

# Queer Studies Lecture Series

## Sonoma State University

Ives 101  
Mondays 12:05-12:55  
Women's & Gender Studies

### Cary Escovedo 2/3

**Nonprofit Manager, Punk Musician, Drag Queen**

Escovedo, a Sonoma State WGS and Queer Studies minor alumni, is HIV Services coordinator at St. James Infirmary, a San Francisco-based peer-run clinic for sex workers. He is also a punk musician and drag performer "Kochina Rude." He will talk about how juggling these multiple identities allows him to craft a queer life and engage in queer of color cultural worldmaking.

### Sara Beth Brooks 2/10

**What Does the A in LGBTQIA+ Stand For?**

Scholar-activist, organizer, and founder of Asexual Awareness Week Sara Beth Brooks explores how over the last 20 years, asexual communities have organized together to develop a unique vocabulary to describe their experiences. This presentation will introduce the asexual umbrella of identities, violence faced by asexual folks, the history of the asexual movement, coming out as asexual, and navigating mixed orientation relationships.

### Dr. Ardel Haefele-Thomas 2/17

**Trans Social Justice Advocates of the 19th Century**

Haefele-Thomas is the author of *Introduction to Transgender Studies* (2019), the first introductory book to this field of study. They will be exploring the work of two 19th-century trans social justice advocates: Dr. James Miranda Barry and Frances Thompson. Barry was a groundbreaking British medical reformer in South Africa who navigated the "public secret" of his gender history. Frances Thompson, a freed slave, was part of a group of African American women who stood up against violence done to her and her community in South Memphis Tennessee.

### Bianca Zamora 2/24

**Bi, Brown and Brilliant: Reclaiming Stories in the Borderlands**

Zamora, a proud queer Latina feminist educator and alumni of the SSU WGS major and Queer Studies minor, will enact her performance autoethnography that draws from Gloria Anzaldúa's *Borderlands: La Frontera* to explore the relationship between colonialism, racism, sexism, and biphobia. Coordinator for the CSU Monterey Bay Otter Cross-Cultural Center, Bianca utilizes intersectional and arts to explore issues of power, identities, and coalition building. Outside of work, she engages in community advocacy through poetry. Most recently Bianca spoke at the 2019 Monterey Peninsula Pride and the 2020 Womxn's March. She holds a Student Affairs Master's degree from Miami University.

### Nancy Marcus 3/2

**The Importance of Bi+ Inclusion in LGBTQ Law & Policy Work**

Marcus, an out bisexual lawyer, will address the importance of bi+ inclusion in LGBTQ rights advocacy while also addressing the reciprocal problem and overdue and essential to the protection of liberty for all LGBTQ people. She is the "Legally Bi" columnist for bi.org; co-founder of BiLaw, the national legal organization; author of numerous articles on LGBTQ rights, bisexual jurisprudence, constitutional law, racial justice, and other issues; and has held a number of leadership positions in the LGBTQ movement.

### Shad Reinstein & Tina Dungan 3/9

**The Queering of Sonoma: From LG to LGBTQI**

Sonoma County LGBTQI History Timeline creators Tina Dungan and Shad Reinstein will show how Sonoma has always had an LGBTQI presence and has played a significant role in queer culture and politics. Dungan is a life-long resident of Sonoma County who came out during the early 1970s through her involvement in the first Women's Studies program at SSU. Since 2007, she has been working with others through Lesbian Archives of Sonoma County to capture the cultural and political history of that community. Reinstein, a longtime LGBTQI activist and filmmaker, now produces OUTwatch, Wine Country's LGBTQI Film Festival

### Gerard Koskovich 3/30

**From Clandestine Territories to Public Places: San Francisco LGBTQ Historic Sites**

Koskovich, a historian, curator, rare book dealer and founding member of the GLBT Historical Society, will assert that stories tied to historic places have long served to reflect the power of the state and restrict social belonging. This talk will offer a critical look at the function of historic sites and trace organizing in San Francisco over the past four decades.

### Kat Blaque 4/6

**Black Trans Living and Blogging on YouTube**

Blaque is an animator, illustrator and Youtuber who has been blogging about her life for the past 10+ years on YouTube. Through the ups and downs of new media, she has concluded that social media is a powerful force for change and awareness. As a rape survivor, feminist, and a black and trans woman, she addresses a diverse range of issues in her work from self growth and acceptance, to confronting white supremacy, to facing online harassment and more.

### Dr. Eric Gonzaba 4/13

**Where Do They Go? Race, Racism, and the History of the Black Gay Bar**

Dr. Gonzaba, a historian of African American and LGBT culture and an Assistant Professor of American Studies at California State University, Fullerton, explores how race helped define gay nightlife since the 1960s. He examines the birth and proliferation of separate queer spaces for people of color, especially African Americans, as a result of continued discrimination even in so-called progressive gay circles. Loyalties to bars that catered to black clientele represented a form of resistance to discriminatory clubs or bars.

### Martin Rawlings-Fein 4/20

**Beyond David and Jonathan: Bisexual Representation in the TaNaKh**

Rawlings-Fein, a Davvenen' Leadership Training Institute graduate with an advanced degree in Jewish Studies, asks, was King David a bisexual? This talk will explore the narrative nature of biblical readings, eroticism of David's relationship with Jonathan, and passionate relationships with women. Rawlings-Fein is a Jewish, bisexual, transgender father of two, filmmaker & educator. He is also the director of many short films, including shorts, Perfect Fit (2009), Gillian (2010), Clocks: An Oral History (2009), Who You Callin' Queer? (2010), and Choosing to be Chosen (2019). He is also the former headteacher & education director at the Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer school in San Francisco.

### Dr. Andrew Jolivet 4/27

**Queer Indigenous Futurity and Kinship: Thrivance Circuitry, 'Settler' Violence, and Anti-Blackness**

Dr. Jolivet, professor and senior specialist in Native American and Indigenous Studies in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, San Diego, will examine the ways in which queer Indigenous peoples across the U.S., Australia, Canada and Latin America enact kinship and cultural self determination to combat settler violence, anti-Blackness, and Western notions of citizenship and queerness. Born and raised in San Francisco, Jolivet is a Creole of Opelousa, Atakapa-Ishak, French, African, Irish, Italian, and Spanish descent.

The Queer Studies Lecture Series is made possible thanks to the WGS Department, Queer Studies Minor, SSU Instructionally Related Activities Program, Student Involvement, The Louise Lawrence Transgender Archive, and The HUB Cultural Center. Questions? Contact WGS Prof. Don Romesburg: [don.romesburg@sonoma.edu](mailto:don.romesburg@sonoma.edu)