

**30th Annual Meeting of the
Critical Theory Roundtable
University of California, Santa Cruz
November 3-4, 2023**

Conference Program

November 3, 2023, Friday

Welcome and Introductory Remarks (9:00 am)

**Session 1 (9:15 am - 10:45 am)
Democracy and Fascism**

“Permutations of the Right: Between Old Fascism and New Authoritarianism”
Thomas Biebricher, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main

“The Political Economy of Cooperative Democracy: Must 21st Century Democracy Be Socialist?”
David Peritz, Sarah Lawrence College

“Fixing the American Constitution: What Deliberative Theories of Democracy Can Contribute”
John Davenport, Fordham University

**Session 2 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm)
Revisiting Habermas**

“What’s Left? Democratic Theory in Between Facts and Norms After Three Decades”
William E. Scheurman, Indiana University

“Rebuilding the Frankfurt School’s Bridge from Theory to Practice: Jürgen Habermas’s
Rehabilitation of Critical Theory’s Original Paradigm”
Peter J. Verovšek, University of Groningen

“The Scarcity of Meaning: Habermas on Semantic Renewal and Redemptive Critique”
Mark Gorthey, Northwestern University

---Lunch Break---

**Session 3 (1:30 pm - 3:30 pm)
Psychoanalysis, Subjectivity, and Ideology**

“What’s Critical about Death Drive?”
Inara Luisa Marin, State University of Campinas (Unicamp)

“Towards a Critical Theory of Competence: Attributional Injustice, Responsibilization of
Self-Control, and Assistive Technologies”
Joel Anderson, Universiteit Utrecht

“‘Monster of unifying madness’- Magma and Lifeworld: Preliminary reflections on the Unconscious Social”

Ritwik Bhattacharjee, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

“Disillusioning ideology: From empty reference to world-disclosure”

Michael Schwarz, Rice University

Session 4 (3:45 pm - 5:45 pm)

Aesthetics and Politics

“Yesterdayness: Capitalism, Ethnocide, and the Sensory Structures of Accumulation”

Rebecca van der Post, Concordia University

“Stylized writing on the wall between politics and culture: the space-making of graffiti in the US”

Katelyn Kelly, UC Irvine

“Of the Human Touch: The Changing Image of Nature and the End of European Aesthetic Contract”

Omid Mehrgan, New York University

“Radical Humanism Against Herrenvolk Democracy: Reconsidering the Political Role of [Some] Popular Music”

Scott B. Ritner, University of Colorado, Boulder

November 4, 2023

Session 1 (9:00 am - 11:00 am)

Theorizing Violence

“Speculative Expropriation: Karl Marx’s Incomplete Theory of Indigenous Dispossession”

Wayne Wapeemukwa, Pennsylvania State University

“Foucault, Partisan Genealogy, and the Problem of Repression”

Eli B. Lichtenstein, Lewis & Clark College

“Fables that Stir the Mind’: Autopoeisis and Heterotopias of Death”

Ege Selin Islekel, Texas A&M University

“Toward a Critical Theory of Impunity and Accountability in International Criminal Law”

Max Pensky, SUNY, Binghamton

Session 2 (11:15 am – 12:45 pm)

New Materialism, Anthropocene, Anthropocentrism

“Saving the Planet with an Ontology? Critical Theory and the Anthropocene”

James Ingram, McMaster University

“Problems in Sentientist Politics”

Jorge M. Valadez, Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas

“Writing Critique through the Body. Minima Moralia and Donna J. Haraway in Conversation”

Simon Reiners, University of Frankfurt am Main

---Lunch Break---

Session 3 (1:45 pm - 3:15 pm)

Social Movements

“Social Movements in the Age of Digital Capitalism”

James William Santos, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul

“Critique 3.0? Affirmative Critique in Web3”

Daniela Gandorfer, University of Westminster Law School, London

“Performative Invitations and Interpretive Publics: Understanding, Interpretation, and the LA Riots/Uprising”

Stacey Liou, University of Florida

Session 4 (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)

Canonical Alternatives, Paths Not Taken

“Understanding and Misunderstanding Bourdieu’s Outline”

Keith Topper, University of California, Irvine

“Life and Capital”

Christopher Shambaugh, University of Oregon

“Notes on a Politics of the History of Philosophy: For a Critique of the Canon of the History of Philosophy”

Silvestre Gristina, University of Padua