

# MILESTONES

THE SONJA HAYNES STONE CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND HISTORY

spring 2016 · volume 13 · issue 2

[unc.edu/depts/stonecenter](http://unc.edu/depts/stonecenter)



JOY INSIDE MY TEARS ▶

## STONE CENTER BRINGS CELEBRATED ARTIST STEFANIE JACKSON FOR SPRING ART EXHIBITION, *LA SOMBRA Y EL ESPIRITU IV – THE WORK OF STEFANIE JACKSON*

From February 11 – May 13, 2016 the Stone Center's Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum will host noted artist Stefanie Jackson for an exhibition entitled *La Sombra y el Espiritu IV: Figurative Visions and Collective Histories – The Work of Stefanie Jackson*.

Jackson, a professor at the Lamar Dodd School of Art at the University of Georgia, is one of the most important African-American contemporary figurative artists exploring contemporary social and political events. She has also used her oil paintings, lithographs, drawings and etchings to re-examine important historical moments in African-American and U.S. history such as the Atlanta race riots, and the Hurricane Katrina disaster in New Orleans.

Jackson is noted for the figurative social expressionism that shapes the complex visual narratives often found in her work. Her work directly challenges viewers to engage the sometimes transgressive approach by repositioning everyday elements of life that are viewed as static. In many instances, Jackson has used these techniques to unbalance and then resituate the viewer's visual center of balance.

With this kind of work it could become easy to simply seek to shock the audience for the sake of invoking a reaction. Therefore, Jackson has always grounded her explorations in the real, lived experiences of the landscapes and individuals she depicts, often referencing cities where she's resided in the past. While exploring 'problem' cities or events she has been able to highlight the plight of public housing in New Orleans, the decaying urban communities of Detroit, and the troubled French colonial history of New Orleans. With this kind of focus she is better able to interrogate another key element of contemporary urban life: people's relationships with the environment.

As expected, the unvarnished and often harsh truths expressed through her work have sometimes unsettled audiences that are used to more hopeful ideas or at least hopeful futures in art. She has responded that, "I just paint life, and sometimes life is difficult."

She has been featured widely in exhibitions and galleries around the country, including the African American Museum in Dallas, The Harriet Tubman Museum, and the Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum in Philadelphia. Selected group and solo exhibitions include, *Groundstory: Tales From the Shade of the South*, *Tradition Redefined: The Larry and Brenda Thompson Collection of African American Art*, and *The Black Family at the Haggerty Museum*.

She is also the recipient of numerous grants and fellowships, including a Pollock/Krasner Foundation Grant, a Gottlieb Foundation Award, and a Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Foundation Award that supported her work as an artist in residence in Giverny, France. She was awarded the Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation Award in 2002.

Jackson received her BFA from Parsons School of Design in 1979 and her MFA from Cornell University in 1988. She currently teaches drawing and painting in the Lamar Dodd School of Art at the University of Georgia.

An opening reception for the exhibition featuring an artist talk by Jackson will be held on February 11, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the Stone Center. *La Sombra y el Espiritu IV: Figurative Visions and Collective Histories - The Work of Stefanie Jackson* will be on display through May 11, 2016. The gallery is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. or by appointment. For information on the exhibition call 919-962-9001 or visit [www.stonecenter.unc.edu](http://www.stonecenter.unc.edu).



# SEEKING APPLICATIONS

## Sean Douglas Leadership Fellows Program

The Sean Douglas Leadership Fellows (SDLF) Program provides an opportunity for undergraduate students interested in gaining practical experience in planning and managing arts, cultural and academic programs while serving as an intern at the Stone Center and working closely with the Director and Stone Center staff.

The Sean Douglas Fellow will participate in various Center activities that may include participation in staff, Board and other key meetings, working on specially designed projects, assisting the Director in drafting project, program and special reports and serving as Stone Center representative at selected gatherings.

Sean Douglas Fellows will receive a stipend for completing the program. The internship covers a 10-week period and is open to all registered UNC at Chapel Hill first year, sophomores, juniors and in good academic standing who are interesting in African American and African diaspora arts and cultures and have some familiarity of the Stone Center and its programs. The deadline to apply for the Fall SDLF is March 4, 2016 at 5 p.m.

Applicants for the SDLF will be selected on the basis of a combination of factors including scholarship, record of campus and off-campus participation in service/social justice activities, clarity in describing their objectives for participating in the program, and quality of recommendations submitted in support of their application.

Applicants must submit:

- A brief narrative of no more than 4 pages that addresses the criteria described above;
- An official or unofficial transcript (you may also include a brief resume outlining your extracurricular activities, awards, and other supporting background information);
- Two letters of recommendation (from a faculty or staff member that is familiar with you and your activities on campus or in the community)

Submit your application electronically to [stonecenter@unc.edu](mailto:stonecenter@unc.edu), or you may hand deliver to Room 215, The Stone Center. For information call (919) 962-9001 or email [jfjordan@email.unc.edu](mailto:jfjordan@email.unc.edu) or [snsingl@email.unc.edu](mailto:snsingl@email.unc.edu)

## The Summer-Fall 2016 Undergraduate International Studies Fellowship

The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History will be accepting applications from UNC undergraduates for its Summer and Fall 2016 Undergraduate International Studies Fellowship (UISF) beginning January 29, 2016. The Stone Center, established in 1988 to support the critical examination of all dimensions of African and African-American and diaspora cultures, created the UISF program in support of the University's effort to globalize the campus and internationalize the curriculum.

UISF recipients are awarded up to \$1,500 toward academic research or study in an international setting. Through the fellowships, the UISF program supports the participation of students of color and other underrepresented students in travel and study abroad programs. Students who plan to study abroad in the summer or fall of 2016 who are in good standing and enrolled full-time are eligible to apply for the fellowship. Preference is given for programs from six-weeks to a year in length and for students who have some familiarity with, or have participated in Stone Center programs and activities.

Full instructions and applications are available at the Stone Center, suite 215 or on the Center's website at <http://sonjahaynesstonectr.unc.edu/programs/scholarship-scholarly-initiatives/>. The application deadline is February 29, 2016. For more information on the fellowship, contact Joseph Jordan at (919) 962-9001 or email [jfjordan@email.unc.edu](mailto:jfjordan@email.unc.edu) or [snsingl@email.unc.edu](mailto:snsingl@email.unc.edu)

## Student Advisory Scholars Council

The Sonja Haynes Stone is looking for eight students to serve as Student Advisory Scholars Council (SASC). Scholars will serve as the primary student advisory group for the Stone Center staff. The SASC members will collaborate with and support the Stone Center as it plans arts, cultural, service and scholarly programs, and organizes fundraising and other events. The Stone Center's SASC are also tasked with increasing student participation and involvement at the Stone Center. The primary focus of the advisory work group is to raise campus and community awareness of the mission of the Stone Center. SASC members must be:

- Students in good standing with the University;
- Aware of, or seriously interested in learning about key historical and contemporary issues, movements, and scholarship on African American and diaspora communities;
- Interested in increasing campus awareness of the Stone Center's work, particularly among UNC students, and willing to monitor student response;
- Willing and able to represent the Stone Center's interests to both internal and external audiences, when asked to do so.

The SASC will be convened and co-lead by the Stone Center's Leadership Fellows and will meet twice monthly. A Stone Center staff person will serve as liaison to the SASC, however all Stone Center staff will be available for consultation and support. SASC terms are for 2 year staggered terms.

The application deadline is January 22, 2016. For more information on the fellowship, contact Joseph Jordan at (919) 962-9001 or email [jfjordan@email.unc.edu](mailto:jfjordan@email.unc.edu). Applications can be found on the Stone Center website at [www.stonecenter.unc.edu](http://www.stonecenter.unc.edu). Please submit completed applications to [stonecenter@unc.edu](mailto:stonecenter@unc.edu) or hand deliver to Stone Center Room 215.

# CURTIS SUTTON INNOVATION LABORATORY DEDICATION THIS SPRING

In February of 2013, the Sonja Haynes Stone Center launched efforts for the Sutton Innovation Laboratory alongside the friends and colleagues of Tar Heel and North Carolina Dr. Curtis Sutton (UNC, 1981). Funds that were raised during this effort are being used to renovate the Stone Center's Computer Lab space to accommodate a multi-genre, multi-use creative technology space that will embody and encompass themes from the life of Curtis Sutton.

Sutton was a talented and accomplished student at UNC- Chapel Hill. As a glee club member, scholar and public servant, he was deeply influenced by his rural NC roots and pursued a dream to become a professional in the field of Neuroradiology.

When it opens, the Curtis Sutton Innovation Laboratory will provide an interdisciplinary work-space where culture and technology will be brought together in exciting new ways. It will create opportunities for campus administrators, students and community members to engage in thought innovation and leadership, and include a tech-savvy boardroom that brings leaders from diverse backgrounds to one table to discuss ideas, solve problems and spark conversation.

The *Curtis Sutton Innovation Laboratory*, on the 2nd floor of the Stone Center, will be dedicated in April 2016.



DR. CURTIS SUTTON ▶

# SPOTLIGHT DONOR: JIM KETCH



Jim Ketch is a Summit Records artist and Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His three CDs on the Summit Records label includes *Next Set* (2009), *A Distant View* (2012), and *Distracted Society* (2015). In 2012 he received UNC's prestigious Chapman Award for outstanding teaching. He is a faculty artist for the Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshops and Associate Director of Swing Central Jazz for the Savannah Music Festival. Mr. Ketch is a Bach Trumpet clinician, and has served as conductor for numerous All-State and Honors jazz ensembles. He serves as Music Director of the North Carolina Jazz Repertory Orchestra and is President of the Jazz Foundation of NC and a Board member of the Durham Jazz Workshop. He has performed internationally in England, France, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, and with such jazz artists as Marcus Roberts, Jason Marsalis, Tom Harrell, Eric Alexander, Gary Smulyan, John Pizzarelli, Rene Marie, Natalie Cole, Aretha Franklin, The Temptations, and the Manhattan Transfer. He is at work on a book titled *Jazz Trumpet Essentials*.

For over 18 years, Jim has supported the innovative ideas, programs, and initiatives of the Stone Center. In addition to his sustained giving to the Stone Center, Jim has also shared his musical gifts, providing jazz accompaniments and performances at several Stone Center events and programs.

The Sonja Haynes Stone Center salutes Jim Ketch for his dedication and all that he continues to do for Carolina!

## HOWARD UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR, QUITO SWAN TO DELIVER SPRING 2016 AFRICAN DIASPORA LECTURE

On Thursday, February 4 at 7 p.m., Dr. Quito Swan will deliver the Spring 2016 African Diaspora lecture: *Melanesia's Way: Black Internationalism in the South Pacific*.

Swan is an Associate Professor of African Diaspora History at Howard University. His research on Black internationalism and global Black Power have taken him through archives and diasporic communities across Venezuela, the US, Bermuda, London, Kenya, Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. His current project on Bermuda's Pauulu Kamarakafego and Black internationalism in the South Pacific was sponsored by an eight month National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in 2014.

Swan's first book, *Black Power in Bermuda and the Struggle for Decolonization* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2009) focused on Black Power, Bermuda and anti-colonialism in the West Indies. His areas of expertise include Black Internationalism, Black Power and decolonization across the Americas, Africa and the South Pacific. Professor Swan teaches courses on the global African Diaspora, including social movements, Black Power, maroonage and black protest through music such as Reggae, Hip-Hop and Afro-beat. Swan obtained his Ph.D. in African Diaspora History from Howard University in 2005.

The February 4th lecture is free and open to the public and will take place in the Hitchcock Room of the Stone Center. For more information contact the Stone Center office at (919) 962-9001 or [stonecenter@unc.edu](mailto:stonecenter@unc.edu).

## STONE CENTER FALL 2015 SEASON EXPLORED THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF AMIRI BARAKA



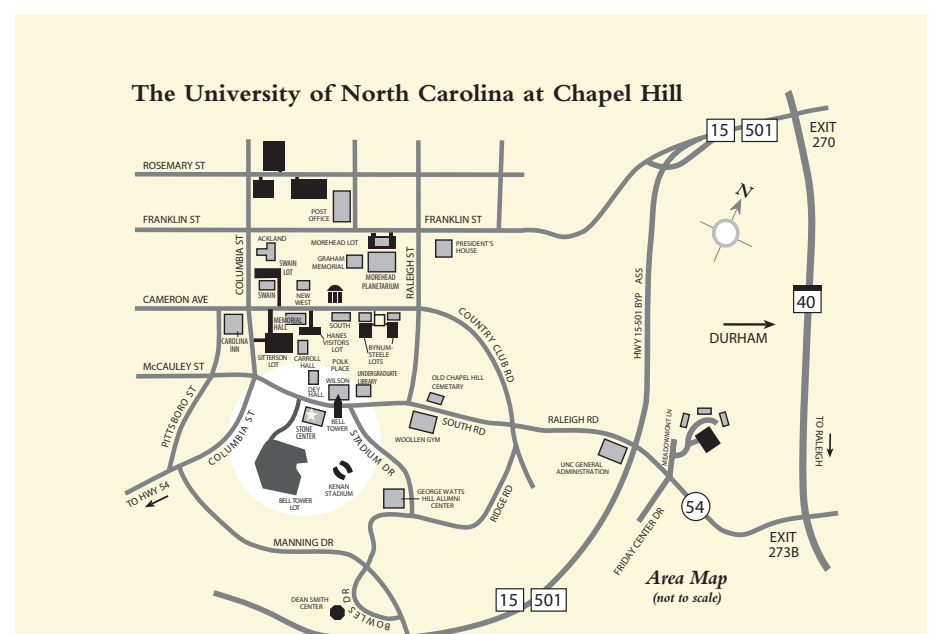
Last fall, the Stone Center sponsored a special project that examined the life, work and legacy of Amiri Baraka. The event kicked off on Wednesday, September 16 with an opening reception for the exhibition, which featured over 150 documents, photographs, publications and original drawings and paintings by Amiri Baraka. The opening also included a screening of a filmed version of Baraka's seminal drama, *Dutchman*.

The project continued on Thursday, September 17 with a symposium featuring films screenings and discussions with panelists including Sonia Sanchez and Woodie King Jr. The speakers participating in the symposium were drawn from a number of disciplines and have, through their work, helped us to understand the social history and cultural politics of the Black Arts Movement and Baraka's place within that phenomenon.

The season continued with an expanded anniversary edition of the Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film. The festival opened on September 3 at 7 p.m. with the North Carolina premiere of "Little White Lie". The festival screened a total of 28 films, including a standing room only crowd for the screening of *The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution*.

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) president, Dr. Elmira Mangum returned to UNC on October 22 to deliver the 23rd Annual Stone Memorial Lecture. The season also included a lecture by Afro-Cuban scholar Tomás Fernández Robaina, of the University of Havana.

If you missed any of our fall programming, you can check out video from fall 2015 events on our vimeo page: <http://vimeo.com/stonecenter>



The exhibition and all events associated with it are free and open to the public. The Stone Center is ADA compliant. Free visitor parking is available in the Bell Tower parking deck behind the Stone Center after 5 p.m. Call for directions and for visitor parking before 5 p.m.

### CHECK US OUT ON VIMEO!

Did you miss a "can't-miss" Stone Center event or lecture? Don't worry – you can view video from Stone Center lectures, programs and special events on our Vimeo page. Vimeo is a platform used to upload video content and share it on the Internet.

We've upgraded our account so that we can share more content. You can now access videos from past programs and lectures as well as current content from our most recent events.

Check us out at: [vimeo.com/stonecenter](http://vimeo.com/stonecenter)



## STONE CENTER HOST STUDENT-LED CRUCIAL DISCUSSION SERIES THIS SPRING



◀ THE DILLAHUNTS

Beginning January 21, during the week of campus-wide activities in honor of Dr. King, the Stone Center will launch a series of ongoing student-led conversations to explore current social justice issues and the people at the forefront of these movements.

Each of these *Crucial Discussion* sessions – to occur monthly throughout the spring semester – will feature noted community activists who champion a specific cause and seek to effect lasting and meaningful social and institutional change through action and engagement.

These forums will provide an opportunity for student participants to critically explore social justice issues and learn from the ideas, experience and passion of seasoned community leaders and activists how to drive change through committed involvement and service.

The *Crucial Discussion* series will feature the following change makers:

**Naemah Muhammad and Steve Wing** – *NC Environmental Justice Network (NCEJN)*

The North Carolina Environmental Justice Network organizes community action to inform and mobilize action around environmental and health concerns from exposure to gases, liquids and solid wastes resulting from hog and poultry production practices. Naeema Mohammad is co-chair of NCEJN and Dr. Steve Wing, epidemiology professor at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, uses his research on the occupational and environmental health effects of industrial swine production, ionizing radiation, sewage sludge and the built environment to advocate for social and environmental justice.

**Ajamu, Ajamuito and Rukiya Dillahunt** – *Family Organizers*

Ajamu and Rukiya Dillahunt are a long-time civil rights organizers who helped found the Black Workers for Justice, which works at the grassroots to empower African-American workers to become leaders in the Black Freedom and labor rights movements. Active involvement for change runs across generations among the Dillahunt family with son Ajamuito emerging as a leader in student and youth social justice movements.

**Rev. Robert Campbell** – *Local Community Renewal, Chapel Hill*

Rev. Robert Campbell is a member of the Faith Tabernacle Church on Rogers Road who served as co-chair of *Rogers-Eubanks Coalition to End Environmental Racism* and president of the *Rogers Eubanks Neighborhood Network Association*. Campbell helped mobilize public debate and awareness on the impact to the neighborhood of the nearby Orange County Landfill.

**Serena Sebring** – *Southerners on New Ground / SONG*

Serena Sebring is a queer black feminist, educator, mother and organizer at *Southerners On New Ground (SONG)*, a regional Queer Liberation organization made up of people of color, immigrants, undocumented people, people with disabilities and working class and rural and small town LGBTQ people in the South. She teaches Sociology at North Carolina State University, where her academic research examines the history of reproductive justice and women of color in North Carolina.

*Crucial Discussion sessions will take place on Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 21 and Apr. 11.*

## STONE CENTER'S COMMUNIVERSITY YOUTH PROGRAM COMPLETES 24TH YEAR OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE TO UNC CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY.

Since 1991, the Community Youth Program has continued its commitment to prepare students academically and socially for success in education beyond high school. In its 24th year of service, Community has sustained its longstanding relationships with many campus and community organizations, helping to support students academically and socially; none more than University United Methodist Church, whose facility serves as the “home” for Community programs.

This year, Community student participants (also known as scholars) take part in a variety of weekly enrichment activities including homework assistance and a brand new segment called the “20-minute reading workshop” – aimed at helping scholars to develop a passion for reading. Scholars also participate in intermediate culinary instruction at Lantern Restaurant for 4th and 5th graders; introductory culinary instruction for 3rd graders; and introduction to healthy foods, hosted by the SnackChef Program and Table, Inc. for Kindergarten through 2nd graders; dance instruction, led by leaders from Carolina Vibe, Carolina Tap Ensemble and Bhangra Elite dance troupes; and step instruction, hosted by the Theta Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Mu Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Community's newest enrichment initiative includes “Science Exploration” activities, with the support of students from the Biology department at UNC and Morehead Planetarium. These “Science Exploration” workshops allow scholars to take part in hands-on, real-life science and math activities that enhance and increase their analytical skills and abilities.

UNC undergraduate students (known as leaders) often lead the planning and management of daily programs and activities. By leading the Community scholars they not only develop valuable and practical leadership experience for themselves, but also gain a greater understanding of their own personal expectations while helping to foster an environment of inclusion and collaboration. With the guidance of UNC Student leaders, scholars are exposed to the college environment long before beginning their own college experience. Scholars also have an opportunity to build confidence, public speaking, collaborative work skills.

The Community Youth Program takes place Monday-Thursday afternoon during the academic school year. For more information on Community, how to volunteer, or donate to the program, please contact Community Manager, Chris Wallace at [chrislw@emai.unc.edu](mailto:chrislw@emai.unc.edu) or call 919-962-9001.





# STONE CENTER'S WRITER'S DISCUSSION SERIES RETURNS FOR SPRING 2016.

Beginning on March 22nd, the Stone Center will host a three part Writer's Discussion series featuring book readings and discussion with local UNC faculty as well as authors from across the nation. The series is co-hosted with the Bull's Head Bookshop\* and all events will take place at the Bookshop unless otherwise noted.

**Nadia Ellis** | *Territories of the Soul: Modes of Belonging in the Black Diaspora* (Duke, 2015) March 22 at 3:30 p.m., Bull's Head Bookshop

Nadia Ellis attends to African diasporic belonging as it comes into being through black expressive culture. Living in the diaspora, Ellis asserts, means existing between claims to land and imaginative flights unmoored from the earth. Drawing on the work of Jose Muñoz, Ellis connects queerness' utopian potential with diasporic aesthetics. Occupying the territory of the soul, being neither here nor there, creates in diasporic subjects feelings of loss, desire, and a sensation of a pull from elsewhere. Ellis locates these phenomena in the works of C.L.R. James, the testy encounter between George Lamming and James Baldwin at the 1956 Congress of Negro Artists and Writers in Paris, the elusiveness of the queer diasporic subject in Andrew Salkey's novel *Escape to an Autumn Pavement*, and the trope of spirit possession in Nathaniel Mackey's writing and Burning Spear's reggae. Ellis' use of queer and affect theory shows how geographies claim diasporic subjects in ways that nationalist or masculinist tropes can never fully capture. Diaspora, Ellis concludes, is best understood as a mode of feeling and belonging, one fundamentally shaped by the experience of loss.

Nadia Ellis is Assistant Professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley.

**Edlie L. Wong** | *Racial Reconstruction: Black Inclusion, Chinese Exclusion, and the Fictions of Citizenship* (NYU Press 2015) | April 5 at 3:30 p.m., Bull's Head Bookshop

The end of slavery and the Atlantic slave trade triggered wide-scale labor shortages across the U.S. and Caribbean. Planters looked to China as a source for labor replenishment, importing laborers in what became known as "coolieism." From heated Senate floor debates to Supreme Court test cases brought by Chinese activists, public anxieties over major shifts in the U.S. industrial landscape and class relations became displaced onto the figure of the Chinese labor immigrant who struggled for inclusion at a time when black freedmen were fighting to redefine citizenship.

Racial Reconstruction demonstrates that U.S. racial formations should be studied in different registers and through comparative and transpacific approaches. It draws on political cartoons, immigration case files, plantation diaries, and sensationalized invasion fiction to explore the radical reconstruction of U.S. citizenship, race and labor relations, and imperial geopolitics that led to the Chinese Exclusion Act, America's first racialized immigration ban. By charting the complex circulation of people, property, and print from the Pacific Rim to the Black Atlantic, Racial Reconstruction sheds new light on comparative racialization in America, and illuminates how slavery and Reconstruction influenced the histories of Chinese immigration to the West.

Edlie L. Wong is an Associate Professor at the University of Maryland and author of *"Neither Fugitive Nor Free: Atlantic Slavery, Freedom Suits, and the Legal Culture of Travel"* (NYU Press, 2009) and co-editor of George Lippard's *"The Killers."*

**Tiffany Willoughby-Herard** | *Waste of a White Skin: Carnegie and the Making of Global Whiteness and Misery* (UC Press, 2015) | April 12 at 3:30 p.m., Bull's Head Bookshop

A path breaking history of the development of scientific racism, white nationalism, and segregationist philanthropy in the U.S. and South Africa in the early twentieth century, *Waste of a White Skin* focuses on the American Carnegie Corporation's study of race in South Africa, the *Poor White Study*, and its influence on the creation of apartheid.

This book demonstrates the ways in which U.S. elites supported apartheid and Afrikaner Nationalism in the critical period prior to 1948 through philanthropic interventions and shaping scholarly knowledge production. Willoughby-Herard outlines the ways in which a racial regime of global whiteness constitutes domestic racial policies and in part animates black consciousness in seemingly disparate and discontinuous racial democracies. This book uses key paradigms in black political thought – black feminism, black internationalism, and the black radical tradition – to provide a rich account of poverty and work. Much of the scholarship on whiteness in South Africa overlooks the complex politics of white poverty and what they mean for the making of black political action and black people's presence in the economic system.

Tiffany Willoughby-Herard is Assistant Professor of African American Studies at the University of California, Irvine.

\*Bull's Head Bookshop is located on the 2nd floor of the UNC Student Bookstore

## STONE CENTER JOINS WITH UNC FACULTY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO PRESENT *TELLING OUR STORIES OF HOME: EXPLORING AND CELEBRATING CHANGING AFRICAN DIASPORA COMMUNITIES*

This spring, UNC faculty professors Kathy Perkins (Dramatic Art) and Tanya Shields (Women's Studies), will bring *Telling Our Stories of Home: Exploring and Celebrating Changing African Diaspora Communities*, to the campus to explore how African American and African diasporic experiences have informed and reshaped American notions of "home." The Stone Center, along with other UNC departments, faculty and staff, the Office of the Chancellor, and five community partners have joined together to support this unique effort. The project is also supported by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The two week event to be held on March 31–April 2 (Wednesday–Saturday) and April 6–8 (Wednesday–Friday), 2016 and will highlight and celebrate the talents of women from Africa and the African Diaspora focusing on the theme of home – what is home; where is home; returning home; uprooted from home. Artists from the U.S., Brazil, India, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa and the U.K. will explore the many methods of sharing stories including such genres as drama, spoken word, poetry, film/video, dance, music, and visual art. The event will include scholarly panels, performances, and workshops culminating with a community celebration of these women and their works.

To facilitate the events, the project is bringing a range of scholars and practitioners with substantial and international acclaim. These include professor, novelist, poet, dramatist, and artistic director Merle Collins from Grenada; actor, writer, and artistic director of the Harlem KW Project, Jaylene Clark; dancer/anthropologist/director Luciane Ramos Silva from Brazil; storytellers/actresses Girija Siddi and Geeta Siddi from Karnataka, India; and playwright, director and artistic director of Rwanda's Mashirika Professional Theatre Company, Hope Azeda. The celebration will also feature the work of performance activists from Haiti and South Africa, as well as scholars from various institutions including UNC Chapel Hill.

During the first week of the program (March 31–April 2), the project will host scholars Mayra Santos Febres from Puerto Rico and Shirley Campbell Barr from Costa Rica. Mayra Santos-Febres is a writer, professor of literature, and literary critic. Santos-Febres completed her undergraduate work at the University of Puerto Rico and holds an M.A. and Ph.D. from Cornell University. Shirley Campbell Barr is a writer, anthropologist,



SHIRLEY CAMPBELL BARR ▶



MAYRA SANTOS FEBRES ▶

and author of the famous poem "Rotundamentenegra." A feminist, human rights advocate and activist, Barr is engaged in the Afro-descendent cause in Latin America, participating in conferences, workshops, poetry readings contributing to the processes of mobilization and awareness of black communities.

*Telling Our Stories of Home* takes place over two weeks (March 31–April 2; April 6–8) at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center. For a detailed schedule of the program, please visit: [www.stonecenter.unc.edu](http://www.stonecenter.unc.edu) or call 919-962-9001.



# SPRING 2016

## program calendar

For more information about events, visit us at [www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter](http://www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter) or email [stonecenter@unc.edu](mailto:stonecenter@unc.edu) or call 919-962-9001. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.



### CRUCIAL DISCUSSION SERIES EVENT

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Each of these *Crucial Discussion* sessions – to occur monthly throughout the spring semester – will feature noted community activists who champion a specific cause and seek to effect lasting and meaningful social and institutional change through action and engagement. These forums will provide an opportunity for student participants to critically explore social justice issues and learn from the ideas, experience and passion of seasoned community leaders and activists how to drive change through committed involvement and service.

Please visit [www.stonecenter.unc.edu](http://www.stonecenter.unc.edu) for time, topic and guest activist for the crucial discussion series event.

**Series Schedule: January 21 • February 18 • March 21 • April 11**

All discussions will begin at 6:30 pm

**February 11 | 7 pm**

Stone Center Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum

**EXHIBITION OPENING  
RECEPTION, FEATURING  
ARTIST TALK BY  
STEFANIE JACKSON**



Photo credit: [www.shopbaiaonline.com](http://www.shopbaiaonline.com) / [blackartinamerica.com](http://blackartinamerica.com)

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*La Sombra y el Espiritu IV: Figurative Visions and Collective Histories - The Work of Stefanie Jackson* will be shown at the Stone Center's Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum from February 11–May 13, 2016.





Check out the Stone Center on Facebook at [facebook.com/stonecenter](https://facebook.com/stonecenter) and follow us on Twitter @UNCStoneCenter

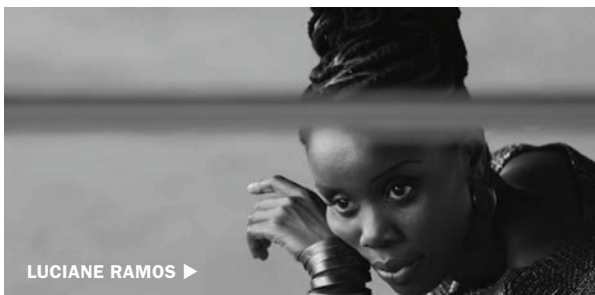


◀ DR. QUITO SWAN

February 4 | 7:00 pm  
Stone Center

### SPRING 2016 AFRICAN DIASPORA LECTURE DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR QUITO SWAN

Dr. Quito Swan will deliver the Spring 2016 African Diaspora lecture: *Melanesia's Way: Black Internationalism in the South Pacific*. Swan is an Associate Professor of African Diaspora History at Howard University. His research on Black internationalism and global Black Power have taken him through archives and Diasporic communities across Venezuela, the US, Bermuda, London, Kenya, Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. His current project on Bermuda's Pauulu Kamarakafego and Black internationalism in the South Pacific was sponsored by an eight month National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in 2014.



LUCIANE RAMOS ▶

March 28 – April 2 | April 6 – 8  
Stone Center

### TELLING OUR STORIES OF HOME: A CELEBRATION OF AFRICAN AND AFRICAN DIASPORA WOMEN ARTISTS

UNC faculty professors Kathy Perkins (Dramatic Art) and Tanya Shields (Women's Studies), will bring *Telling Our Stories of Home: Exploring and Celebrating Changing African Diaspora Communities*, to the campus to explore how African American and African diasporic experiences have informed and reshaped American notions of "home." Artists from the U.S., Brazil, India, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa and the U.K. will explore the many methods of sharing stories including such genres as drama, spoken word, poetry, film/video, dance, music, and visual art. The event will include scholarly panels, performances, and workshops culminating with a community celebration of these women and their works. *Telling Our Stories of Home* takes place over two weeks (March 31–April 2; April 6–8) at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center. For a detailed schedule of the program, please visit: [www.stonecenter.unc.edu](http://www.stonecenter.unc.edu) or call 919-962-9001.

## WRITER'S DISCUSSION SERIES

Bull's Head Bookshop (2nd floor UNC Student Bookstore)



March 22 | 3:30 pm

Nadia Ellis • *Territories of the Soul: Modes of Belonging in the Black Diaspora* (Duke, 2015)

Nadia Ellis attends to African diasporic belonging as it comes into being through black expressive culture. Living in the diaspora, Ellis asserts, means existing between claims to land and imaginative flights unmoored from the earth – that is, to live within the territories of the soul. Drawing on the work of Jose Muñoz, Ellis connects queerness' utopian potential with diasporic aesthetics. Occupying the territory of the soul, being neither here nor there, creates in diasporic subjects feelings of loss, desire, and a sensation of a pull from elsewhere. Ellis locates these phenomena in the works of C.L.R. James, the testy encounter between George Lamming and James Baldwin at the 1956 Congress of Negro Artists and Writers in Paris, the elusiveness of the queer diasporic subject in Andrew Salkey's novel *Escape to an Autumn Pavement*, and the trope of spirit possession in Nathaniel Mackey's writing and Burning Spear's reggae. Ellis' use of queer and affect theory shows how geographies claim diasporic subjects in ways that nationalist or masculinist tropes can never fully capture. Diaspora, Ellis concludes, is best understood as a mode of feeling and belonging, one fundamentally shaped by the experience of loss.



April 5 | 3:30 pm

Edlie L. Wong • *Racial Reconstruction: Black Inclusion, Chinese Exclusion, and the Fictions of Citizenship* (NYU Press 2015)

*Racial Reconstruction* demonstrates that U.S. racial formations should be studied in different registers and through comparative and transpacific approaches. It draws on political cartoons, immigration case files, plantation diaries, and sensationalized invasion fiction to explore the radical reconstruction of U.S. citizenship, race and labor relations, and imperial geopolitics that led to the Chinese Exclusion Act, America's first racialized immigration ban. By charting the complex circulation of people, property, and print from the Pacific Rim to the Black Atlantic, *Racial Reconstruction* sheds new light on comparative racialization in America, and illuminates how slavery and Reconstruction influenced the histories of Chinese immigration to the West.



April 12 | 3:30 pm

Tiffany Willoughby-Herard • *Waste of a White Skin: Carnegie and the Making of Global Whiteness and Misery* (UC Press, 2015)

A path breaking history of the development of scientific racism, white nationalism, and segregationist philanthropy in the U.S. and South Africa in the early twentieth century, *Waste of a White Skin* focuses on the American Carnegie Corporation's study of race in South Africa, the *Poor White Study*, and its influence on the creation of apartheid.

This book demonstrates the ways in which U.S. elites supported apartheid and Afrikaner Nationalism in the critical period prior to 1948 through philanthropic interventions and shaping scholarly knowledge production. Rather than comparing racial democracies and their engagement with scientific racism, Willoughby-Herard outlines the ways in which a racial regime of global whiteness constitutes domestic racial policies and in part animates black consciousness in seemingly disparate and discontinuous racial democracies. This book uses key paradigms in black political thought – black feminism, black internationalism, and the black radical tradition – to provide a rich account of poverty and work. Much of the scholarship on whiteness in South Africa overlooks the complex politics of white poverty and what they mean for the making of black political action and black people's presence in the economic system.

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