

Works-in-Progress Series

C21 Fellows 2011-12

The C21 Fellows Works-in-Progress Series provides the public an opportunity to hear about the engaging work being undertaken by this year's group of fellows. Presentations will be informal and attendees are welcome to bring their lunches. All presentations will take place in C21's conference room, **Curtin 939**, at **11:30 am**. All C21 events are **free and open to the public**.



Feb. 6 **Rebekah Sheldon** will present work from her current book project, “Affective Futurities: Non-Representational Criticism and the Physics of Reading” that examines the formal qualities of fiction that capture and transmit feeling. The project investigates the formal strategies at play in specific works of Chuck Palahniuk, William Burroughs, Mark Z. Danielewski, and Samuel Delany through a lens of recent feminist scholarship on ontology.

Feb. 20 **Michael Newman** will present work from his current book project, “Play TV: Early Video Game History.” Newman’s project considers gaming in the home in the 1970s and early 80s as the convergence of TV and computer. Video games in this context functioned to masculinize television and the feminized domestic spaces of its use. The new electronic medium was understood to be active, purposeful, and future-oriented, but also as potentially threatening to young gamers and their culture.

March 5 **Heather Warren-Crow** will present work from “Girlhood and the Plastic Image,” her current book project. The book intervenes equally in the fields of girl studies and digital culture studies, arguing that reproduction, dissemination, and consumption of plastic images are understood in connection to feminine adolescence. This project will enable her to consider the role of youth in the discursive formation of presentness and futurity.

April 2 **Kristin Sziarto** will present work from her investigation of the intersection of sexuality education and the construction of the human body in her current research project, “The Production of Bodies, Spaces and Affects in Sexuality Education.” The project aims to challenge the notion of adolescents as dangerous to themselves and others, advancing instead the notion that such representations are crafted to hold together urban coalitions. The project is a case study that includes interviews with key actors in the greater Milwaukee community involved with sexuality education efforts.

April 16 **María del Pilar Melgarejo** will present her work on two writers who have used the aesthetic space of poetry to challenge oppression. Candelario Obeso, a 19th-century Colombian poet, initiated “Poesía negra” (black poetry), a poetic vernacular which he used to give voice to the voiceless. Linton Kwesi Johnson, a contemporary Jamaican poet, is recognized as the progenitor of dub poetry—a performance poetry rooted in oral tradition—that emerged in Jamaica and England in the 1970s.

