assumptions about masculinity.

Sherry Ahrentzen (Architecture, Fellow 1994-95) received both UWM's Fromkin Lecture and Grant award and a Graham Foundation grant for her ongoing work entitled "The City Upon the Hill.... on the Dale and in the Belt: From the Greenbelt Towns Program, Lessons for Today's Community Builders."

Paul Brodwin (Anthropology, Fellow 1992-93, 1996-97) served as co-principal investigator of a two-year grant from the National Institute of Health entitled "Ethnicity, Race, Citizenship: Identity After the Human Genome Project." He has published "Identity and genetic ancestry tracing" in *British Medical Journal*, Vol. 325, December 2002.

Joan Dobkin (Visual Art, Fellow 2002-03) exhibited her new installation *Giant Puppy (Distractions)* at Inova.



Detail of
Joan Dobkin's
Installation,
"Giant Puppy"

John Koethe (Philosophy, Fellow 1979-80, 1993-1994). His most recent book, *North point North: new and selected poems* (HarperCollins, 2002) was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize.

Amanda Seligman (History, Fellow 2001-02) published "What is the Second Ghetto?" special 20th anniversary review of Arnold R. Hirsch, *Making the Second Ghetto: Race & Housing in Chicago, 1940-1960* (1983), in *The Journal of Urban History* (March 2003), pp. 272-280.

Center Calendar, Second Half Fall 2003

Friday, October 24. **The Body in Conversion: Ethnographic Film, Margaret Mead, and 1930s Bali.** A lecture by Fatimah Rony (University of California-Irvine). 3:30 pm; Curtin Hall 118.

Friday, November 7. **Embodied Theologies: Christian Identity and Violence in Alexandria in the Early Arian Controversy.** A presentation by 2002-03 Fellow Carlos Galvao-Sobrinho. 2-4 pm; Curtin Hall 939. (*Part of the Ancient Mediterranean Studies Research Workshop meetings for Fall 2003.*)

Friday, November 14 and Saturday, November 15. **Museums & Difference: an international conference.** Co-sponsored with the Milwaukee Art Museum; UWM's Department of Visual Art, the Master of Liberal Studies Program; with additional support from the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, Chicago. Starts Friday, November 14; Milwaukee Art Museum. For details see the Center website at: www.21st.uwm.edu.

(Calendar continued)

Friday, November 21. **Women Write about War: The Military Metaphor in Breast Cancer Pathographies.** A presentation by 2002-2003 Fellow Helena Pycior. 1:30 pm; Holton Hall 341. (*Part of the Department of History Colloquium series.*)

Friday, December 5. **Terror and Post-History: A Tale of Two Nihilisms.** A presentation by 2002-2003 Fellow Peter Paik. 3 pm; Curtin Hall 939. (*Part of the MAFLC Colloquium series.*)



Research Workshop Update

New: Ancient Mediterranean Studies/Classical Tradition Starts its first full semester in Fall 2003 with a paper by recent Center fellow Carlos Galvao-Sobrinho entitled "Embodied Theologies: Christian Identity and Violence in Alexandria in the Early Arian Controversy." November 7, 2-4 pm, Curtin 939.

Cognitive Studies Meets every Friday in Curtin 866, 2:30-3:30. This semester, discussions center on Simon Kirby's *Function, Selection and Innateness*.

Early Modern Group The group will have its first meeting on October 24, noon-1:30 pm, Curtin 939, with a paper by Mark Netzloff, "The English Roman Life: Representing the English Catholic Diaspora in Early Modern Europe." In addition, the group is planning to host invited speakers.

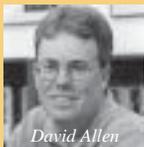
Ethics across the Disciplines Theme for 2003-04: the ethics of belonging/exclusion. Launched its fall meetings on October 3 with a discussion of writings by Emmanuel Levinas on ethics.

New: Feminist Theory The Feminist Theory Research Workshop aims to bring together feminist scholars from across disciplines to read and discuss recent works in feminist theory, and to cultivate members' research programs as these relate to feminist theory. At present, the group includes members from the departments of English, Journalism and Mass Communication, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology, and Women's Studies. The group welcomes participants from other departments and disciplines. Meetings for Fall 2003: October 14, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Readings: "Introduction: On the Use and Abuse of Culture" and "Multiculturalism and Gendered Citizenship" from Seyla Benhabib, *Claims of Culture* (Princeton, 2002). November 11, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Readings: To be determined. Both meetings in Curtin 939.

For extensive and constantly updated information on these and other Research Workshops see the Center website at: www.21st.uwm.edu.

Advisory Committee Changes

David Allen (Journalism and Mass Communication), Margaret Atherton (Philosophy) and Anthony Lemelle (Africology) are new members of the Center's Advisory Committee this fall. They join returning members Sherry Ahrentzen (Architecture), Anita Alkhas (French, Italian & Comparative Literature), Margo Anderson (History), Paul Brodwin (Anthropology), Vicki Callahan (English), Jane Gallop (English), Thomas Malaby (Anthropology), Terry Nardin (Political Science), Leslie Vansen (Visual Art), Ying Wang (Art History). Terry Nardin will chair the committee this year.



David Allen

Contributors to the Center

We are very grateful to the following supporters of the Center in 2002-2003:

Professor David Allen*	Professors Deborah and Philip Nord
Professor Leslie Bellavance*	Professor Peter Paik*
Professor George Clark*	Professor Helena Pycior*
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Professor Susan Lurie	
Professor Robin Pickering-Iazzi*	
Professors Terry* and Jane Nardin	

*Former Center Fellow

New Brochure

Most readers should find a copy of the Center's updated brochure, our first in full color, enclosed with this issue. Please share with friends and colleagues who might be interested in Center programs, and let us know if you need more copies.

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