

Trans Studies Events at CGF | Fall 2019

Centre for Gender Studies, Karlstad University, Sweden



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August 30, 2019 | Public talk | Könspolitiska afton

Time and place: 18:00 – 20:00; Värmlands Museum, Karlstad

Del LaGrace Volcano

LOVE, LUST & LEGACY: 40 YEARS OF TRANS, INTER AND QUEER ART ACTIVISM

The art presentation by US-born and Sweden-based artist Del LaGrace Volcano is the result of four decades of creating images with people who exist outside the bi-polar binaries of sex and gender. Volcano discusses their work – images that are not only documents of a 'queer time and place' but also iconic testaments to the love, lust, and burning desire to defy the forces that seek to destroy, disrespect and deactivate us. A rare chance to experience a visceral first-person account of what happens when LGBTQI+ theory is put into glorious technicolor practice.

Del LaGrace Volcano is considered to be one of instigators of queer LGBTQI+ culture. A formally trained photographer Volcano's work includes photography, installation, spoken word, performance and film created with the intention to interrogate the performance and lived practice of gender and the sexed body from a multiplicity of positions. Volcano earned

an MA in Photographic Studies at University of Derby, UK in 1992 after studying photography at the San Francisco Art Institute from 1979-81. Assigned and raised female from birth Volcano discovered they were intersex at the age of 37. Since 1995 Volcano has identified as both female and male, intersex and non-binary/gender-queer. Volcano has published 5 photographic monographs on the queer subcultures they have inhabited over the course of five decades. Volcano's latest incarnation as a MaPa for two young children in middle Sweden includes being a parent for social justice and actively participating in projects and collaborations with filmmakers, photojournalists, researchers and artists in order to demonstrate the what being raised with a queer, feminist, anti-racist perspective looks and feels like. They offer a template for what life could and should be like for all gender non-conforming children and queer families.

The event is in English and for free. It is co-arranged Värmland Pride and CGF – Centrum för genusforskning/Centre for Gender Studies, Karlstads universitet.

September 25, 2019 | Higher Seminar

Time: 15.15 – 16.45; Place: tba

Sara Bondesson (Department of Security, Strategy and Leadership, Swedish Defence University, Stockholm)

GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING AND ACTIVISM TO COUNTER DISASTER INEQUALITY: ETHNOGRAPHIC EXPLORATIONS OF OCCUPY SANDY'S WORK AFTER HURRICANE SANDY IN NEW YORK 2012

In this seminar Sara Bondesson will discuss mechanisms to handle inequality between participants in claimed participatory spaces. Through ethnographic studies of the Occupy Sandy network after Hurricane Sandy in New York City, it shows that although activists worked with socio-economically marginalized communities aiming to empower them, the mechanisms put in place to counteract inequality brought about three problems of differentiation. Firstly, there were issues of situated marginalization in relation to who were affected by the storm. This cut across the explicitly acknowledged identity markers of race, gender and class that the activist worked to counter. Secondly, since it was a small group, variation in individual agency affected influence and power in the group that also complicated the structural analysis that activists worked with. Lastly, participants spanned a number of intersectional subject positions which made the mechanisms put in place to counteract gender, class and race-based power differences more complicated.

Sara Bondesson, PhD, is Assistant Professor at the Swedish Defence University, Stockholm, and also affiliated with the Department of Government, Uppsala University and Center for Natural Hazards and Disaster Science (CNDS). She specializes in disaster management, disaster risk reduction, gender issues, political participation, grass-root organizing and voluntarism, empowerment and social vulnerability. Current research includes work on disaster risk reduction, humanitarian relief and gender studies.

This seminar is co-arranged by the Centre for Climate and Safety (KAU) and Centre for Gender Studies (KAU).

November 4 – 5, 2019 | International Conference

DEATH MATTERS, QUEER(ING) MOURNING, ATTUNING TO TRANSITIONINGS. THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL QUEER DEATH STUDIES CONFERENCE

The First International Queer Death Studies Conference: "Death Matters, Queer(ing) Mourning, Attuning to Transitionings" aims to create an arena for critical discussion of death, dying and mourning that goes beyond the dual approach to death – human death in particular – that is common within Western cultural frameworks of Christian tradition or secular biomedical perspectives. As such, the conference invites scholars who work with death, dying, mourning and afterlife in a diverse, novellous, and explorative forms. More information regarding programme and keynote speakers can be found [here](#).

Starting time: 9.00 – 16.00; Centre for Gender Studies, Karlstad University, Sweden

November 20, 2019 | Higher Seminar

Time: 15:15 – 16.45; Place: tba

Z Nicolazzo (Center for the Study of Higher Education, University of Arizona, USA)

FEELING THROUGH TRANSPHOBIA: IMAGINING AN EDUCATIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY OF AFFECT

While previous research exposes the insidious nature of gender binary discourses in education, little work to date has explored the affective roots of these discourses. In other words, research has explored that the discourses exist, and what effects they have on trans and gender non-conforming students; however, there has not been substantive exploration of the affective roots from which these discourses grow. In this talk, Dr. Nicolazzo explores the possibilities of imagining an ethnography of affect to excavate how “regimes of expressivity” undergird restrictive notions of gender, as well as the discourses of racism, settler colonization, and compulsory able-bodiedness that affix themselves to notions of binary gender.

Z Nicolazzo, PhD, is Assistant Professor in Education with a focus on Trans* Studies. They work at the Center for the Study of Higher Education, Department of Educational Policy Studies and Practice, University of Arizona. They are the Co-Chair of the Transgender Studies Research Cluster. Their PhD thesis is published under the title *Trans* in College: Transgender Students' Strategies for Navigating Campus Life and the Institutional Politics of Inclusion*, Stylus Publishing. Among others, they have published work in the *Journal of LGBT Youth*, *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*, *Journal of Critical Scholarship on Higher Education and Student Affairs*, *Journal of College and University Student Housing*, and *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*. They recently published the special issue of the *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education* titled, "What's Transgressive About Trans* Studies in Education Now?"

November 27, 2019 | Higher Seminar

Time: 15.15 – 17.00; Place: tba

**Ida Linander (Department of Epidemiology and Global Health, Umeå University, Sweden)
NAVIGATING ACCESS TO TRANS-SPECIFIC HEALTHCARE AND A THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

The seminar will depart from Ida's thesis *"It was like I had to fit into a category": People with trans experiences navigating access to trans-specific healthcare and health*. Ida will in the first part focus on the journey to a theoretical framework in relation to ethics, including discovering trans studies, what it means to study experiences and how to combine Ahmed's queer phenomenology with a Foucauldian analysis of governing. The second part will focus on discussing the results with special focus on the participants experiences of navigating access to gender-confirming medical procedures and different underpinning rationalities that steer the governing of the trans-specific healthcare.

Ida Linander, PhD, is a research fellow at the Department of Epidemiology and Global Health and at Umeå Centre for Gender Research, Umeå University. Ida's thesis in public health concerned experiences of trans-specific healthcare and health among trans people living in Sweden. Currently conducts research about the threats to the LGBTQ-movement from right-wing extremists, sexual consent, and women's experiences of living with HIV. Teaches in qualitative methods, LGBTQ issues and gender theory at medical school, the master's program in public health and in gender studies.

January 15, 2020 | Higher Seminar

Time: 15:15 – 16.45; Place: tba

**Jan Wickman (Swedish School of Social Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland)
TRANS* IN SCANDINAVIAN QUEER ACTIVISM OF THE 00S**

More information coming soon!

January 29, 2020 | Higher Seminar Online

Time and place: 15.30 – 17.00 Online seminar on Zoom.us (pls register with olga.nadeina@kau.se)

Olga Plakhotnik (Open University, UK)

THE TEMPTATION OF CITIZENSHIP: SEXUAL POLITICS AND LGBT-ACTIVISM IN POST-MAIDAN UKRAINE

This seminar is based on my recently accomplished doctoral research project that explores the discourses of sexual citizenship in post-Maidan Ukraine by asking how LGBT+ communities seek to position themselves in relation to hegemonic discourses of state and nationhood. In my study, I reconceptualised the 'sexual citizenship' concept (Evans, 1993) by drawing on a feminist (Lister, 2002) and a poststructuralist (Cossman, 2002) account of citizenship and pursuing a decentering approach to the study of sexualities in non-Western

societies (Mizielińska & Kulpa, 2011). In my presentation, I summarise the findings of my study and develop further queer feminist theorising on citizenship in the Eastern European context.

Olga Plakhotnik is currently Research Fellow at the Open University (UK) and editor-in-chief of *Feminist Critique: East European Journal of Feminist and Queer Studies* (Ukraine).

For more updates on our programme:

<https://www.facebook.com/CGFKarlstad/>