

CSREA

CENTER *for the* STUDY
of RACE + ETHNICITY *in* AMERICA



ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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About CSREA

The Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) supports and generates rigorous and accessible research, performance, art and scholarship in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences on a broad range of issues pertaining to race and ethnicity in America.

We aim to

- build** community among scholars and students working on race and ethnicity
- develop** new and enhance existing research networks
- foster** generative public conversations on pivotal issues
- enhance** public knowledge about racial and ethnic discrimination
- contribute** to national and community efforts to create a more just society

From the Director

At the heart of the possibility for creating a just world lies the quality and depth of our understanding about the histories and present day formations of race, ethnicity and indigenous communities.

In my first year as Director, I am delighted to report that we had an inspired year at the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University. Late last summer we moved into our new, short-term offices on the third floor of Brown RISD Hillel. From this perch, we launched a wide range of scholarly programs and public events, many on topics at the core of our mission as a University steward for issues on race and ethnicity in America. For example, a number of our events this past year provided the campus and broader community with opportunities to purposefully engage with the devastating multi-faceted impact of the prison industrial complex and current immigration policies. We explored them via scholarly, activist and artistic perspectives. Our new CSREA Research Grants program sponsored faculty-led research on many fascinating topics from race and educational inequality, and race in the global Asias to Latino/a urban arts as social activism. The staff at CSREA are delighted that so many faculty, administrators, students, staff and community members supported, participated in and attended our programming. Thank You.



In this historical moment, the United States finds itself caught between the widespread narrative that we live in a society no longer structured by racial and ethnic discrimination and the rather extraordinary conditions across nearly every aspect of society that demonstrate a very different reality. One of the challenges for CSREA is to help close this gap in ways that are creative, rigorous, and compassionate. To that end we aim to bring scholars, students, artists and the community to the table to help create a just society while refusing to soft-peddle the work we have in front of us.

CSREA looks forward to continuing our work as a publicly accessible research-based, creative, collaborative space where tackling the issues of race and ethnicity is at the heart of the conversation.

Tricia Rose
Director, Center for the Study of Race + Ethnicity in America (CSREA)
Professor of Africana Studies



LECTURES, CONFERENCES + SYMPOSIA



Where Do We Go From Here?: After Trayvon

September 17, 2013

Professors, students, and leaders of nonprofit organizations convened for a discussion focused on the various issues that arose from the death of Trayvon Martin and the controversial policies that surrounded the case.

Samuel Cruz, Professor and pastor at the Union Theological Seminary in New York City; *Dakotah Rice '16*; *Rashad Robinson*, Executive Director of ColorOfChange; *Tricia Rose*; and *Stanley Stewart '16*.

Stop and Frisk Teach In

October 31, 2013

In the wake of the cancellation of Ray Kelly's lecture at Brown, five faculty members addressed the history and social context of race's role in shaping law enforcement policies, including the controversial "stop-and-frisk" policing practice.

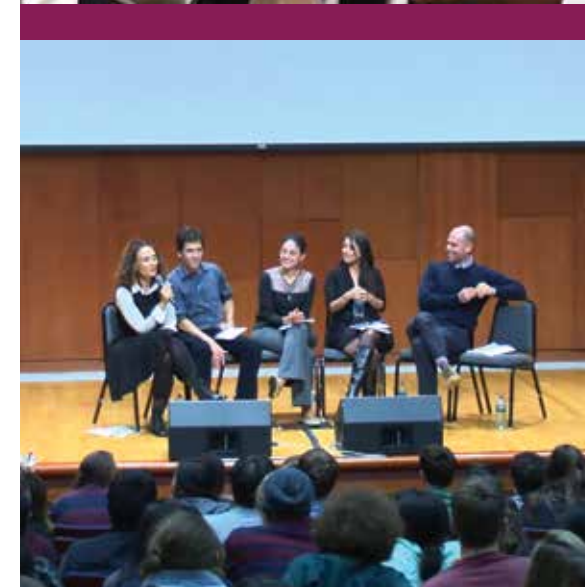
Stefano Bloch, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban Studies Program and Cogut Center for the Humanities; *Nancy Khalek*, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; *Linda Quiquívix*, Postdoctoral Fellow in Critical Global Humanities; *Tricia Rose*; and *R. Tyson Smith*, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology.

Bumping into History: Inman Page and Ralph Ellison

November 1, 2013

In a conversation about Brown's earliest African-American students and their legacy, Ted Widmer recalled the history of Brown's first African-American alumnus, Inman Page (class of 1877). Following his escape from slavery and his years at Brown, Page led a remarkable career as an educator and in the 1930s, near the end of his life, profoundly influenced a teenage boy who grew up to become the great novelist Ralph Ellison.

Ted Widmer, Assistant to the President of Special Projects and *Tricia Rose*.





Seeing With My “Two I’s”: Conference on Immigration and Incarceration, November 8-9, 2013

This two-day exploratory seminar on the law, social movements, and criminalization of race and ethnicity brought together scholars, theorists, advocates, artists and activists from across the country to examine the dynamic relationship between the “two I’s” of immigration and incarceration and discuss how that relationship works in complex ways to criminalize and/or ostracize people living in predominantly Latino, black, and poor white communities.

Supported by the Ford Foundation and co-chaired by **Lani Guinier**, Bennett Boskey Professor of Law at Harvard Law School; **Gerald Torres**, Marc and Beth Goldberg Distinguished Professor of Law at Cornell University; and **Tricia Rose**.

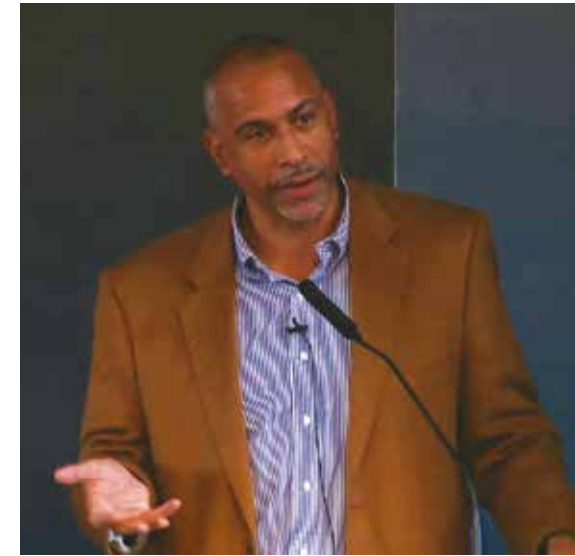


Martin Luther King, Jr. in Berlin

In collaboration with the Cogut Center for the Humanities
January 31, 2014

This roundtable discussion focused on Martin Luther King, Jr.’s significant but under-examined 1964 visits to East and West Berlin. To immense crowds on both sides of the Berlin wall, King spoke urgently about divided societies in the U.S. and Berlin, and the importance of emphasizing a “common humanity” worldwide.

Taylor Branch, author of “*The King Years: Historic Moments in the Civil Rights Movement*”; **Tricia Rose**; **Michael Steinberg**, Director, Cogut Center for the Humanities; and **Andre Willis**, Visiting Professor of Religious Studies.



Education and Civil Rights in the Twenty-First Century

March 18, 2014
A CSREA Group Research Grant Event

Pedro Noguera analyzed the current education reform agenda being promoted by states, the federal government and various advocacy groups and explored why issues pertaining to racial segregation and racial inequality are no longer considered central to school change initiatives.

Pedro Noguera, Professor of Education at NYU, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Center for Urban Education, and co-Director of the Institute for the Study of Globalization and Education in Metropolitan Settings.

“What was most rewarding about the revitalized Center was its role in constituting entirely new intellectual communities, in fostering exactly the sorts of connections and cross-pollinations that we always wish for in centers and institutes. I didn’t just get to share my work, or watch other people share their own. I emerged from the year with a new place - and a new set of people - with whom to work, and with new ideas about what, exactly, to do.”

Matthew Guterl
Chair of the Department of American Studies, Professor of American Studies,
and CSREA Governing Board Member

**The Danger of the Single Story:
African Americans and Anti-Colonial Struggle**

March 20, 2014

Carol Anderson encouraged a re-examination of the roles of African American liberals and radicals in the anti-colonial liberation struggle during the Cold War, and argued that the lens through which we look at this history is too narrow; although the story many historians tell about this period is simple, powerful, and convincing, it’s just not true.

Carol Anderson, Associate Professor of African American Studies and History, Emory University.





Listening in Detail: Performances of Cuban Music

April 18, 2014

Reflecting on her own research of Cuban music and performance, Alexandra Vasquez offered ways to think about what musical details, and all their unassimilatable qualities, make possible for scholarly projects.

Alexandra T. Vazquez, Assistant Professor in the Center for African American Studies and English, Princeton.

The Third Rail Series

The Third Rail Series aims to address some of the most thorny and contentious social, political and cultural issues related to race and ethnicity in contemporary society.

Charged yet pivotal subjects such as affirmative action, welfare, immigration amnesty, reconciliation over slavery and Native American sovereignty, genocide, structural racism, colorblindness, cultural/racial/ethnic stereotype, mass media imagery and everyday racism will be addressed by respected scholars on the subject. Their accessible public presentations will be designed to inform and move public discussion forward.

third rail n.

1. The rail that supplies the high voltage to power a train on an electric railway.
2. A subject that tends to be avoided because of its controversial nature.



Race and Place in the City: Turning Segregation into Congregation, April 3, 2014

Relations between races in U.S. society are also relations between places. People's racial identities play a major role in determining access to amenities, well funded schools, and nearby employment opportunities. Yet precisely because communities of color cannot control the exchange value of their neighborhoods, they become deeply invested in their use value. This panel discussion, led by Professor George Lipsitz, featured reports from scholar-activists on equity-oriented collaborative community projects that privilege public resources over private opportunities.

George Lipsitz, Professor of Black Studies and Sociology, UC Santa Barbara; Jordan Camp, Assistant Professor of Sociology, UMass Lowell; Micaela Diaz-Sanchez, Assistant Professor of Latina/o Studies, Mount Holyoke College; Ryan Dennis, Public Art Director, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX; and Wilson Valentin-Escobar, Associate Professor of American Studies and Sociology, Hampshire College.

Decorating Our Way to Other Worlds: Why Race and Space Matter Now

April 3, 2014

In CSREA's inaugural Third Rail Series Lecture George Lipsitz described how, in the wake of imposed austerity and state organized abandonment of communities of color, urban activists and artists are building capacity for popular democracy through site-specific interventions and art-based community making.

George Lipsitz, Professor of Black Studies and Sociology at UC Santa Barbara, and author of many important books on race, racism, culture and U.S. history.



"Participating in a CSREA event is one of the most rewarding experiences one can have at Brown. Given the diversity in terms of topics presented and perspectives articulated you are sure to be reminded of what beckoned you to academia in the first place: a desire for intellectual rigor, a commitment to interdisciplinarity, and an urgent call to work toward everyday progressive change. CSREA lives up to the worthy promise Brown makes to its community by being as inclusive in its programming as it is cutting edge in its delivery."

Stefano Bloch
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban Studies Program and Cogut Center for the Humanities

Race in the Global Asias: A Symposium

May 3, 2014

A CSREA Group Research Grant Event

This symposium brought together four prominent scholars to speculate on what it means to talk about race across different disciplines in Asian and Asian American Studies, configured as the Asias, and to lay the foundation for future conversations in history, ethnic studies, performance studies, and social movements.

Karen Shimakawa, Associate Professor of Performance Studies, NYU; *Jodi Kim*, Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies, UC Riverside; *Chie Ikeya*, Associate Professor of History, Rutgers; *Judy Wu*, Professor of History, Ohio State.



Tapping into Your Creative Well: Using Joy as Your Career Guide

May 23, 2014

In this graduation weekend workshop led by Brown alum, award winning actress and performance artist Tracee Ellis Ross students tapped into their artistic spirits through fun and powerful exercises, and learned ways to empower themselves personally and professionally by embracing joy and creative energy.



Commencement Forum with Tracee Ellis Ross '94: Creative Opportunities for Women of Color in Entertainment

May 24, 2014

In this conversation with Tricia Rose, Tracee Ellis Ross shared stories about her years on the hit TV series "Girlfriends" and discussed race, her body, her career, and how she responds to images and expectations of women of color in entertainment.

Tracee Ellis Ross '94, Brown alum, actress, performance artist and motivational speaker.



What I Am Thinking About Now

A core component of CSREA is supporting faculty and advanced students in the development of cutting edge, collaborative intellectual work. *What I Am Thinking About Now* is an on-going informal workshop/seminar series to which faculty and graduate students are invited to present and discuss recently published work and work in progress.

The Other Harem: Photographing Brown Boys

Professor Eng-Beng Lim, TAPS

October 8, 2013

Stepping Back from the Colonizer's Table: American Indian Food Sovereignty Movements

Professor Elizabeth Hoover, American Studies

October 23, 2013

The Superficial Morality of Colorblindness: Comparing the U.S. and South Africa

Professor Glenn Loury, Economics and Patricia Agupusi, Visiting Fellow in International Relations

October 28, 2013

Josephine Baker and the Radical Imagination

Professor Matthew Guterl, American Studies

November 5, 2013

Postcards from the Land of Magic Plants: Psychedelic Tourism and Indigenous Commodities

Professor Paja Faudree, Anthropology

February 11, 2014

Quilombola Ideas

Professor Geri Augusto, Africana Studies

February 25, 2014

Latin@s in the U.S. Racialized Class Structure

Professor Jose Itzigsohn, Sociology

March 4, 2014

Slaveboy and Author: Bishop Ajayi Crowther

Professor Olakunle George, English

March 19, 2014





Exhibit: CultureStr/ke
September 25, 2013 - February 25, 2014

From the criminalization of migrants through deportation to the undocumented and queer intersectionality, this multi-artist exhibit explored and reflected on different aspects of the immigrant experience. CultureStr/ke is a national network of professional and emerging artists, social change experts, and creative producers who seek to support the national and global arts movement around immigration.

ART + SOCIETY



Migration is Beautiful
February 25, 2014

Addressing the debate surrounding immigration policy in the United States and the overall perception of immigrants, Favianna Rodriguez discussed her practice of creating unapologetic art pieces and the growing influence of artists in the political realm. She also shared snippets of "Migration Is Beautiful", a documentary which captures the dedicated efforts of artist-activists, including herself, who use visual expression to affect the national dialogue.

Favianna Rodriguez, artist and Artistic Director of CultureStr/ke.



“2013-2014 was a banner year for CSREA under Tricia Rose’s direction. The Center supported diverse initiatives from a wide range of members of the Brown community. Under the Center’s auspices, I was able to bring Carol Anderson of Emory University to talk about African Americans and anti-colonialism and co-organize with colleagues across campus a symposium on the theme of Race in the Global Asias. CSREA served anyone interested in acquiring a greater understanding about vital and even hot-button issues regarding race, ethnicity, politics, and inequality in our society and beyond.”

Naoko Shibusawa
Associate Professor of History, Associate Professor of American Studies,
and Member of CSREA Governing Board

Community Screening of “The House I Live In” and Interactive Image Theater

November 7th, 2013

The documentary “The House I Live In” offers a poignant look inside U.S. drug policy and its far-reaching effects. Immediately following a screening of the film, audience members participated in an improvisational brainstorm session on racialized mass incarceration and immigration, inspired by techniques from Theater of the Oppressed.

This exercise was led by distinguished artists, image theater experts and scholars: **Bryonn Bain, Lani Guinier, Tim Mitchell, Gerald Torres, and Tricia Rose.**

Lyrics From Lockdown

In collaboration with Rites and Reason Theatre
March 14-15, 2014

Weaving together two unbelievably true stories of wrongful imprisonment and the voices of over forty characters, Bryonn Bain’s *Lyrics From Lockdown* is a one-man, multimedia production that aims to provoke a conversation about racial profiling and unjust incarceration in a nation imprisoning more people than any other in the world.

Bryonn Bain, spoken word poet, actor, hip hop artist and Visiting Associate Professor: Artist in Residence at NYU.

Exhibit: At Work in the Archive

March 11 - May 23, 2014

Shawn Michelle Smith studies photographic archives of race, calling attention to their blind spots and absences as well as their spectacles. Working with historical photographs from the nineteenth through the twenty-first centuries, she manipulates and transforms them in order to explore how we see and understand race in the United States.

Shawn Michelle Smith, artist and Associate Professor of Visual and Critical Studies, School of the Art Institute of Chicago.



The Scene of the Crime: Taryn Simon’s “The Innocents”

March 11, 2014

Shawn Michelle Smith discussed Taryn Simon’s *The Innocents*, a project that documents 45 legal cases of mistaken identification, in which individuals were misrecognized as the perpetrators of violent crimes on the basis of mug shots and other visual aids. Smith explored photography’s problematic, and powerful relation to criminal identification, and assessed some of the ambiguities and contradictions within Simon’s provocative work.





American Promise: Film Screening and Panel Discussion

April 11, 2014
A CSREA Group Research Grant Event

The documentary *American Promise* chronicles the experiences of two middle-class African-American families in Brooklyn, N.Y. and their sons, who are enrolled in a prestigious private school. Following the viewing, panelists reflected on the complex interplay between race, class, and gender in educational opportunity.

Na'ilah Nasir, Professor of African American Studies and Education, UC Berkeley; *Warren Simmons*, Director of the Annenberg Institute for School Reform, Brown; *Tricia Rose*; *Amy Stuart Wells*, Professor of Sociology and Education, Columbia.



Bottom Up Place Making: Graffiti Murals and Latino/a Urban Aesthetics

April 24, 2014
A CSREA Group Research Grant Event

Celebrated graffiti writers engaged in a conversation, moderated by Stefano Bloch, about the practice of painting unsanctioned graffiti-murals and the role of illicit, creative, and contestative aesthetics in the process of neighborhood change. The discussion was followed by a live art painting by Mear One.

Stefano Bloch, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban Studies Program and Cogut Center for the Humanities; Artists *Eyeone*, *Mear One*, *Cache*, and *Alice Mizrahi*.



CSREA Group Research Grant Recipients

These grants support projects led by faculty from departments across the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences who are developing or share research projects on race, ethnicity and/or indigeneity in the U.S.

Stefano Bloch, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Urban Studies Program and Cogut Center for the Humanities
Bottom-Up Place Making: Graffiti-Murals and Latino/a Urban Aesthetics

Mona Abo-Zena, Visiting Assistant Professor of Education and Julia Daniel, Graduate Student, Department of Education
Pedro Noguera, "Education and Civil Rights in the Twenty-First Century"
American Promise Film Screening and Panel Discussion

Naoko Shibusawa, Professor of History; Eng-Beng Lim, Professor of Theater and Performance Studies; and Rebecca Nedostup, Associate Professor of History
Race in the Global Asias: A Symposium

Paja Faudree, Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Global Indigeneity: A Working Group on Indigenous Performance, Commodities and Politics

"I have had a number of instructive and stimulating interactions with CSREA over the past year. I received excellent feedback on a paper-in-progress from colleagues at one of the *What I Am Thinking About Now* workshops. I benefited a great deal from my participation in an impressively innovative weekend conference on Immigration and Incarceration which CSREA organized in collaboration with the Harvard Law School and others. Finally, though I was not able to attend, the feedback I received from my students suggested that the Center's teach-in on racial profiling was especially valuable."

Glenn Cartman Loury
Merton P. Stoltz Professor of the Social Sciences and Professor of Economics

"As a CSREA grant recipient, I had the opportunity to learn from and build relationships with scholars and students from across the country who are doing cutting edge research on racial and gender disparities in education. I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in the CSREA grant group and laud the important work they perform for the Brown community and beyond."

Julia Daniel
Urban Education Policy, M.A., class of 2014

Events Supported by CSREA

The Precarity of Queer Failure: From Orientalism to Incarceration

Tina Takemoto, artist and Associate Professor of
Visual Studies at California College of the Arts

October 17, 2013

Presented by the Department of Theater and
Performing Arts (TAPS)

Race Medicine: Treating Health Inequities from Slavery to the Genomic Age

Dorothy Roberts, Professor of Law, Sociology, and
Africana Studies at University of Pennsylvania.

December 10, 2013

Presented by the Center for the Study of Slavery
and Justice

Heritage, Society and the South African State

Daniel Herwitz, Professor of Comparative
Literature, History of Art, Philosophy and Art &
Design at the University of Michigan

October 18, 2013

Presented by the Cogut Center for the Humanities

Is Self-Employment the Answer to Caste Discrimination?: Decomposing the Earnings Gap in Indian Household Nonfarm Businesses

Ashwini Deshpande, Professor of Economics,
University of Delhi

April 7, 2014

Presented by the Brown-India Initiative

Is the Sky Falling? Scholars Analyze the 2013

Pew Report on the Future of American Jews

November 14, 2013

Presented by the Program in Judaic Studies and
Brown RISD Hillel

Feminist and Women's Media Festival

March 14-16, 2014

Presented by the Department of Modern Culture
and Media (MCM)

Symposium on Indigenous Performance in the Americas

December 5-7, 2013

Presented by the Ethnic Studies Program in the
Department of American Studies

Freedom Project In-Progress Showing

April 19, 2014

Presented by the Everett Stage Company

Thank you to our 2013-2014 co-sponsors and collaborators!

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Creative Arts Council
Department of Africana Studies
Department of American Studies
Department of Ethic Studies
Department of History
East Asian Colloquium
The Humanities Initiative

The Office of the Dean of the Faculty
The Office of Institutional Diversity
The Office of the President
Rites and Reason Theatre
Sarah Doyle Women's Center
South Asian Studies
Swearer Center for Public Service
Third World Center

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events and programming, or to donate to CSREA visit:**

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