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Announcement: See these talks at the Texas Book Festival

by Carrie

Andersen

AMS :: ATX is a blog dedicated to representing the many activities and interests of the department of American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin. Together with the department's Twitter feed, this blog exists to serve the AMS and Austin communities by acting as a hub for up-to-date information on events and opportunities at UT and beyond.





The annual **Texas Book Festival** is upon us this weekend, so we've curated a list of events that would be of interest to friends of American Studies for your perusal and planning.

We'd like to draw your attention especially two events with American Studies participants. The first is a discussion moderated by **Dr. Steve Hoelscher**: "A Long Walk Home," featuring Magnum photographer Eli Reed. *Eli Reed: A Long Walk Home* presents the first career retrospective of Reed's work. Consisting of over 250 images that span the full range of his subjects and his evolution as a photographer, the photographs are a visual summation of the human condition. This event will take place at the Contemporary Austin – Jones Center (700 Congress) at 2:00 PM on Saturday.

The second is a discussion moderated by **Dr. Shirley**

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Thompson: “Negroland.” Pulitzer Prize-winning critic and memoirist Margo Jefferson recounts growing up in a small region of African-American upper class families in Chicago during the civil rights movement and the genesis of feminism. With this point of view, Jefferson discusses race, identity, and American culture, through her own lens. This event takes place at the CSPAN-2/BookTV Tent at 12:00 PM on Sunday.

Here are some other things to do, too – enjoy!

Reagan: The Life (Saturday)

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM, C-SPAN2/ Book TV Tent

In his newest biography, historian H. W. Brands presents Ronald Reagan as one of the most influential presidents of the twentieth century. Brands traces Reagan’s life from humble beginnings to Hollywood actor to his rise as a politician and president.

The History of Franklin’s

Barbecue (Saturday)

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM, Texas Tent

Get hungry for some barbeque with Aaron Franklin and Jordan Mackay as they talk about their new book, *Franklin Barbecue: A Meat-Smoking Manifesto*.

Jacksonland (Saturday)

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM, C-SPAN2/BookTV Tent

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In his latest work, *Jacksonland*, NPR host and author Steve Inskeep dives deep into an era of change that spanned the country and shaped the future. *The Trail of Tears*, the Five Civilized Tribes and the acquisition of Jacksonland are important pieces of American history, all of which have two things in common: Andrew Jackson and John Ross.

That Day (Saturday)

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM, The Contemporary Austin–Jones Center (700 Congress)

Join renowned photographer and Texan Laura Wilson as she discusses what it takes to capture the many facets of the unyielding, ever-changing West in her new book *That Day: Pictures in the American West*.

Talk of the Town (Saturday)

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM, The Sanctuary at First United Methodist Church (1201 Lavaca, enter from Lavaca St.)

Fans! Join two writers who are fans of each other. Jonathan Lethem and Adrian Tomine as they talk about their new respective collections, *Lucky Alan* and *Killing and Dying*, which explore humor, identity, and emotional vulnerability in both realistic and absurd landscapes.

The Dystopian Mirror Reflects the Past (Saturday)

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM, Capitol Extension Room E2.016

- **Undergrad Research:** Molly Mandell named UEPS scholar for 2015-2016 school year!
- **Alumni Voices:** Dr. John Gronbeck-Tedesco, Asst. Prof. of American Studies, Ramapo College
- **Announcement:** Workshop with media artist Samuel Cepeda this Friday

Tweets

- RT @HouserHeather: TODAY, 11am: TILTS Discussion of LIVING OIL w @LeMenagerUO, @ut_english Professor Ann Cvetkovich, & @AmStudies PhD candi... 5 hours ago
- RT @HouserHeather: TODAY, 6pm: TILTS, @ut_english, @AmStudies present Stephanie LeMenager on Oil Culture & Environmental Humanities <https://...> 1 day ago
- Emily Roehl and Jeanette Vaught Giving Talks on Friday 2/12 amstudies.wordpress.com/2016/02/11/emi... <https://t.co/nh2aFWZWn7> 1 day ago
- RT @NotEvenPast: Smallpox as a Cold War weapon @LiberalArtsUT @OBUColdWarrior @coldwarhist @AmStudies @ut_CREEES notevenpast.org/smallpox-eradi... 1 day ago
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Whether the starting place is a reimagining of the Lewis and Clark voyage or a historic Texas War, the future is bleak. Join Benjamin Percy and Zachary Thomas Dodson, two futuristic masterminds, as they unravel the mysteries of the past and the ways in which it predicts our future.

The Art of Politics (Saturday)

*2:00 PM – 2:45 PM, Capitol Extension
Room E2.026*

Join poets Mark Neely and Juliana Spahr as they discuss their latest collections and address tackling current events through poetry. From terrorism to environmental issues, two poets converse about their eloquent, witty works.

Place and Race (Saturday)

*2:00 PM – 2:45 PM, C-SPAN2/BookTV
Tent*

Authors Wendy S. Walters and Jason Sokol discuss the dynamic and complicated course of civil rights over the past several decades in America. Racism emerges in unexpected locations, and the ways in which people resist, cope, and consent are not predictable.

Invisible y Sin Fronteras (Saturday)

*3:00 PM – 3:45 PM, Ahora Si Tent (12th &
Colorado)*

Join Antonio Ruiz-Camacho, Javier Auyero, and Ricardo Ainslie, writers tackling issues of race and place through different genres, as they engage in a wide-ranging discussion of Latino identity in Austin and beyond.

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(Spanish)

Desde distintos géneros, Antonio Ruiz-Camacho, Javier Auyero, y Ricardo Ainslie trabajan temas de raza, etnicidad, e identidad. Los invitamos a sumarse a la conversación sobre varios tópicos relacionados a la identidad Latina en Austin y en el país. (en español)

Wimmin's Comix (Saturday)

*3:15 PM – 4:15 PM, Capitol Auditorium
Room E1.004*

Cartoonists Marisa Acocella Marchetto, Anne Opotowsky, and illustrator Aya Morton discuss the role of women in comics, and the influences on their current works. From the subversive Wimmin's Comix to Anna Tenna and the Walled City Trilogy, the graphic novel genre proves to be inclusive and provocative.

The Wind in the Reeds with Wendell Pierce (Saturday)

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM, House Chamber

With moving recollections of his family, childhood, and artistic journey, Wendell Pierce (*The Wire*, *Treme*) relates the story of his mission to rebuild his beloved New Orleans neighborhood after Hurricane Katrina in *The Wind in the Reeds: A Storm, A Play, and the City That Would Not Be Broken*.

A Portrait of a Critic as a Young Man (Saturday)

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM, Capitol Extension

Room E2.010

Join the “Dean of American Rock Critics” Robert Christgau as he dives headfirst into the inspiration behind his new book, a memoir which is equal parts love story and tribute to New York and the metamorphic power of art.

Invisible in Austin (Sunday)

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM, Texas Tent

Join editor Javier Auyero and some of his collaborating graduate students, Katherine Jensen and Caitlyn Collins, in discussion about *Invisible in Austin*, an essential study of the growing gap between wealth and poverty in a dynamic and overall thriving city.

Getting Real (Sunday)

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM, Capitol Extension

Room E2.014

Saeed Jones and James Hannaham bring the crucial Black Lives Matter conversation to the forefront. Join Texas-native Jones and Bronx-born Hannaham in a cross-genre panel as they discuss how race and racism has influenced their respective texts and their poignantly unique perspectives.

Standing Out, Blending In (Sunday)

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM, Capitol Extension

Room E2.026

Join Allyson Hobbs and James McGrath Morris as they share their investigations into the tumultuous history of racial identity in the U.S. in their respective

works, *A Chosen Exile: A History of Racial Passing in American Life* and *Eye on the Struggle: Ethel Payne, the First Lady of the Black Press*.

Grant Park (Sunday)

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM, House Chamber

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Leonard Pitts' latest novel alternates between 1968, the year of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination, and Chicago during the election of 2008. *Grant Park* showcases his talent for addressing racial tensions that are just as relevant today as they were during the Civil Rights era.

Her Texas (Sunday)

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM, Capitol Extension Room E1.026

Multicultural, multiethnic, and multidisciplinary, *Her Texas* includes stories, essays, memoirs, poetry, song lyrics, paintings, and photographs by 60 Texas women. Some of the contributors are here today to talk about her own Texas.

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