

HUMANITIES NOW

THE UIC INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER

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FACULTY FELLOWS

The Institute congratulates the 2019-2020 fellows: **Andy Clarno, Beate Geissler, Susila Gurusami, Anna Kornbluh, Yann Robert, and Jeffrey Sklansky.**

And we welcome the incoming 2020-2021 Fellows who will deliver public lectures on their research projects: **Fredy González, Esther Díaz Martín, Rachel Weber, Raphael Magarik, Nina Dubin, and Matthew Kendall.**

Visit our website to find a list of public lectures by this year's fellows.

HUMANITIES INNOVATION GRANTS

The Institute for the Humanities announces new Humanities Innovation Grants, designed to fund work in the humanities that explores new theories, archives, methodologies, interdisciplinary connections, applications, and public engagement. The Institute will sponsor 1-5 grants each academic year, between \$1,000 and \$10,000 per grant. These grants will be announced in early November.

GIVE TO THE INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES



Help support students in their humanities research by giving to UIC's Institute for the Humanities. You may direct your gift to the **UIC Institute for the Humanities Endowment Fund** (give.las.uic.edu/units/huminst).

VISITING FELLOW, GERALD HORNE

April 26-27, 2022

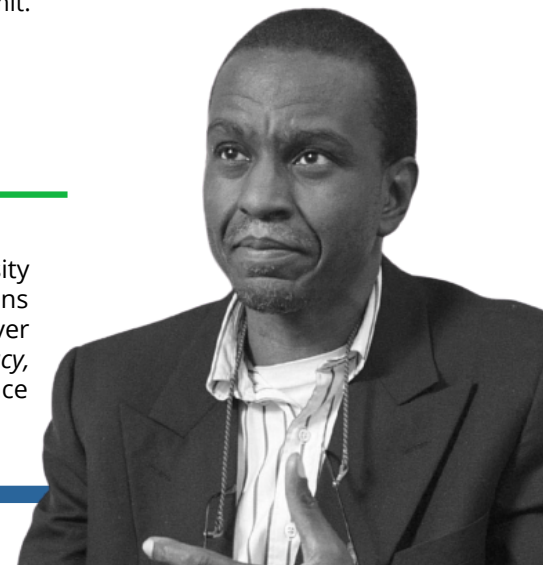
Gerald Horne is Moores Professor of History and African American Studies at the University of Houston. His research and publications address issues of racism in a variety of relations involving labor, politics, civil rights, international relations and war. He is author of over thirty books, including *The Dawning of the Apocalypse: The Roots of Slavery, White Supremacy, Settler Colonialism and Capitalism in the Long 16th Century* (2020). Horne will be in residence at UIC as part of the Institute's Visiting Fellows program. More details to be announced.

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR, MARK CANUEL

Our staff and affiliated faculty at the Institute for the Humanities joined students, faculty, alumni, and extended community in weathering the COVID crisis that continues up to the date of this publication. During that time, we appreciated the importance of the "human" in "humanities." Moving our programs to the remote Zoom format (a format which we will continue this year, even as we move to limited face-to-face programming), we cultivated connections and collaborations even while we were physically separated. Sometimes, we just needed to share our challenges, mourn lost connections, and honor the lives lost during the year. And we also continued to do our best to provide a virtual version of the intellectual community that the Institute has cultivated for nearly forty years. Entirely online, we hosted a groundbreaking conference on "Different Archives, Different Histories," exciting Visiting Fellow events with Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, and—thanks to our ingenious working groups-- brilliant talks by John Modern, Shane Vogel, James Maffie, Angela D. Dillard, and many others. This year, we continue some uncertainty as we return to campus. But we can be sure that the vibrant community of our students, faculty, alumni, and community partners will continue to stimulate our minds and buoy our spirits with new opportunities for conversation and debate.

CHICAGO HUMANITIES FESTIVAL

The Institute for the Humanities continues its collaboration with the Chicago Humanities Festival by hosting CHF events on the UIC campus, featuring UIC faculty in CHF events, and partnering on exciting humanities projects like the Neighborhood Initiative. To help run the Neighborhood Initiative, CHF offered a postdoctoral fellowship for a UIC graduate student. The winner was **Caitlyn Devaney**, who presented her work with CHF at our Fall Humanities Summit.



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BEYOND BINARY: GENDERS IN THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

October 7-8, 2021

This conference explored nonbinary gender in an interdisciplinary context. While journalists note that nonbinary identity is seeping into national consciousness, this series of panels, performances, and conversations brought more focused attention to the nonbinary with discussions of gender relations from the multiple points of view afforded by humanistic inquiry. Drawing together researchers, writers, artists, and activists, our discussions explored patterns of thought and practice in history, philosophy, culture, and the arts that contributed to new understanding and inspired further conversation. What is the history of nonbinary gender identity? How does it connect to other ways of thinking of gender? How does nonbinary gender connect to histories and theories of sexuality? How are new ways of thinking about gender contributing to changes in law, politics, and culture?

Organized by: Mark Canuel (UIC, Dept. of English) - he/him, JT Turner (UIC, Gender and Sexuality Center) - they/them, and Nic Weststrate (UIC, Education) - he/him



If you missed this conference, you can catch up on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/UICInstitutefortheHumanities>

UPCOMING HUMANITIES FRONTIERS WORKSHOP

Archaists and Innovators Re-read Viktor Shklovsky's *60 Years: Works on Cinema*

October 15-17, 2021 / 605 SCE, 750 S Halsted, and via Zoom

The yearly Formalist Re-Reading Workshop is dedicated to reevaluating the legacy of Russian formalists. The 2020-2021 featured text is Viktor Shklovsky's collection of essays on film, *In 60 Years: Works on Cinema*, published posthumously in 1985. Among literary scholars in the West, Shklovsky is known as a theorist of defamiliarization, and the author of "Art as Device," and as one of the first serious theoreticians of cinema. The Formalist Re-Reading Workshop will include screening of a recent film *VMayakovsky*, dedicated to the life of the great Russian futurist poet and highly indebted to the cinematic techniques of early Soviet cinema. Organized by Julia Vaingurt, UIC Polish, Russian, and Lithuanian Studies.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES INITIATIVE

The UIC Institute for the Humanities and University Library are delighted to announce the **Multiethnic Digital Humanities Project!** Generously funded by the University of Illinois Presidential Grant to Celebrate the Impact of the Arts and the Humanities, this next chapter of the Digital Humanities Initiative addresses a burgeoning area of academic work at UIC and other campuses on the intersections of digital methods and platforms with race, ethnicity and community across the globe.

Digital humanities expands opportunities for new research methods and for producing public-facing work in arts and humanities on exciting interactive digital platforms. The Multiethnic Digital Humanities Project takes inspiration from groundbreaking work being done by our faculty and students and seeks to bolster the visibility and reach of projects documenting diverse languages, cultures, and communities. Also informed by the innovative work done across the country, such as the NEH-funded **Digital Native American Studies Project**, the project aims to expose our University of Illinois campuses to cutting-edge digital humanities work and facilitates exciting collaborations with scholars and community partners.

Upcoming activities include:

Opportunities for students and faculty to consult on digital projects with Digital Humanities Initiative Co-Directors Carla Barger, teaching assistant, English department and Janet Swatscheno, Instructor and Digital Publishing Librarian

- Applications for faculty to obtain assistance on digital projects from graduate assistants
- A new research assistantship in Digital Humanities
- Multiethnic Digital Humanities Workshops and Conference

For more information about the Multiethnic Digital Humanities Project, visit dhi.uic.edu.