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## UC Berkeley Global Urban Humanities Initiative

April 2015 Newsletter

### Upcoming GloUH Events



#### New Fall 2015 Course

The Modern and Contemporary City: Urban Social Theory and the Forms of Culture

Taught by Mia Fuller (Italian Studies) and Harsha Ram (Slavic Languages and Literatures, Comparative Literature), this seminar will focus on the paradoxical nature of the modern city, at once the site of alienation and of emancipation, of political power as well as cultural experimentation and resistance. The seminar seeks to complicate and enrich the trajectory of received urban theory by looking to the diverse modernities of cities such as Paris, Moscow, Addis Ababa, Tbilisi, Detroit, Mumbai, and Mexico City. [Learn more](#)



#### Kathakali for the Contemporary Performer

Thursday, April 9, 12:30-2PM

Bancroft Studio, 2401 Bancroft Way, UC Berkeley [map](#)

Mava Krishna Rao combines intensive Kathakali practice with burlesque, political cabaret, street theater, and cross-media tactics to address questions of rural-urban migration, contemporary consumerist culture in New Delhi, gender-based violence in the city, and urban protest culture. This artist talk and workshop is co-sponsored by the Dept. of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies and the Global Urban Humanities Initiative. [Learn more](#)



#### Berkeley Book Chat: Van Gogh On Demand

Wednesday, April 22, 12-1PM

Geballe Room, 220 Stephens Hall, UC Berkeley [map](#)

Assistant Professor of Rhetoric Winnie Wong, who is co-teaching the GloUH course *Art+Village+City in the Pearl River Delta*, will speak at a Townsend Center book chat about her award-winning book, *Van Gogh on Demand: China and the Readymade*. The book explores contemporary art in the world's largest production center for oil-on-canvas painting and forces us to reexamine preconceptions about creativity and global art. [Learn more](#)

#### International Linguistic Landscape Workshop

Thursday-Saturday, May 7-9

Berkeley Language Center, Dwinelle Hall, UC Berkeley [map](#)

The 7th International Linguistic Landscape Workshop--entitled "Questioning Boundaries, Opening Spaces: Advancing New Topics, Methods, and



Applications"--is the first in the United States, and is co-sponsored by the Global Urban Humanities Initiative. The emerging field of linguistic landscape studies examines everything from multilingual signage to spatial conflicts over the spoken word. Deadline for registration: April 30. [Learn more](#)

## Recent News



## Notes from China

Students in GloUH's *Art+Village+City in the Pearl River Delta* studio course spent spring break conducting research in Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou, China. The sights, sounds, stories, spaces and objects documented and collected will be incorporated into a final exhibit, to be completed Fall 2015.



## Defining Public Space

Definition by swarm! Watch the students in GloUH's *Public Space: Placemaking and Performance* course try to simultaneously define public space: <https://vimeo.com/122917638>

Read more on the collision of choreography and urban design on the [course blog](#).



## Rick Lowe Recap

The Arts Research Center documented the many events, lectures, and meetings in which acclaimed artist and community organizer Rick Lowe participated. See his conversations with community partners, students, and faculty during his November 2014 artist-in-residency, co-sponsored by the Global Urban Humanities Initiative. In this short 10-minute video, Rick speaks about his work with communities and how he navigates his "socially engaged" practice: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pxf7ZplOMBU>

## GloUH Picks

### On the Cutting Edge of Architectural History

370 Wurster Hall, UC Berkeley [map](#)

This intensive Architectural History colloquium features 3 historians whose innovative approaches are reshaping paradigms in the field.

**Monday, April 6, 6-7PM** | Paula Lupkin (University of North Texas)  
"High, Low, and Everything In-Between"

**Wednesday, April 8, 6-7PM** | Matt Lasner (Hunter College, CUNY)  
"Sexuality, Race, and the Enclosure of the Sunbelt Apartment"



**Friday, April 10, 6-7PM** | Jonathan Massey (Arch Dean, CCA, San Francisco)  
"Aggregate Architectural History Collaborative"

Colloquium followed by dinner in Room 1000.  
Please RSVP to [mcrawfor@berkeley.edu](mailto:mcrawfor@berkeley.edu).

## Berkeley Digital Humanities Faire 2015

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 7-8

UC Berkeley [map](#)

Over the past few years, the digital humanities community at Berkeley has grown exponentially across disciplines. This event will serve to connect established digital humanities scholars, interested graduate students, the libraries, and support staff in discussions about methods, resources, and current projects. [Learn more](#)



## Fertile Ground: Art and Community in California

EXHIBIT CLOSING: Sunday, April 12

Oakland Museum of Contemporary Art, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland  
[map](#)

This exhibit illuminates local histories and social forces that changed the face of art in--and beyond--the Golden State. Focusing equally on the artworks and the contexts that fostered their creation, *Fertile Ground* presents an intimate and textured history of personal relationships, artistic breakthroughs, and transformative social change. [Learn more](#)



## An Evening with Roman Mars

Wednesday, April 22, 6PM

Kaiser Center, Suite 250, 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland [map](#)

No matter the topic, Roman Mars, creator of the wildly popular "99% Invisible" podcast, will blow your mind with his observations on everything from architectural heists to barcodes, from cow tunnels to DIY space suits. Join the "Ira Glass of Design" and his Radiotopia colleagues for a fascinating evening. [Learn more](#)

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The **Global Urban Humanities Initiative** is a joint venture of the UC Berkeley College of Environmental Design and the Arts & Humanities Division of the College of Letters & Science and is funded by a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT**

**[GLOBALURBANHUMANITIES.BERKELEY.EDU](http://GLOBALURBANHUMANITIES.BERKELEY.EDU) OR EMAIL**

**[SUSANMOFFAT@BERKELEY.EDU](mailto:SUSANMOFFAT@BERKELEY.EDU) OR TWEET @URBANHUMANUCB**



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UC Berkeley Global Urban Humanities Initiative  
230 Wurster Hall #1820  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1820  
US



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