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THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN AND SOCIETY

SPRING 2023

Mini-Newsletter

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2022 NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE: A REFLECTION

By Kayla Reece



Landing in Minneapolis last November for the 2022 NWSA Annual Conference, I was not exactly sure what to expect but I felt that I would bear witness to an extraordinary meeting of minds and souls. Professor Anita Hill was giving the opening keynote address, and I didn't want to miss it. In my "Women's Writing Witness" class we had started the semester by re-watching Anita Hill's 1991 witness testimony, igniting our work for the seminar.

Educators, scholars, activists, and students from all over the country convened for four days, sharing their work, hope, and healing. There were over 700 sessions and 1200+ participants in shared community around the theme, *Killing Rage: Resistance on the Other Side of Freedom*. Just one example: there was a panel of Kentucky women writers to commemorate bell hooks, sharing stories about her impact, her sisterhood, and her radical humanity.

I was a first-time attendee as the program's student representative for the MA/PhD reception. After the reception, where we spoke to prospective students and educators about the Graduate Center's MA in Women's and Gender Studies, Eileen—our Academic Program Coordinator—and I sat considering dinner options when suddenly, a silver halo of curls moved deftly up the center of the room, with a masked face, a confident stride and a globally recognizable energy: Dr. Angela Y. Davis stood before us (pictured above).

2022 was the first year the conference had convened in person since 2019, and it was held in the city at the epicenter of the 2020 BLM uprisings. Earlier in 2022, we had witnessed the Supreme Court overturn *Roe v Wade*. It made me reflect on the decades and more of struggle to secure some semblance of reproductive justice for all birthing bodies. I wondered how the elder educators and advocates—like Dr. Davis—felt now, seemingly fighting the same or similar battles over and over again. Altogether, my first NWSA conference was a memorable experience in a very specific place and at a very specific time, and I'm grateful to have witnessed it.

UPCOMING CENTER EVENTS

- 2.15** LINDA VILLAROSA
6-7:30 PM *Under the Skin: Understanding Race & Racism in US Health*
- 2.23** ABI ISHOLA-AYODEJI with Nana Ekuia Brew-Hammond
6-7:30 PM *Patience is a Subtle Thief*
- 3.30** RUPAL OZA with Linda Alcoff and Dina Siddqi
6-7:30 PM *Semiotics of Rape: Sexual Subjectivity and Violation in Rural India*
- 4.18** RED WASHBURN with Ailbhe Smyth and Roseleen Walsh
2-3:30 PM *Irish Women's Prison Writing: Mother Ireland's Rebels, 1960s - 2010s*
- 5.4** NANCY K. MILLER AND TAHNEER OKSMAN
6-7:30 PM *Feminists Reclaim Mentorship: a Reading and Celebration*

FALL 2022 RECAP: Ava Chin



10/13/23, Women Writing Women's Lives Dorothy O. Helly Lecture presenting Ava Chin, who spoke about her recent book, *The Way to Mott Street*

For Details on Spring 2023 Events: <https://bit.ly/CSWSEventbrite>

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING MA STUDENTS & CERTIFICATE AWARDEES!

YELENA DZHANOVA; MA in Women's and Gender Studies

FRIEDERIKE WINDEL; Ph.D. Program in Critical Social Personality Psychology

FRANCES HOWELL; Ph.D. Program in Critical Social Personality Psychology

STEFANOS MILKIDIS; Ph.D. Program in Earth & Environmental Science

DIANE YOONG; Ph.D. Program in Critical Social Personality Psychology

FACULTY NEWS

- **Matt Brim** published the co-edited collection *Queer Sharing in the Marketized University* (Routledge, 2023) with Churnjeet Mahn and Yvette Taylor (University of Strathclyde, Glasgow).
- **Barbara Katz-Rothman** appeared in a podcast to discuss her recent book, *The Biomedical Empire: Lessons Learned from the COVID Pandemic* (Stanford UP, 2021), which you can find here: <https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-biomedical-empire>.
- **Rupal Oza** published a book, *Semiotics of Rape: Sexual Subjectivity and Violation in Rural India* (Duke University Press, 2023).
- **Red Washburn** published an academic monograph, *Irish Women's Prison Writing: Mother Ireland's Rebels, 1960-2010s* (Routledge, 2022). They are currently giving many book talks, including at the University of Galway, University College Cork, New York University, and the CUNY Graduate Center, among others.
- **Nancy K. Miller** co-edited a book with Tahneer Oksman, *Feminists Reclaim Mentorship: An Anthology* (SUNY Press, 2023).
- **Alyson Cole** is serving as the Principle Investigator for an international, interdisciplinary research project, the "Norms of Life," supported by a grant from the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS).

STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS

- **Yohanna M. Roa**, student, artist, art historian, and feminist curator had an exhibition, PEREMOGA, at Whitebox. White Hot Magazine wrote a review of it, which can be found here: <https://whitehotmagazine.com/articles/peremoga-victory-ukr-at-whitebox/5644>
- **CiCi Adams '20** is working on a book with Tiny Reparations, an imprint of Penguin Random House, on Black-owned bookstores due out in 2025. You can find more info here under Char Adams: <https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/book-deals/article/91041-book-deals-week-of-december-5-2022.html>.
- **Naoko Ohri '19** co-translated the Japanese translation of *Broken Bonds: Surrogate Mothers Speak Out* edited by Jennifer Larl, Melinda Tankard Reist, and Renate Klein (2019).
- **Alex Johnson '21** wrote an essay that will be published as part of an anthology, *Kinship in the Fiction of N.K. Jemisin: Relations of Power and Resistance*, in February 2023. You can find it here: <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781666910452/Kinship-in-the-Fiction-of-N-K-Jemisin-Relations-of-Power-and-Resistance>.
- **Puleng Segalo '13** was awarded the 2022 World Academy of Sciences award for popularizing Science. Prof. Sugalo also had several articles published: Segalo, P., Sipuka, P., & Laidlaw, C. (2022). *Transactional Relationships: Young Women's Shifting Identities and Spaces in Intimate Relationships, Gender & behaviour*; Segalo, P. (2022). *Stitching narratives of gender-based violence: Meaning-making through embroidery. Journal of International Women Studies*; Segalo, P. (2022). *Stitching narratives of Trauma: speaking the unspeakable through embroidery. Textile: Cloth and Culture*, 1-13; Qhogwana, S. & Segalo, P. (2022). *Rethinking and Reimagining Classification and Rehabilitation for Women in Correctional Centres: Narratives of Women Classified as Maximum Offenders*, *Journal of Psychology in Africa*, 32(1), 97-102; Roos, V., Segalo, P. & Ntombela, N (2022). *Research integrity in a community-based project - an ethics of care approach and practical application*; Roos, V. & Hoffman, J (eds.). *Age-Inclusive ICT Innovation and Application: A Developing Country Perspective*; Springer Publishers. Prof. Sugalo will also be the keynote speaker at the International Society for Theoretical Psychology, May/June 2022.

UPCOMING AWARDS

The Center for the Study of Women and Society is currently accepting submissions for the **Koonja Mitchell Memorial Prize** (\$1000) and the **Sue Rosenberg Zalk Endowed Fund Award** (\$4000). The deadline for submissions is **February 15, 2023**. For more information about these awards:

<https://www.gc.cuny.edu/womens-and-gender-studies/womens-studies-certificate-program/awards>

Please stay tuned for announcements about the **Carolyn G. Heilburn Dissertation Prize**.

COME HANGOUT WITH US!

Did you know? A staff member will be in the office (Room 5116) Monday through Thursday during normal business hours. Drop by to chat, hangout, do work, or eat some snacks!

In addition, look out for emails from us about upcoming public and departmental events!

<https://www.gc.cuny.edu/womens-and-gender-studies>