

Thesis Eleven Centre for Cultural Sociology Annual Report 2011

Introduction

The *Thesis Eleven* Centre for Cultural Sociology was formally established in 2001 and commenced activities in 2002. It is closely aligned with the international critical theory and historical sociology journal of the same title, published by Sage, London. The journal is now in its 30th year of operation. Initially known as the *Thesis Eleven* Centre for Critical Theory, the centre changed its name as of 17 December 2007. The broad horizon of cultural sociology is a more accurate indicator of what the Centre actually does in its operations. Critical theory is a major source and tradition for us, but cultural sociology is a more expansive description of what we do and where we are heading.

We are pleased to present the 9th Annual Report.



From left: **Dr Ira Raja**, Department of English, Delhi University, Visiting Research Fellow, *Thesis Eleven Centre for Cultural Sociology*, La Trobe; **Philip Lutgendorf**, Professor of Hindi and Modern Indian Studies Co-Chair, South Asian Studies Program, University of Iowa; **Peter Beilharz**; **Christine Ellem**; Professor **John Webb**, Deputy Director, Australia India Institute, the University of Melbourne; **Trevor Hogan**.



Trevor Hogan; Professor John Rosenberg, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, La Trobe University; **Peter Beilharz**

Objectives

The Centre has nine main aims, as set out in its constitution:

1. To encourage the development and application of social and political theory throughout the world through publishing and presenting material in printed and electronic form and through delivering educational workshops, forums and conferences;
2. To facilitate international exchanges of internationally recognized scholars in the field of social and political theory;
3. To attract overseas students to enroll in the Faculty's postgraduate programs in the field of social and political theory;
4. To encourage local postgraduate research culture and scholarly research in the field of social and political theory;
5. To promote *Thesis Eleven* as an international journal of social and political theory;
6. To significantly expand the opportunities for research in the field of social and political theory;
7. To promote the teaching and research activities of members of staff of the university in the field of social and political theory;
8. To promote the training of postgraduates in research in the field of social and political theory;
9. To do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above

aims.

Membership

How the Centre works:

The Centre focuses on organizing four kinds of events:

1. Annual and public lectures by leading and renowned intellectuals and scholars, both here and overseas;
2. Full day seminars on the work and thought of such intellectuals with them present and working in conversation with a range of local interlocutors and discussants of their work;
3. Half day seminars on particular themes with invited speakers;
4. Symposia and colloquia in other cities either connected to the work of the journal or to international social theory and social science conferences.

The Centre has four fields of operation:

- local Bundoora and City campuses;
- regional especially Mildura Campus;
- national (Curtin, Murdoch and University of Western Australia in Perth; Flinders University in Adelaide); and
- international (spanning three continents: Europe, Asia and North America but also the island nation-state, New Zealand).

In all cases we are pro-active, working through our own international and national professional and intellectual networks, minimizing overheads and resources and maximizing local-global connections and networks, and ensuring intensive face-to-face encounters.

The co-ordinating editors of the journal, *Thesis Eleven*: Professor Peter Beilharz and Dr Trevor Hogan are the founding Director and Deputy Director of this Centre, respectively. As such, they are also *Chair* and *Deputy Chair* of the Board of Management.

Ordinary Members of the Centre who are also on the *Board of Management*, appointed by the Dean of the Faculty, include the Dean himself, Professor Tim Murray, as well as Professor John Carroll, Dr Stefan Auer, Dr Anthony Moran, and Ms Finn Leach.

Student Members are Darrell Bennetts, Christine Ellem, Edwin Wise, Julian Potter, Harry Paternoster, Joseph Salazar, and Yanhang Cai.

Associate Members are Professor Simon Marginson (University of Melbourne), Professor Peter Murphy (Monash University), Professor David Roberts (Monash), Dr. Eduardo de la Fuente (Flinders), Dr. Sian Supski (Monash), Dr. Tom Heenan

(Monash), Professor Anthony Elliott (Flinders), Professor Terri-Ann White (UWA), Dr Suzi Adams (Flinders), Dr Priti Singh (Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi) and Professor Sambuddha Sen, Professor Udaya Kumar, Professor Sumanyu Satpathy, Dr Brinda Bose, and Dr Ira Raja (all of Delhi U); Dr Mark Davis (Leeds); Professor Peter Vale (Johannesburg); Professor Anders Michelson (Copenhagen), Dr Divya Anand (Boston).

Honorary Members are Professor Stuart McIntyre (Melbourne), Professor Jeffrey Alexander (Yale), Professor Joanna Bourke (London), Professor Craig Calhoun (NYC), Dr Luis David SJ (Ateneo de Manila), Professor Alastair Davidson, Professor Maria Pia Lara (Mexico City), Professor Emeritus George Markus (Sydney), Dr Maria Markus (Sydney), Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki (Canberra), Professor Peter Newman (Curtin, Fremantle), Professor George Ritzer (Maryland), Professor Emeritus Bernard Smith (Melbourne), Professor Keith Tester (Portsmouth), Professor Philippa Mein-Smith (Christchurch), Professor George Steinmetz (Michigan), Professor Ron Jacobs (Albany, NY) and Professor Eleanor Townsley).

Administration

The Centre is a small operation with big ambitions. It runs on the entrepreneurial imaginations of its Directors and their colleagues in the journal. It depends on the support of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and the goodwill of academic and general staff in the Sociology and Anthropology program in the School of Social Sciences. In particular we record our thanks to the initiative, drive and support of Finn Leach (who administers the Centre's account) and both the School's team of administrative staff Bronwyn Bardsley, Amanda Dunn and Lisa Hunter; as well as the Faculty's administrative staff Deb Hewitt, Jane Schleiger, Victor Maslaris, Kennedy D'Sousa and Stella Pecova.

The Centre depends on the goodwill and work of both the Faculty of Humanities and the School of Social Sciences. It also piggybacks on the resources of the journal and in particular of the work of the three Production Assistants during this period, Suzi Adams (January–August 2002) and Karl Smith (September 2002–July 2007), and Christine Ellem (July 2007–). The Directors of the Centre report regularly to the Editors' meetings of the journal and we are particularly grateful to our colleagues on the editorial team who are always imaginative, good humoured, generous-spirited and hard working.

This year is the second year of the Centre affiliated to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences with its own budget. We give thanks to the generous support of Tim Brown, Deputy Vice Chancellor-Research, and Tim Murray, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. We also wish to take this opportunity to express and record our appreciation and thanks for the enthusiasm and support of Professor Paul Johnson, the Vice Chancellor, and Professor Judith Brett, Head of the School of Social Sciences, respectively. We thank both the Faculty and the School for their consistent administrative, financial, and intellectual support and interest.

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2011: The Year in Review

Bundoora:

Honorary Research Fellow

2008-2011

Dr Ira Raja, Department of English, Delhi University

I published two research articles, one independently and the other with Ken Botnick as co-author; two academic introductions for my two edited volumes of fiction; two essays for the *Year's Work in English Studies*, covering the field of South Asian literature; one translation of a Hindi short story into English, for a Canadian publication on South Asian fiction; one commissioned essay of about 12000 words on the role played by journals in the institutionalization of postcolonial studies, for the *Cambridge History of Postcolonial Literature*, ed. Ato Quayson, with Deepika Bahri as second author. Early in 2010, I published two edited anthologies of fiction: *Grey Areas: An Anthology of Contemporary Indian Fiction on Ageing* (Delhi: Oxford University Press) and with Kay Souter, *An Endless Winter's Night: Mother-Daughter Narratives from India* (Delhi: Women Unlimited). I also edited with Trevor Hogan a special issue of *Thesis Eleven* on Australia and India. I co-wrote with Phillip Darby, a short piece on 'Australia and India', for *Antipodean Sociology: Place, Time and Division* ed. Beilharz and Hogan (Oxford University Press, 2012).

In addition, I completed in the course of my fellowship at La Trobe, the draft of a monograph, tentatively titled *Intimate Modernity* –which examines ideas and issues of inwardness, consumption, tyranny and visibility in the Indian novel in English from 1894 to 1996. Drafts of four chapters have been presented at various conferences. The introductory chapter is still waiting to be written.

I have presented a total of 14 research papers: five in 2008-2009 -1; five in 2009-2010; and four in 2010-2011. In the meanwhile, I also accepted the Associate Editorship of the journal *South Asia* (Taylor and Francis); as well as an invitation from the journal to edit a special issue for them on the theme of "Indian families: Security, Sexuality, Socialisation", which has been accepted for dual publication as a journal issue and an edited collection (December 2012). Finally, I worked towards organizing two major academic events on campus: One day workshop on 'Family Ties: Security, Sexuality and Socialisation in Indian Families', 13 Sept 2009 and 'A Festival of Ideas on Popular Print and Visual Cultures in India, Australia and the Philippines', 7-15 June 2011.

In 2011 I gave four conference and seminar papers:

15 June 2011, 'Intimate Tyranny', Violence and the Imagination Colloquium, Monash University.

8-10 June 2011, 'Unruly City', with Ken Botnick, Popular Print and Visual Cultures, La Trobe University, Melbourne.

6 May 2011, 'The Elevating Influence of Friendship": Interiority, Sisterhood and Marriage in late 19th century India', University of Western Sydney, Sydney. [By Invitation].

8 April 2011, 'The Elevating Influence of Friendship": Interiority, Sisterhood and Marriage in late 19th century India', ANU, Canberra. [By Invitation]

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14-17 July

Mildura Writers' Festival:

'City and Country' – *Thesis Eleven* Centre opens the Festival leading a discussion with Professor Judith Brett (Politics, School of Social Sciences, Bundoora Campus) and Professor John Martin (Centre for Sustainable Communities, Bendigo Campus).

7-15 June 2011



**WORD, IMAGE, ACTION:
POPULAR PRINT AND VISUAL CULTURES
FESTIVAL OF IDEAS**

FESTIVAL OPENING @ North Melbourne Town Hall, Tuesday 7th June, from 6pm
Music by Little John (duo)

2011 Thesis Eleven Annual Lecture with Ron Jacobs and Eleanor Townsley,
'Media, Intellectuals and the Public Sphere'

Opening Dinner @ The Institute of Postcolonial Studies 8:40pm

PRINT AND VISUAL CULTURES WORKSHOP @ La Trobe University,
Bundoora campus, Wednesday 8th June –Friday 10th, 9:30am – 4/6pm

A 3 day series of lectures, invited papers, plenaries, film screening, art exhibition, artists discussion, and live performance from punk art band 'This Histrionics'.

WIKILEAKS FORUM @ The Wheeler Centre, Monday 13th June 3-5pm
Does Wikileaks Matter? A forum on Wikileaks, with Robert Manne, Guy Rundle, Peter Vale and Eleanor Townsley

BAUMAN FORUM AND DOCUMENTARY WORLD PREMIERE @ State Library of Victoria, Experimedia Room, Tuesday 14th June, 4-8pm
Half-day public forum on the work of Zygmunt Bauman with speakers from The Bauman Institute, Leeds and The Thesis Eleven Centre; followed by world premiere screening of 'The Trouble with Being Human These days', by Director Bartek Dziadosz. Concludes with reflections on 'The Trouble with Being Human These days' from Zygmunt Bauman in conversation with Keith Tester
trailer:<http://www.beinghumanthesedays.com> <http://www.beinghumanthesedays.com/>

PUBLIC LECTURES

Christopher Pinney, 'Impressions of Hell: Printing and Punishment in India' @North Melbourne Church Hall, Saturday 11th June, 7:30pm hosted by The Institute of Postcolonial Studies.

Ron Jacobs, 'The Media Narrative in the Global Financial Crisis' @Melbourne University, Monday 13th June, 6:30pm, followed by dinner and drinks, hosted by the TASA Cultural Sociology Group.

Anders Michelsen, 'Atrocious imagination: the Paradox of Affect – The Imagination of Violence', Keynote for *Violence and the Imagination* Colloquium @Monash University, Caulfield Campus, Wednesday 15th June, 9-10:30 am Program: <http://arts.monash.edu.au/ecps/conferences/violence-imagination/>

PUBLIC FILM SCREENING @State Library of Victoria, Experimedia Space, Wednesday 8th June, 6 – 8pm
Robert Nery's documentary, 'In 1966 the Beatles came to Manila'

ART EXHIBITION: VERNACULAR CULTURES AND CONTEMPORARY ART FROM AUSTRALIA, INDIA AND THE PHILIPPINES @LUMA, Glenn College La Trobe University, Bundoora, Friday, 10th June 4-6pm

Asks how contemporary artists remobilise vernacular cultures to interrogate and mediate the cultural ethics of globalisation, as they engage themes including surf culture, tattoo designs, informal architecture and colloquial language.

Curators Lecture by Ryan Johnston, and discussion with local artists

With Punk Performance Band 'The Histrionics' and the Boombox Burgers Taco Truck.

FILM AND VIDEO EXHIBITION: A POST BOOM BEIJING @Bendigo Visual Arts Centre, View Street, Sunday 12th June 12:30-4pm

Day trip to the Bendigo Visual Arts Centre, including viewing of Arena: A post boom Beijing, film and video exhibition.

Curators lecture by Laurens Tan.

WALKING TOUR: LANEWAYS, STREET ART AND PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS@ Melbourne CBD, Saturday 11th June, 2-4pm

Walking tour of Melbourne laneways, street art and installations as well as local art and moving image museums (limited places available, booking essential. Contact details below)

MASTERCLASS INTENSIVES FOR POSTGRADUATES @ La Trobe University, Bundoora, Wednesday 15th June, 10am – 5:30pm

Settler Societies And Popular Culture: Various speakers, including Marilyn Lake, Peter Vale, Patrick Wolfe and Anthony Moran will discuss the popular cultures of settler societies, exploring issues of race particularly, and looking comparatively across the experiences of different settler societies.

Keywords Masterclass: Inspired by Raymond Williams Keywords (1983), thirteen thinkers will talk each about their chosen or nominated keyword, approaching their topics in terms of traditional keywords (socialism, liberalism); 20th century innovations (such as the postmodern and schemata); or exploring the currency of other words (such as utopia, the migrant, regions, urbanism, walking and metanoia).

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PRINT AND VISUAL CULTURES WORKSHOP (a closer look)

@ La Trobe University, Bundoora campus

WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE

10:00 – 11:30 Opening Lecture,

PHILIP LUTGENDORF (University of Iowa):

Chai Why? The Making of the Indian “National Drink”

Chair: Ira Raja

11:45 – 1.15 PLENARY: PRODUCING CULTURE

Participating Chair: Mark Davis (Leeds University)

Speakers: TONY MOORE (Director, National Centre for Australian Studies, Senior Lecturer, Communications and Media Studies), KEN BOTNICK (Washington University in St Louis), & LAURENS TAN (Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts, & independent artist, Brisbane)

2.15 – 3.30 Parallel Sessions

PANEL 1: LANDSCAPE AND NARRATIVE

Chair: Susan Martin

KIRSTY DUNCANSON: ‘Native’ Landscapes, ‘Cultivated’ Gardens and the Erasure of Indigenous Sovereignty in Two Recent Instance of Australian Cinematic Jurisprudence

JERRY RESPETO (Ateneo de Manila): Landscape and Memory: The Visuality of Sacredness in Pakil, Laguna

PANEL 2: IDENTITY AND DOCUMENTATION, Martin Building, Room 341

Chair: Assa Doron (ANU, Canberra)

SANJAY SRIVASTAVA (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi): Duplicity, Intimacy, Community: Of Identity Cards, Permits and Other Fake Documents in Delhi

JIM MASSELOS (University of Sydney): Image and Memory: Great people and their depiction in photographs, ephemera and prints in India from the late 19th century

Rapporteur for the day, Abhijit Gupta (Jadavpur University, Kolkata)

THURSDAY 9TH JUNE

10:00 – 11:30 Parallel Sessions

PANEL 3: SIGHT AND SOUND *Chair: Peter Friedlander*

ALVIN YAPAN (Ateneo de Manila): The Oral in Philippine Visual Culture

KALPANA RAM (Macquarie): Being “Rasikas”: The Affective Pleasures of Music and Dance Spectatorship and Nationhood in Indian Middle Class Modernity

PANEL 4: PRINT CULTURES

Chair: Sanjay Srivastava (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi)

NANDINI CHANDRA (University of Delhi): Corporal Punishment in the Hindi Children’s Press (1920–50)

ABHIJIT GUPTA (Jadavpur University, Kolkata): Notes towards a Prehistory: The Comic Book in Bengal

SABEENA GADIHOKE (Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi): Cover Girls: Saris, Slacks and Style at the Turn of the Seventies

11:45 – 1.00 Parallel Sessions

PANEL 5: CIRCULATING PRINT

Chair: Philip Lutgendorf (University of Iowa)

KAMA MACLEAN (University of New South Wales): '*Desh Chintan*': Visual Metaphors of 1930s Nationalism in India

PETER FRIEDLANDER (La Trobe): Kabir verses: from Manuscript to Mass Media

PANEL 6: URBAN SPATIALITIES

Chair: Christine Ellem

SAMBUDHA SEN (University of Delhi): Technology, Visuality and the Making of a Modern Urban Imaginary

GARY DEVILLES (Ateneo de Manila): City Blindness: Visuality and Modernity in the Works of Farley Del Rosario, Daniel Alegaen, and Iza Caparaz

2.00 – 3:30 PLENARY: CONTEMPORARY ART SCENE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Chair: Vince Alessi

Speakers: ALFREDO AQUILIZAN (Ateneo de Manila and Brisbane), RICHIE LERMA (Ateneo de Manila) & GINA FAIRLEY (University of Sydney)

Rapporteur for the day, Vijay Mishra (Delhi)

4.00 – 5:15 *Indian Photo and Media Art: A Journey of Discovery* by N. PUSHPAMALA, (Independent Artist, Bangalore/Delhi) Glenn College Lecture Theatre

FRIDAY 10TH JUNE

10:00 – 11:30 Public Lecture: PETER VALE (University of Johannesburg): *The Centenary of Cartoons on South Africa's International Relations, Martin Building Lecture Theatre, Room 141*

Chair: Peter Beilharz

11:45 – 1.15 Parallel Sessions

PANEL 7: CINEMATIC REFLECTIONS

Chair: Kalpana Ram (Macquarie University)

RANJANI MAZUMDAR (Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi): The Film Advertisement in 1960s India

VIJAY MISHRA (Murdoch University): Salman Rushdie, Bollywood and Popular Culture

BRINDA BOSE (University of Delhi): Kolkata Turning: Contemporary Bengali Cinema and the Politics of Change

PANEL 8: MODES OF INTIMACY: FROM SIGNBOARDS TO MOBILE PHONES

Chair: Sanjay Srivastava (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi)

ASSA DORON (ANU, Canberra): Multimedia phones, Society and Cultural practices in North India

KEN BOTNICK (Washington University in St Louis) & IRA RAJA (La Trobe/University of Delhi): The Aesthetics of Accommodation: Signboards, Streets and Democratic Spaces

2.15 – 3:45 PLENARY: ON PHOTOGRAPHY

Chair: Kama Maclean (University of New South Wales)

Speakers: CHRISTOPHER PINNEY (University College London), SABEENA GADIHOKE (Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi), and N. PUSHPAMALA (Independent Artist, Bangalore/Delhi)

Rapporteur for the day, Anders Michelsen (University of Copenhagen).

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We are very pleased to report that the funds expended on the festival have resulted in concrete strategic outcomes:

1. The *Thesis Eleven* Centre was able to successfully implement a plan to consolidate a global network of 6 research centres.
2. The publication of 3 special themed issues in the *Journal of Material Culture* and *Thesis Eleven* journal, a special initiative managed by our postdoctoral fellow and key connection at the University of Delhi, Ira Raja.
3. An agreement by 2 other research centres in Leeds and Johannesburg to host events in 2013 and 2014



Professors **Eleanor R. Townsley**, Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies, Mount Holyoke University; partly obscured: **Ron Jacobs**, Professor of Sociology, State University of New York, Albany; **Christopher Pinney**, Professor of Anthropology and Visual Culture, University College London; **Sambudha Sen**, Professor and Head of Dept of English, Delhi University.



Ranjani Mazumdar, Associate Professor of Cinema Studies, School of Arts & Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University; **Brinda Bose**, Associate Professor of English, Delhi University; and **Vijay Mishra**, Professor of English, Murdoch University.



In front: **Luis David, SJ**, Associate Professor, Dept. Philosophy, Ateneo de Manila University, Editor, *Budhi Journal*; partly obscured: Professor **Marlu Vilches**, Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Ateneo de Manila University; behind left: **Jerry Respeto**, Professor, Dept. Filipino, Ateneo de Manila University and theater director; behind right: **Alvin B. Yapan**, Assistant Professor and Chairperson of the Dept. Filipino, Ateneo de Manila University, and creative writer and filmmaker.



Philip Lutgendorf



Dr Maria Miranda, Postdoctoral Fellow, La Trobe University; **Laurens Tan**, adjunct Professor, Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts, artist, writer and curator

16- 22 June – Manila

Thesis Eleven Centre and PASC delegation from Australia:

Beilharz, Hogan, Ellem, de la Fuente, Supski, Ladrado, Salazar, Potter, Raja, Vale, Fettling, Alessi, Vernon.

In addition to planning meetings, art exhibitions, field trips, the sesquicentenary celebrations by Ateneo of Jose Rizal's birth, we co-hosted a workshop.

VISUAL CULTURES, MODERNITY, AND SOCIETY

Conference-Workshop Program

Ateneo de Manila University

21–22 June 2011

***Thesis Eleven* Centre for Cultural Sociology**

La Trobe University

Philippines Australia Studies Centre

La Trobe University

Philippines Australia Studies Network

Ateneo de Manila University

21 June 2011, Tuesday

- 8:45 – 9:45 Session 1: URBAN CULTURES AND VISUAL ARTISTS
Beilharz and Supski; Devilles (Chair: Luis David, S.J.)
- 10:00 – 11:00 Session 2: CINEMA AND AURAL AESTHETICS
Pamintuan; Neumark (Chair: Gary Devilles)
- 11:00 – 12:00 LECTURE: Twentieth-Century Music: A Case Study in the
Sociology of Modernity, by Eduardo de La Fuente; Response
by Peter Porticos (Chair: Trevor Hogan)
- 1:00 – 2:30 Session 3: DEATH, THE SACRED, AND JEEPNEY
SPIRITUALITY Harvey; Respeto; Gustafson (Chair: Mark
Joseph Calano)
- 2:40 – 4:10 Session 4: LANGUAGE, NEW MEDIA, AND VISUALITY
Yapan; Hogan; Javellana, S.J. (Chair: Ranilo Hermida)
- 4:25 – 4:30 Proceed to lecture
(Social Science Conference Rooms 3 and 4)
- 4:30 – 6:00 LECTURE: On the Centenary of Cartoons on South Africa's
International Relations, by Peter Vale
(Chair: Peter Beilharz)

22 June 2011, Wednesday

- 8:30 – 10:00
TECHNOLOGY Session 5: BODY, NATURE, AND MODERN

Calano; Potter; Barbaza (Chair: Alvin Yapan)
- 10:00 – 10:15 Morning coffee/tea
- 10:15 – 11:45 Session 6: FOOD, INTIMACY, AND MOTHERHOOD

Supski; Salazar; Tan (Chair: Remmon Barbaza)
- 11:45 – 1:00 Lunch hosted by the School of Humanities (Social Science
Conf Rooms 3 and 4)
- 1:00 – 2:30 Session 7A: TRANSPORTATION, ROAD SPACES, AND
URBAN LIFE Pante; Raja; Labastilla (Chair: Jean Tan)

Social Science Conf Rooms 1 and 2
- Session 7B: MATESHIP, NATIONHOOD, AND IMAGINED
FUTURES Ellem; Ladrido; Palacios (Chair: Jerry Respeto)

Leong Hall Dean’s Conference Room
- 2:30 – 3:20 Session 8: REGIONS, IDENTITIES, AND
AUTOBIOGRAPHIES c/o Trevor Hogan
- 3:35 – 4:35 Session 9: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Vernon; Hermida (Chair: Rowena Anthea Azada-Palacios)
- 4:35 – 4:45 Concluding remarks

- 4:45 – 5:00 Proceed to Ateneo Art Gallery
- 5:00 – 6:00 LECTURE: *ME HERE NOW*: Identity and Place in Contemporary Australian Art, by Vincent Alessi
- 6:00 – 6:30 Launch of *ME HERE NOW*
 Director of the Ateneo Art Gallery

Me Here Now: Identity and Place in Contemporary Australian Art. LUMA | La Trobe University Museum of Art will present the exhibition *Me Here Now: Identity and Place in Contemporary Australian Art* at Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila. The exhibition showcases works by Australian artists who are engaged, as the title suggests, with the notions of identity and landscape in contemporary Australia. It will focus on notions of Australianness, youth culture, migrant identities, aboriginal identity and landscape as place. The exhibition will include the works of prominent Australian artists such as Donna Bailey (photographs), Scott Redford (video), Michel Riley (photographs) Sean Gladwell (video) and David Rosetzky (video) amongst others. Presenting multiple works by each artist with a focus on new media the exhibition will give a Filipino audience an insight into the current practices and trends in Australian photography, video and installation.

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Below is an Extract from Professor Peter Vale’s ‘Black Arts’ Column, reflecting on the *Thesis Eleven* events in Melbourne and Manila, from the Supplement to the *Mail* and *Guardian*, 30 September to October 6 2011:

Day One

In the gloaming of a mid-winter evening, I feel that I’m at a rock concert. Actually, I’m jiving to the sounds of Steppenwolf’s hit *Born to Be Wild* in the art gallery of Melbourne’s La Trobe University amid a brilliant display of contemporary art from the Philippines, India and Australia. But, hold on, these words are not quite what I remember from the original. What’s going on? The live band playing certainly isn’t the great Steppenwolf, but they are on fire. They’re a locally acclaimed outfit called the Histrionics, led by a bespectacled singer called Danius Kesminas. Immediately I take to him because, his energy aside, under his suit he is wearing a T-shirt that reads “Crimes against Humanities”. The Histrionics continue an Australian tradition of joke bands. But their style is less joke and more satire. No, that’s too mild: their message is scorn for the post-Steppenwolf generation. Kesminas, who once taught at an art college, is particularly barbed. His version of the 1968 hit is called *Taught to be Mild* and his chorus runs like this:

“Like a true art school child

We were taught, taught to be mild.

*But we're satisfied,
We'll never ask why,
Taught to be mild."*

Day Two

The shimmer of Manila — colour, sun, people, rain — makes it difficult to get the proverbial grip on the place. And I certainly didn't get it until I caught my first sight of a Jeepnee ... "A what?" you may well ask. Officially, they're Manila's chief form of transport and, like the combi-taxis in South Africa, they run regular routes across this city's extensive network of concrete highways. Originally, they were purpose rebuilt from United States Army surplus Jeeps — hence the name — but these days they're more likely to be retreaded Japanese trucks shipped here and then chopped up in backyard body shops. From the comfort of a combi it is the unofficial role of the Jeepnee that interests me most. This is because they're works of art — magnificently decorated in all possible shades, slogans and signs and adorned with shrines: each Jeepnee is a veritable mobile piece of art, but with a twist— each carries a genuflection to Christ or the Virgin. The centuries-long hold of Catholicism over the Philippines, an archipelago of more than 7 000 islands, is everywhere to be seen.

Day Three

In the Colayco Pavilion at Ateneo de Manila University, I stop to watch a clutch of students struggle with the 1970 Beatles hit *Let It Be*. One reason is that their keyboard player is no Billie Preston, whose great keyboard talent anchored the original. But the words seem quite unfamiliar to these youngsters. They smile and wave. Do they know that this grey-haired old white guy raved to the same song when he was their age? But a second question is the more interesting. Do they know, I wonder, that the Beatles once visited Manila? It was 1966 and the Fab Four were returning from a tour to Japan. The Manila leg was a disaster. Their manager, the troubled Brian Epstein, was at his most neurotic and, though they played to a packed audience in a football stadium, they escaped a riot at the airport on their departure, coming within an inch of their lives. The usual suspects were to blame: an authoritarian democracy, drink, drugs, rock 'n roll. And it didn't help that they snubbed Imelda Marcos, the president's wife, who was then at the beginning of her long, long hold over Filipino politics. Robert Nery, an Australian- Filipino filmmaker, has made a movie of the visit. The rough cut is a long rambling piece interspersed with terrific insights into the mixing of cultural codes during the early Marcos years.

Day Four

The Ateneo de Manila University is a sprawling campus on what was once the outskirts of the city. Its high fences and policed gates keep the grey concrete and black tar of the city away from its lush lawns and green trees. Once upon a time the Ateneo (as it is colloquially called) was in the city centre and it was there that Filipino national hero and liberator José Rizal was a student. This year is the sesquicentennial anniversary of Rizal's birth — this says how old the Ateneo is. Spanish Catholics brought education, including higher education, to the Philippines from the mid-1500s onwards. The Ateneo (translated as the Athenaeum) is in the Catholic tradition, which explains, perhaps, why this campus houses a primary school, a high school and the

university. What is that old Jesuit maxim: “Give me a child for his first seven years and I’ll give you the man”?

Day Five

The traveller’s nightmare struck last night — troubled teeth. Across the highway from the Ateneo, I spy a sign that reads “Oabel-David Dental Clinic”. Shall I chance it? I do. And it pays off. As she tends my tender spots, Dr Marivic David-Oabel tells me that she and her husband, who comes from a long line of dentists, both graduated from the nearby University of the Philippines. Alas, their only child, a boy, has eschewed dentistry, to study management across the road at the Ateneo. Gently she chides me, not for the oral hygiene that put me in her chair, but for consorting with the Jesuits! I can’t help wondering whether her great skill isn’t, perhaps, helped by the good side of the United States’ influence in the Philippines. The long love-hate relationship between the Philippines and the US began with the former’s annexation in 1898, and the recruiting of Americans to teach Filipinos at all levels and in all trades and professions commenced in 1901. So, the Jeep in the word “Jeepnee”

Day Six

This is to be a day for the soul and the belly. We’re set to visit cathedrals, a mosque, St Thomas University (founded in 1611), a traditional Filipino house and much more besides. Each place of worship is built in a different historical period — and each has a distinct motive and story to tell. But our interest is caught by the queues of glittering wedding parties at each stop. A rumour runs through our group that the costs of maintaining these old buildings is high and Saturday weddings are a source of regular income. Following my 23-year practice in cathedrals, I buy a candle to light for Beth, our daughter, who was born a Catholic. In the Café Ysabel, a lithe professor with an expertise in things comparative has organised a practical course in the sociology of food. A specially designed menu, with parallel courses from appetiser to main dishes, is served, the idea being to trace the origins of Filipino dishes. So, kinilaw na tuna (tuna with sea salt, Davao style) is served with boquerones (anchovies in olive oil, Madrid style); pancit molo, a chicken broth, compares with wonton soup. Then a pork and chicken dish called adobo alongside the Spanish adobado; chicken inasal compares with Indonesian style ayam panggang; kare-kare, a beef dish, is set against a Thai curry; a vegetarian course called bringhe is eaten alongside an Indian biryani; and, finally, ice cream (obviously American). Not surprisingly, I feel as if I need a postprandial walk but, alas, no luck. We’re shepherded back to waiting combis. It takes two more tourist stops and almost colliding with one of Manila’s mobile *objets d’art* before we reach the Ateneo and fall into bed.



Mark Joseph Calano, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Ateneo de Manila University



Centre front: **Peter Vale**, Professor, University of Johannesburg and Nelson Mandela Chair of Politics Emeritus, Rhodes University



Julian Potter, PhD Candidate, Sociology, La Trobe; **Jerry Respeto**; **Dr Sian Supski**, Sociology, Monash University, Commissioning Editor, *Thesis Eleven*; **Remmon Barbaza**, Associate Professor, Philosophy, Ateneo de Manila University; **Gary Devilles**, Assistant Professor, Kagawaran Ng Filipino, Ateneo de Manila University

Activities of the Directors:

The greater part of our individual and collective efforts were directed this year in the Festival and associated events in Melbourne, Bendigo and Manila. We would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Christine Ellem, project officer, for her herculean efforts, pragmatism, intelligence, and seemingly infinite reserves of patience and good humour. It has been remarkably productive for the Centre and we are still in disbelief that we managed to organise it in the space of 10 months. That we were able to do so was in no small part due to the creative and indefatigable commitment of Dr Ira Raja whose idea it was in the first place to hold a workshop on 'Popular Print and Visual Cultures in India and Australia.' From there we blew out into a major festival and Dr Raja had the good grace to go along with it then the energy and imagination to help us raise the finances and recruit many outstanding scholars from India, US and UK. The other members of the working party (Alessi, Fetting and Neumark) were also important in securing partners, events and ideas. We thank the volunteers Jenny Ferguson, Yanhang Cai, Julian Potter, and Bryan Valionis.

We are also delighted that the Festival has contributed to the emergent confederation or network of research centres in social theory, historical sociology, and cultural studies. The event was based not only on person to person but centre to centre links. Each of our links, with Yale, Ateneo, Leeds, Copenhagen, Delhi, and Johannesburg, was represented by directors or their deputies. The proceedings of our events will feed in to *Thesis Eleven* journal, but more, we will now proceed to regularly involve these

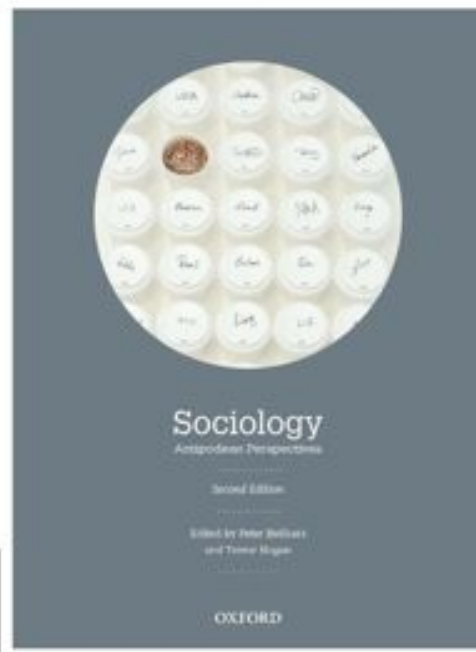
centres in further events (South Africa, 2012-13, Leeds 2014, etc) and in developing issues of the journal. The journal will now operate as a journal of centres, a world first.

...

The Directors have also continued to collaborate on our research projects and this year we managed to find time to complete with Clinton Walker a long two part article on the Australian recording industry that we will publish in *Thesis Eleven* journal in 2012.

We continue to work on our own chapters for the book on Jean Martin and the Social Sciences in Australia. We gave a joint research paper on 'Jean Martin and the rise of Social Sciences in Australia' to the School of Social Sciences, La Trobe University, 1 June.

With Christine Ellem as Production Assistant we worked on the 2nd edition of our book *Sociology: Place, Time and Division* which we completed by the end of 2011. It is due out in June, 2012. It has a new sub-title, *Antipodean Perspectives*, 35 new chapters with most of the rest of the retained chapters from the first edition also being revised, 4 new photo essays, and a range of new images, and the introduction and conclusion essays and the glossary have been re-written. More on this in next year's annual report.



Peter Beilharz

2011 was largely a year given to project development. I spent significant time in semester one developing the Festival of Ideas and the appeal against ERA journal ratings, with Chris Ellem. In semester two I followed the lead of Hogan and Ellem in

developing our OUP text. June and July were consumed by our Festival of Ideas. While on study leave in the second half, I visited the US, UK, and South Africa and later Germany. I gave papers at American Sociology Association (ASA) in Vegas, Johannesburg and Bloemfontein, the latter at a special event inspired by *Thesis Eleven*. I consolidated our link with Peter Vale, and opened a new link with the premier South African journal *Theoria*. I visited George Steinmetz, Peggy Somers and Geoff Eley at Ann Arbor, and toured the ruins of Detroit with Mathieu Desan. I visited Jeff Alexander and Ron Eyerman at Yale, and joined in undergraduate and postgraduate classes there. I visited Bauman in Leeds and shared in a master class at the Bauman Institute. I was invited to join in the Bauman/Heller Conference at Jena, invited to respond to Perry Anderson there, and finally gave 3 papers at the event, including opening and closing. This event opened the possibility of an ongoing link with the Imre Kertesz Kolleg. I gave 2 papers at The Australian Sociology Association (TASA) in Newcastle, and papers to the Brotherhood of St Laurence, La Trobe and Monash (twice). I sat on the ASA History Lifetime Award Panel and the Monash PhD panel of Howard Prosser. Finally, I had the bittersweet honour of participating in two events in memory of Bernard Smith, one at The National Gallery, the other at the University of Queensland.

Trevor Hogan

Christmas 2010 found me in a plane to Singapore to take up a three month fellowship as Visiting Senior Research Fellow at Asia Research Institute (Asian Urbanisms Cluster), National University of Singapore, 26th December, 2010 to 8th April, 2011. During this stay I had two weeks in Manila in February to undertake research on that city (an article with Peter Murphy to be published in 2012, and a photo essay with Caleb Hogan) as well as help prepare the Manila events in June, 2011. 2011 also finally witnessed the publication of the papers arising from our workshops in Delhi and Ranthambhore in December, 2008. Dr Ira Raja and I were the commissioning editors and wrote the introductory essay: 'India and Australia: Knowledge. Cities. Traffic.' *Thesis Eleven*, 105, May 2011.

As well as working on the Festival events and ensuing outcome projects (including two special issues of *Thesis Eleven* journal set for publication in 2012), the greater part of my focus in this year has been the preparing the 2nd edition of *Sociology: Antipodean Perspectives* for publication by OUP, Melbourne in 2012.

I gave 4 papers at research seminars in 2011 – one each at Asia Research Institute, NUS, Singapore (March) ; Monash (April) , Ateneo de Manila (June) and La Trobe (June).

Research

Publications:

Peter Beilharz

Books

Sociology – Antipodean Perspectives, edited with Trevor Hogan, OUP, (in press).

Chapters

‘The Marxist Legacy’, in G Delanty, S Turner (eds), *The Routledge International Handbook of Contemporary Social and Political Theory*, Routledge, London, pp 33-44.

‘Modernity in Motion’, in G Hage, E Kowal (eds), *Force, Movement, Intensity*, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, pp 55-65.

‘Zygmunt Bauman’, in G Ritzer (ed), *Major Social Theorists*, Blackwell, London, Volume 2, pp 155-174.

Journal articles

‘Prehistoric modes of textual production’, *Alternatives*, Vol 36, No 1, pp 25-31.

Beilharz, Peter and Sian Supski ‘To Love and to be Loved’: Janina Bauman’s Ordinary Life’, *Thesis Eleven*, 107, November, 2011:101-105.

‘Rock Lobster – Lobby Loyde and the History of Rock Music in Australia’, *Thesis Eleven*, No 109 (in print).

‘The Vinyl Age – The History of Rock Music in Australia, Part 1 – 1945-1975; Part 2 – 1975-1995’, with Trevor Hogan and Clinton Walker (total 22,000 words), *Thesis Eleven*, No 109 and 110 (in print).

Refereed conference proceedings

‘So Sharp You Could Bleed: Sharpies and Visual Culture, A Moment in the Seventies History of Melbourne’, with Sian Supski, *Local Lives/Global Networks*, TASA Annual Conference, University of Newcastle, 28 November – 1 December 2011, Newcastle, NSW.

Reviews:

Beilharz, P. ‘Stuart Macintyre ‘The Poor Relation: A History of the Social Sciences in Australia’ *Thesis Eleven*, 104, February, 2011: 124-126.

Ira Raja:

Book Chapter

Ira Raja and Deepika Bahri, ‘Key Journals and Institutions’, *Cambridge History of Postcolonial Literature*, ed. Ato Quayson, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011. Pp. 1155-1188.

Journal articles (refereed journal)

Ken Botnick and Ira Raja, 'Subtle Technology: The Design Innovation of Indian Artisanship' *Design Issues* (MIT Press journal), Vol 27, issue 4 (2011): 43-55.

Article (journal of opinion)

'New Literatures: The Indian Subcontinent and Sri Lanka', *The Year's Work in English Studies*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011, pp. 994-1004.

Translation

'Libations', translation of Usha Yadav's Hindi short story, 'Tarpan', *The Lotus Singers: Stories from Contemporary South Asia*, ed. Trevor Carolan, Cheng & Tsui: Boston, 2011, pp. 191-199.

Publications by other Centre Associates:**Articles** (refereed journal)

Anand, Divya 'Sustainable Development and Environmental Politics: Case Studies from India and Australia', *Thesis Eleven*, 105, May, 2011: 67-78.

Review Essays:

Davidson, Alastair 'Peter Thomas 'The Gramscian Moment' *Thesis Eleven*, 105, May, 2011: 134-143.

PhD Research (current)

Principal Supervisor (Beilharz); Co-Supervisor (Hogan)

Darrell Bennetts: 'Antipodean Reflections on Imperial Vistas and Colonial Experience in New Zealand' (2005–2010; on leave 2011).

Yanhang Cai 'Georg Simmel as social theorist' (commenced March, 2011)

Christine Ellem: 'Modernity and Utopia: the Political and Ethical Legacy of Modern Utopias' (2007–2010; on leave 2011).

Harry Paternoster: 'Marxist theories of Social Class' (commenced March, 2011).

Julian Potter: 'Faust and Technological Modernity' (2010–)

Principal Supervisor (Beilharz); Co-Supervisor (John Carroll)

Mark Scillio "'Work and Life'" (commenced 2009)

Principal Supervisor (Beilharz); Co-Supervisor (Anthony Moran)

Tim Hamilton 'Race Relations in the antipodes' (commenced 2010)

Mark Mallman 'The Costs of Downward mobility' (commenced 2011)

Principal Supervisor (Beilharz); Co-Supervisor (with History)

Andrew Self ‘Social movements in Latin America’ (commenced 2009)

Principal Supervisor (Hogan); Co-Supervisor (Beilharz).

Joseph Salazar: ‘Consuming Nationalism: Food, Culture, Space, Memory’ (2009–)

Edwin Wise: ‘Place, Space and Culture: A Study of Manila’ (2007–2010; on leave 2011)

Principal Supervisor (Hogan); Co-Supervisor (tbc)

Angela Serrano: ‘Motivations of the Military in organising Military Coups against the national government: a case study of the Oakwood Mutiny of 27 July 2003, Manila, (commenced June, 2010)

Principal Supervisor (Hogan); Co-Supervisor (Helen Lee)

Marby Villaceran: ‘Philippine Women in the Australian Diaspora: Writing their own experiences and the art of creative storytelling’ (commenced July, 2010)

Principal Supervisor (Hogan); Co-Supervisor (John Morton).

Andrew Morrison: ‘Social Networks in Philippine Organisations’ (2009–2010; suspended 2011)

Principal Supervisor (Hogan).); Co-Supervisor (John Carroll)

Trevor Wilson: ‘Islamism and Modernity: a return to Absolutist Thought?’ (2008–)

Principal Supervisor (Hogan).); Co-Supervisor (Hayden Aarons, Wendy Mee)

Rangsan Prathumwan ‘Contemporary Christianity and Consumerism’ (commenced March, 2011).

Principal Supervisor (Helen Lee); Co-Supervisor (Hogan)

Skilty Labastilla: ‘Transition from Youth to Adulthood by Males in Informal Settlements in Davao City, Mindanao’ (2008–).

Principal Supervisor (Trevor Budge) ; Co-Supervisor (Hogan)

Nguyen Khai Huyen Truong “Ho Chi Minh City – A Motorcycle City in Vietnam” (2009-2011 – submitted thesis October, 2011)

Principal Supervisor (John Carroll); Co-Supervisor (Hogan)

Scott Doidge: ‘The Bourgeois Ideal Type; German and American’ (commenced March, 2010).

Principal Supervisor (Julie Rudner); Co-Supervisor (Hogan)

Rangajeewa Gungamuwage: ‘Urban Crime and Violence and Planning for Safe Urban environments in South Asian Cities’ (commenced June, 2010).

Principal Supervisor (John Tebbutt, Media Studies); Co-Supervisors (Beilharz and Hogan)

Estelle Ladrado: 'Filipino Among Filipinos: Investigating How Transnational Television Participates In National Identity Construction' (June, 2010)

Thesis Eleven Centre for Cultural Sociology Annual Lectures

2002 Bernard Smith

2003 Gyorgy Markus

2004 Tessa Morris-Suzuki

2005 Joanna Bourke

2006 Maria Pia Lara

2007 Stuart Macintyre

2008 Alastair Davidson

2009 Philippa Mein Smith

2010 George Steinmetz

2011 Ron Jacobs and Eleanor Townsley

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Peter Beilharz, Director.

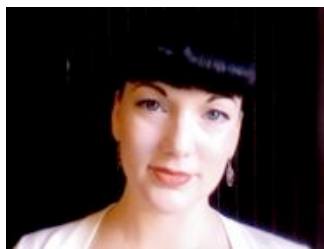
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