



Newsletter

Dear all,

With this newsletter we wish to inform you about relevant events, vacancies, calls for papers, new releases and PhD defenses.

The NOG-team,

Prof. dr. Rosemarie Buikema, Trude Oorschot and Vibeke Otter

Conferences / Courses / Lectures / Events

Postcolonial Film and Lecture series 2015-2016 (Utrecht University, NL)

The Postcolonial Studies Initiative is happy to announce its 6th film series with a selection of films, shown monthly, that draw on a variety of different contexts in our postcolonial world. The series is organized annually and invites all interested in our European postcolonial present and the representation of its political, cultural and aesthetic realities and challenges. We want to explore, through visual representations and cinematographic narratives, how these realities are analyzed and re-imagined in contemporary film. Each film will be introduced briefly by scholars connected to the PCI. The PCI Film series started on September 15 with *Those who feel the fire burning* (Morgan Knibbe, NL, 2014). The film was introduced by Christine Quinan and film director Morgan Knibbe was present for Q&A.

The series will take place every third Tuesday of the month, starting with September until April (in Drift 21, room 0.32, from 19.15-21.30 hrs). Admission to the screenings is free of charge.

Programme of the Postcolonial Film Series 2015-2016:

November 17: *Besouro* (João Daniel Tikhomirow, Brazil, 2009). Introduced by Edward Akintola Hubbard. Christoph Lindner will also give a PCI lecture on this date, see below.

December 15: *Mediterraneo* (Jonas Carpignano, Italy, 2015). Introduced by Domitilla Olivieri.

January 12: *The missing picture* (Rithy Panh, Cambodia, 2014). Introduced by Sandra Ponzanesi.

February 16: *Aferim!* (Radu Jude, Romania, 2015). Introduced by Laura Candidatu.

March 15: *Drone* (Tonje Hessen Schei, Norway, 2014). Introduced by Doro Wiese.

April 19: *The Act of Killing* (Joshua Oppenheimer, Indonesia, 2013). Introduced by Susanne Knittel.

Programme of the Postcolonial Lecture Series, fall 2015:

November 17: *Ghost Cities and Ruin Lust*, by Christoph Lindner (University of Amsterdam, NL)

[Read more -->](#)

Postcolonial Studies lecture by Christoph Lindner: 'Ghost Cities and Ruin Lust' (Utrecht University, NL)

In the lecture series of the Postcolonial Studies Initiative (PCI), Christoph Lindner (University of Amsterdam) will speak about 'Ghost Cities and Ruin Lust' on 17 November, 2015. The lecture will be held at Utrecht University (NL), from 15.00-17.00 hrs.

Moving between Detroit, Mumbai, London, and Amsterdam, this talk addresses the ways in which contemporary ruin aesthetics associated with postindustrial decay and urban poverty travel between cities in the era of globalisation. The focus is on how transnational ruin aesthetics produce various forms of spectral urbanism, become enmeshed in the visual and institutional imaginaries of art museums, and contribute to gentrification and urban branding.

Christoph Lindner works at the University of Amsterdam, where he writes about cities, globalisation, and visual culture. His books include *Imagining New York City: Literature, Urbanism and the Visual Arts* (Oxford University Press, 2015), and the edited volumes *Global Garbage* (Routledge, 2015), *Inert Cities* (I.B. Tauris, 2014), *Cities Interrupted* (Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2016).

The PCI is sponsored by and connected to Utrecht University's research focus area Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights.

[Read more -->](#)

Presentation 'The Traffic in Girls: Crisis, Criminality, and Affective Currencies in the Libidinal Economy' (Utrecht, NL)

With great pleasure CASCO - Office for Art, Design and Theory invites you to attend a presentation by Maya Andrea Gonzalez & Cassandra Troyan, contemporary Marxist feminist scholars and activists based in Oakland, CA. 'The Traffic in Girls: Crisis, Criminality, and Affective Currencies in the Libidinal Economy' addresses the emotional and material labor of The Girlfriend Experience (GFE) as emblematic of service work within the broader economy, wherein the distinctions between the formal and libidinal economies have blurred. Following the talk there will be a discussion of their work (see the [suggested readings](#)) over tea, coffee & drinks. The presentation will be held on November 17, 16.30 hrs at CASCO (Utrecht, NL). This event is free and open to the public, but as space is limited in the venue advanced registration [via email](#) is appreciated.

[Read more -->](#)

Related Reading Group Launch on November 16, 19:30hrs (Utrecht, NL)

'The Traffic in Girls' also supports the launch of a new monthly Revolutionary Feminist Reading group, organized by AskAnnabel2.0 (Student Association of the Gender Studies Department of the University of Utrecht), also as part of CASCO's 'We are the Time Machines' Community Program. The reading group will follow the [Communist Research Cluster's Revolutionary Feminism reader](#) in conjunction with reading groups in NYC, Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Santa Cruz (CA), Davis (CA), Corvallis (OR), Bloomington (IN), Baltimore, Richmond (VA), Durham (NC), Clemson (SC), Ottawa (Canada) & London.

Dates: November 16 (first meeting/launch), December 14, January 11, February 8, March 14.

Location: CASCO, Utrecht (the Netherlands).

[Read more -->](#)

Kate Eichhorn in Doing Gender Lecture Series Autumn 2015 (Utrecht University, NL)

In the autumn of 2015 the Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG) in cooperation with the Graduate Gender Programme (GGeP) at Utrecht University organizes the fifteenth round of the Doing Gender Lecture Series. These lectures stress the importance of doing gender work combined with an active involvement in the practice of gender theory and research.

Associate Professor Kate Eichhorn (The New School, USA) will give a lecture on Wednesday December 2, on 'Women Under the Hood: Gender and Media Archaeology'.

Media archaeology is often described as an approach to media studies that goes "under the hood." Although media archaeology, with its focus on hardware and formats, has often been viewed as a branch of media studies that leaves little room to account for questions of gender, in this talk, Kate Eichhorn argues that gender is part of media archaeology's broader project. With specific reference to her research on the history of xerography, she demonstrates gender's place in media archaeological investigations while making a case for media archaeology as a methodology that might help move discourses on gender and technology beyond the uses and counter-narratives approach that has long structured such discussions.

This lecture is jointly organized with [Atria](#), Institute for Gender Equality and Women's History.

The Doing Gender Lectures take place in Utrecht and are free of charge.

Upcoming Doing Gender Lecturers:

- Prof. dr. Gloria Wekker (Utrecht University, NL)
- Dr. Shannon Winnubst (Ohio State University, USA)

Registration via email is not compulsory, but highly appreciated.

[Read more -->](#)

Afscheidsrede Prof. dr. Willy Jansen: 'Spelen met verschil' (Radboud University Nijmegen, NL)

Prof. dr. Willy Jansen, hoogleraar aan de Radboud Universiteit / Faculteit der Sociale Wetenschappen met de leeropdracht Vrouwenstudies, geeft vanwege haar aftreden als hoogleraar in een academische zitting op vrijdag 6 november 2015 om 15.45 uur een openbaar afscheidscollege getiteld 'Spelen met verschil'.

De Rector Magnificus nodigt u uit deze academische plechtigheid bij te wonen. De academische zitting en de gezamenlijke receptie met prof. Driessen vinden plaats in de Aula van de Radboud Universiteit in Nijmegen.

Anmelden via [deze website](#).

[Meer informatie -->](#)

Ir/relevance of race seminar with Prof. dr. Giseline Kuipers (University of Amsterdam, NL)

On Monday November 9, 2015, Prof. dr. Giseline Kuipers will give an ir/relevance of race seminar entitled 'Aesthetic intersections: Racial repertoires in the evaluation of beauty in 5 European countries'. The lecture will be held from 15.30-17.00 hrs at the University of Amsterdam (NL).

In this seminar series the relevance and irrelevance of race is being discussed as an object and concept of research in order to explore ways to talk about race without naturalizing differences. The series goes beyond a standard definition of race, one that is allegedly relevant everywhere, and situates race in specific practices of research. In addition the series gives room to the various different versions of race that can be found in the European context and explores when and how populations, religions, and cultures become naturalized and racialized. Scholars from different (inter)disciplinary fields (such as genetics, anthropology, philosophy, cultural studies, history, political sciences, science and technology studies) are invited to address the issue of race through a paper presentation. The seminar is held every six weeks at the University of Amsterdam (NL).

Giseline Kuipers is a professor of cultural sociology at the University of Amsterdam. She has published widely in the fields of cultural sociology, the sociology of humor, media studies, and cultural globalization and transnational culture.

[Read more -->](#)

Lecture by Dr. Florence Lévy: 'Illegal Chinese Female Migrants in France: From Divorce in China to Prostitution in Paris' (Leiden University, NL)

On November 27, from 15.00-17.00 hrs, Dr. Florence Lévy will give a lecture on Illegal Chinese Female Migrants in France at Leiden University (NL).

The new migration flux from northern China to France is very atypical because seventy percent of the migrants are divorced middle-class women in their forties who entrust their children to the care of grandparents and arrive in France as singletons. Once in Paris, these women, who used to work in state-owned enterprises as skilled workers or cadres, experience a harsh downward social mobility. They engage in domestic service, and work in massage and beauty parlors, or in prostitution. The lecture will explore why these women prefer to stay in France even in bad situations rather than go back to China. This lecture analyses the complex links between social prestige, hegemonic norms of femininity in China and their decision to migrate.

[Read more -->](#)

International conference on archiving in the 21st century: 80 Years Collection IAV (Amsterdam, NL)

The conference 'Sharing the past, debating the present, creating the future' will be held on December 3 and 4, 2015, in Amsterdam (NL). The conference will focus on the social, cultural, political and academic importance of women's archives and of institutions for the enhancement of gender equality in the 21st century. The Collection International Archives for the Women's Movement (Collection IAV) is preserved by Atria. It is a unique resource for research on women's and gender history. Atria is pleased to welcome you on this special occasion in Amsterdam. With keynote speeches from Marens Engelhard, National Archivist of the Netherlands; Buhle

Mbambo-Thata, Executive Director, Library Services, University of South Africa; Francisca de Haan, Professor of Gender Studies and History, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary; Joyce Follet, Co-director, Steinem Initiative, Smith College, Northampton, MA, USA as well as contributions by Adele Patrick, Lifelong Learning and Creative Development Manager, Glasgow Women's Library, UK; Patricia Kaersenhout, Visual Artist, the Netherlands; Gerda Jansen Hendriks, Director at the History Department of NTR, Dutch Public Service Broadcaster; Sebastian Finsterwalder, Researcher on the "Raubgut" Project, Zentral- und Landesbibliothek Berlin (ZLB), Germany; and, Agnes Jongerius, member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Board of Trustees of Atria, and many more.

Registration via the website.

[Read more -->](#)

Symposium 'Free from Fear, Free from Pain: Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation in Europe' (Brussels, BE)

Symposium 'Free from Fear, Free from Pain: Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation in Europe' on January 27, 2016, in Brussels (Belgium).

This timely symposium provides an invaluable opportunity to gain an understanding of the current EU legal framework and what more needs to be done to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The symposium will examine how a multi-sector approach can be strengthened, and explore issues around prevention, the importance of specialist services and the greater role of health and education providers in ensuring better awareness and early intervention. Delegates will:

- Understand the current policy and legal framework for eradicating all forms of female genital mutilation in Europe
- Explore ways to fight FGM through better education and awareness raising campaigns
- Discuss strategies to improve the support chain of FGM victims through specialised services and multi-sector cooperation
- Examine ways to increase capacity building across sectors to fight FGM

Registration via [this website](#).

[Read more -->](#)

Vacancies

Bijzonder hoogleraar Politieke geschiedenis van gender in Nederland (Universiteit van Amsterdam, NL)

De Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen - Afdeling Geschiedenis, Europese studies en religiewetenschappen van de Universiteit van Amsterdam (NL) heeft een vacature voor een Bijzonder hoogleraar Politieke geschiedenis van gender in Nederland.

De bijzondere leerstoel Politieke Geschiedenis van Gender in Nederland (Wilhelmina Drucker leerstoel) is in 2008 ingesteld in de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen, sinds 2013 vanwege de Stichting Wilhelmina Drucker Fundatie. De bijzondere leerstoel is gericht op onderwijs en onderzoek op het gebied van de politieke geschiedenis van gender in Nederland en is bij uitstek het middel om het belang van dit vakgebied uit te dragen. De taken van de bijzondere hoogleraar zijn globaal de volgende:

- geven van onderwijs op het gebied van de politieke geschiedenis van gender in Nederland;
- begeleiden van scripties;
- verrichten van onderzoek en het begeleiden van promotieonderzoek;
- optreden als schakel tussen de Wilhelmina Drucker Fundatie en de UvA;
- actief zijn in de relevante internationale netwerken en daarmee de Nederlandse aspecten in een bredere context plaatsen;
- zorgen voor een zo groot mogelijke 'uitstraling' van de leerstoel door een actief en wervend optreden binnen en buiten de UvA.

Deadline voor sollicitatie is 9 november, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

Marie Curie GRACE project: 2 ESR positions at Utrecht University (Utrecht University, NL)

Why does gender inequality persist in the 21st Century? What are European 'cultures' of gender and equality? What needs to change in European cultures to achieve greater equality?

These are the questions that the Marie Curie research project GRACE (Gender and Cultures of Equality in Europe) will seek to answer over the next four years through a multinational research and training consortium. Fifteen early-career researchers, selected on the basis of their excellence, will be employed in the UK, Poland, Hungary, Italy, Spain, and the Netherlands to dig under the surface of European culture through research projects which will examine how and why the idea of gender equality is constructed, challenged, adopted and rejected in the following five vitally important and influential cultural sites: Media Culture, Urban Culture, Intellectual and Activist Cultures, Literary and Artistic Culture, and Employment Culture.

The Graduate Gender Programme (GGeP) at Utrecht University and CEU (Hungary) are in charge of the workpackage on 'Intellectual and Activist Cultures of Gender Equality'.

GGeP is looking for 2 Early stage Researchers (ESRs) for the projects 'Curating Cultures of Equality in Post Imperial European contexts' (investigating the role of curators and curatorial practices in producing more self-reflexive cultures of equality which foreground the legacy and intersections of race and gender in post Imperial Europe) and 'Critics and the cultural politics of equality' (investigating the ways that 'critics' - socially recognized and self-proclaimed critics, professional and amateur, online and offline, intellectuals and 'trolls' - produce and contest cultures of equality in Europe).

The ESRs will be employed by and complete a PhD at Utrecht University, and will be required to undertake a secondment at CEU.

Deadline: December 4, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

Erasmus Mundus Master GEMMA scholarships (for EU and non-EU students)

The call for applications for an Erasmus Mundus scholarship to participate in the 10th edition of GEMMA (start September 2016) is open until November 30, 2015. The scholarships are for EU and non-EU students.

GEMMA: Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in Women's and Gender Studies is a two-year postgraduate interdisciplinary study programme that provides high quality education and professional competencies for personnel working or intending to work in the areas of Women's Studies, Gender Studies and Equal Opportunities across Europe and beyond.

Universities involved in GEMMA are: University of Granada (Spain), University of Bologna (Italy), Central European University of Budapest (Hungary), University of Hull (United Kingdom), University of Łódź (Poland), University of Oviedo (Spain), University of Utrecht (the Netherlands) and Rutgers The State University of New Jersey (USA).

Deadline for application is November 30, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

Two Postdoctoral Research Associate positions (Princeton University, USA)

Princeton University's Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies is pleased to announce two residential Postdoctoral Research Associate positions, renewable annually for three years contingent upon satisfactory performance. One will be awarded to a scholar in the field of Disability Studies. We welcome applications from scholars studying disability from a broad range of social science and humanities fields engaged with gender and sexuality studies. One of the postdoctoral research associates is shared with the Program in American Studies and will support a scholar working at the intersection of race/ethnicity and gender/sexuality.

The Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies Postdoctoral Research Associate Program aims to support scholars who address issues related to gender, sexuality, disability, race, and ethnicity using a multidisciplinary lens. These fellowships are designed to nurture the academic careers of new scholars by providing opportunities to pursue research while gaining mentoring from Princeton faculty. To that end, we are interested in scholars of unusual promise who plan to pursue faculty positions and who demonstrate promising teaching skills.

We invite applications from qualified candidates in the early years of their academic careers who do not yet hold tenure-track academic positions. Ph.D required. Candidates who do not hold a Ph.D. but expect to by June 30, 2016 must provide a letter from the chair of their dissertation committee confirming the timeline for completion.

Deadline for application is December 1, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

Women in the Humanities Visiting Fellowship (University of Oxford, UK)

[Women in the Humanities](#) is an interdisciplinary programme that aims to explore how gender and sex play out in history, art, philosophy, music, language and literature, as well as the ethics and politics of gender identity and equality in the Humanities. It seeks to promote the opportunities Oxford offers to women working in the Humanities at all career stages, as well as promoting the study of women's lives within the Humanities at the University.

A visiting fellowship worth £1,500 is available to scholars working on women's lives, identities and representations in the humanities (broadly defined). The fellowship is intended to cover some of the costs associated with undertaking research in Oxford and can be taken up at any time between 25 April 2016 until 21 June 2018. Applications that forge new collaborations, or significantly strengthen existing collaborations with Oxford postholders into women's lives, experiences, and/or representation will be particularly welcome. Applications that include activities open to graduate students, such as reading groups and workshops, or those that involve teaching as well as research collaborations will also be received favourably. Fellows will be affiliated with The Oxford Research Centre for the Humanities (TORCH), are expected to reside in Oxford for the duration of the fellowship and to attend regular research seminars.

The Fellowships are open to those who hold permanent faculty positions and are working on women's lives, identities and representation in the humanities. They are open to postdoctoral scholars who have had at least 3 years in a full-time or part-time permanent academic post.

Deadline for application is January 15, 2016.

[Read more -->](#)

Calls for Papers

International congress 'Gender Studies in Debate: Pathways, challenges and interdisciplinary perspectives' (University of Lisbon, PT)

Call for papers for the International congress 'Gender Studies in Debate: Pathways, challenges and interdisciplinary perspectives', which will be held on May 25-27, 2016, at the University of Lisbon (Portugal).

While the topic of equality of rights is increasingly on the public agenda, there have been advances and retreats and persisting gender inequalities continue to challenge us to look for more solid analyses. We count on you to address questions such as: what impact have had different gender equality policies on the effective implementation of rights? How to ensure the implementation of laws and prevent perverse effects? Power, relations of power, masculine domination and gender: which connections? Are there frontiers between activism and research, and if yes, how/where to draw them? How to balance the collective subject 'women' with ethnic, class, generational, sexual orientation, and global diversity? How is gender performed in daily life and in different institutions: between reproduction and agency? Heteronormativity, bodies, and sexuality: central issue for gender studies? Men and masculinities: new configurations? What backlash effects have the crisis, the increased inequalities and the neoliberal thinking had on the current life of men and women?

The abstracts should clearly indicate in which research line (I, II or III) the paper should be included:

I Gender, feminisms and women studies

II Policies, institutions and citizenship

III Gender and the construction of contemporary societies

Deadline for submission of abstracts is November 30, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

Interdisciplinary Colloquium of Gender Research 'Popular Culture – Gender - Agency' (University of Rostock, DE)

Call for papers for the colloquium of Gender Research, which will be held on May 19-21, 2016 at the University of Rostock (Germany).

In the light of recent heated debates around questions of gender in popular culture—for instance, around the feminist implications of Charlotte Roche's novels, the political relevance of Lady Gaga's pop music, or Emma Watson's speech in front of the UN—it is fair to say that the pop-cultural field is both the object of and the stage for several discourses on the production, performance and representation of gender. The diversity of discourses corresponds to the diversity of media and actors: the aforementioned debates can be found at all levels of the public sphere, in blogs, pop songs, YouTube videos, and film as well as in newspapers and academic writing. Gender, it seems, has become the new leading paradigm for the ethical evaluation of pop-cultural artefacts. We invite

scholars of all disciplines to meet in Rostock for an interdisciplinary exchange on popular culture and gender.

We welcome national and international papers, which address one of the following issues:

- (New) presentations of gender.
- Gender-specific conditions of (pop) cultural production
- Historical gender discourses and forms of media
- Social movements/activism/politics and gender
- Reception of popular culture
- Education and training

Contributors may present papers in German or English.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is November 30, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

Conference: Gender equality norms and the politics of development cooperation (Copenhagen, DK)

Call for papers for the conference at DIIS, to be held on May 18-20, 2016, in Copenhagen (Denmark). This conference seeks to bring together emerging work on the creation, contestation and translation of international norms and work on gender equality in development cooperation. More specifically, the conference calls for papers that address one of the following three topics:

I The diffusion and translation of gender norms

II Donor organisations and gender equality

III Gender and the Sustainable Development Goals

Both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome. The first two days of the conference consists of presentations and discussions of academic papers while the last day highlights policy implications for a broader audience.

Key note speakers of the conference are Professor Sally Engle Merry (Department of Anthropology, New York University), Professor Andrea Cornwall (Head of School, University of Sussex, (tbc)), Senior Adviser Jenni Klugman (World Bank).

The conference is organised next to the 4th Global Conference of Women Deliver to be held on May 16-19, 2016, in Copenhagen (DK).

Deadline for submission of abstracts is December 1, 2015.

[Read more -->](#)

New Releases / PhD Defenses / Prizes / Awards

Book: *Handboek genderstudies in media, kunst en cultuur* (Uitgeverij Coutinho, 2015)

Het boek *Handboek genderstudies in media, kunst en cultuur* (eds. Rosemarie Buikema en Liedeke Plate) is hét handboek voor studenten genderstudies in de cultuur- en maatschappijwetenschappen. Het is een onmisbare gids voor docenten en studenten in het hoger onderwijs die op zoek zijn naar zowel een overzicht van de laatste ontwikkelingen als een introductie in de geschiedenis van feministische wetenschapsbeoefening. Tevens biedt het boek de geïnteresseerde leek een kleurrijk beeld van een jong en politiek geëngageerd vakgebied.

Dit boek is een geheel herziene en aangevulde tweede druk van het boek *Gender in media, kunst en cultuur* (Uitgeverij Coutinho, 2007, eds. Rosemarie Buikema en Iris van der Tuin). Er zijn acht nieuwe hoofdstukken toegevoegd en de bestaande hoofdstukken zijn herschreven en geactualiseerd met hedendaagse voorbeelden, debatten en theorieën. Hiermee is een thematische verbreding gerealiseerd. Zo is er meer thematische focus op mannelijkheid en zijn er bijdragen van mannelijke auteurs opgenomen. Ook wordt de rol van religie en secularisme belicht, net als de werking van sociale media, documentaire, performancekunst en graphic novels. Tevens is er aanvullende theoretische verdieping door de behandeling van affecttheorie (nadruk op beleving, ervaring en emotie), queer theory (identiteit en lichamelijkheid) en vraagstukken over realisme en realiteit in documentaire film. Tot slot is een uitgebreid glossarium toegevoegd waarin kernconcepten op toegankelijke wijze worden uitgelegd.

[Meer informatie -->](#)

PhD Defense Christophe Van Eecke (Maastricht University, NL)

Date: Thursday November 5, 2015, at 10.00 hrs

Location: Aula of the Minderbroedersberg 4-6, Maastricht

Title: 'Pandaemonium: Ken Russell's Artist Biographies as Baroque Performance'

Supervisors: Maaïke Meijer, Karel Vanhaesebrouck and Jack Post

Registration: no registration; free entrance

Ken Russell (1927-2011) was a renegade talent and the self-styled *enfant terrible* of British cinema. His legacy as a film-maker consists of a large number of films on the lives of artists, mainly composers. But Russell's approach to artist biography was highly unorthodox: rather than reconstruct a factual account he offered a deeply personal interpretation of artists' lives based on his own understanding of their work. In a programmatic text for his film on *Mahler* (1974), Russell explained that his films 'evolve through a stream of consciousness in which the man and the myth, the music and its meaning, time, place, dream and fact all flow and blend into the mainstream of the film itself' and that 'my film is simply about some of the things I feel when I think of Mahler's life and listen to his music'. Van Eecke's research is an attempt to explain what that statement means and to unpack its implications for the practice of life writing. It takes a baroque approach to performance and performativity to show how Russell not simply made highly inventive films on other artists, but also constructed those films as a kind of self-portrait. Russell's work then becomes a performance of self through art.

Pandaemonium: Ken Russell's Artist Biographies as Baroque Performance can be accessed as a free e-book via [this link](#).

PhD Defense Arla Gruda (Utrecht University, NL)

Date: Friday November 13, 2015, at 14.30 hrs

Location: Academiegebouw, University Utrecht (Domplein 29)

Title: 'Lone mothers and welfare policies in Albania. Conditions, experiences, expectations. 1944-2013'

Supervisors: Prof. dr. Berteke Waaldijk and dr. Saemira Pino

Registration: no registration; free entrance

'Lone mothers' are a women category of all times. Their stereotipization and categorizations is constructed by media and political discourses (such as in UK and US), by policy and decision makers need's discourses (such as in the Netherlands and Germany). But the real identities of lone mothers and their differences within a category stand far from what is being constructed in other political spaces rather than in their own homes. This research, therefore tries to construct the social category of 'lone mothers' in Albania, for purpose of welfare-policy-influencing. It is a feminist action research that endeavors to voice the needs of Albanian lone mothers through their own voice, through the voice of local governmental officers, women activists and religious practitioners, who provide services to them. By voicing their needs, lone mothers display their categorical differences.

Prof. dr. Philomena Essed appointed Honorary Doctor at Umeå University (SE)

Professor Philomena Essed, gender researcher fighting for social justice and raising awareness of racial discrimination, has been appointed honorary doctor at the Faculty of Social Sciences of Umeå University (Sweden) in 2015.

Professor Philomena Essed was born in 1955 in the Netherlands where she built the foundation of her academic work and where her inspiring commitment to critical, women's studies about identity, race, ethnicity and gender came to light. She holds a professorship in Critical Race, Gender and Leadership Studies at the Antioch University (USA), is a Visiting Professor at the Department of Education at Umeå University (SE) and affiliated researcher at the Graduate Gender Program at Utrecht University (NL).

Setting out from ordinary women's everyday experiences, she has studied and made visible the processes that create racism and discrimination at present. Essed has contributed with the notions of "everyday racism" and "gendered racism" and her research is deeply characterised by a life-long commitment to social justice. Her research can be described as border-crossing as she, both theoretically and empirically as well as methodologically and geographically, has covered a wide area, not least in work about social justice, critical race theory, women's theory and postcolonial studies. In the most recent years, Philomena Essed has focused her research interest on the notion of "dignity", which she uses to explore the possibility of, by acknowledging other people's dignity, better counteract racism, sexism and xenophobia.

In addition to her academic work, the career of Philomena Essed is marked by a vivid engagement

policy and justice oriented actions of national and international governmental and non-governmental organisations on issues of ethnic and gender equality. She works as an adviser for the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, the EU and the UN, where she has become the expert on race, gender and racism in Europe.

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