

BROWN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH PRESENTS



# *New Vistas in African American Literary and Cultural Studies*

THIS LECTURE SERIES SHOWCASES NEW WORK FROM LEADING YOUNG SCHOLARS IN AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERARY AND CULTURAL STUDIES. UNDERSCORING BOTH THE STRENGTH AND DIVERSITY OF THE FIELD, THESE LECTURES RANGE FROM THEORETICALLY INFORMED ACCOUNTS OF BLACK SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EXPLORATION OF THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN BLACKFACE MINSTRELSY AND MACHINE CULTURE. THESE WIDE-RANGING TALKS WILL THUS PRODUCTIVELY APPRISE THE BROWN COMMUNITY OF MAIN CURRENTS, DEBATES, AND THEORETICAL CONSIDERATIONS SHAPING AFRICAN AMERICAN CRITICISM AND CULTURE.

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All lectures will be held in the Department of English  
Barker Presentation Room 315  
70 Brown Street

Reception following each lecture

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Series Organizer: Professor Rolland Murray  
<http://www.brown.edu/english/news>

**Professor Mark Thompson, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

“THE CRITIQUE OF NONVIOLENCE: WALTER BENJAMIN,  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AND SOVEREIGNTY”

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2008

4:00 PM

**Professor Cherene Sherrard-Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

“‘THEY LOST US THE BEACH’: DOROTHY WEST  
AND THE GEOGRAPHY OF CLASS”

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008

4:00 PM

**Professor Kevin Bell, The University at Albany, State University of New York**

“NON-COGNITIVE ASPECTS OF THE CITY:  
IMAGE AS REND IN ‘STILL/HERE’”

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2008

4:00 PM

**Professor Louis Chude-Sokei, University of California, Santa Cruz**

“THE UNCANNY HISTORY OF MINSTRELS AND MACHINES: 1835-1901”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2008

4:00 PM

This series is made possible by a generous gift from Robert R. and Susan Clark Levine '73.