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## UC Berkeley Global Urban Humanities Initiative

April 2016 Newsletter

### GloUH News



### GloUH Students Travel to Mexico City

In March, 14 students from disciplines including architecture, dance, film, geography, landscape architecture, and literature spent 9 days investigating Mexico City as part of their research studio called [Materiality, Performance and Power](#). Led by Assoc. Prof. Greig Crysler (Architecture), Asst. Prof. Angela Marino (Theater, Dance & Performance Studies) and visiting professor Maria Moreno Carranco, students carried out research that will be compiled in an image-rich book.



### Michael Dear in "City of Gold"

Director Laura Gabbert's critically acclaimed new documentary, "City of Gold," chronicles Pulitzer Prize-winning restaurant critic Jonathan Gold's deep and complex relationship with the food and culture of Los Angeles. GloUH steering committee member Michael Dear served as a consultant on the film, providing historical background and conceptual framing for understanding the emergence of Los Angeles as a world city. On screen, Dear's commentary sheds light on the urban context for Gold's culinary explorations. [Read more](#)

### Upcoming GloUH Events



### "People's Park" and J.P. Sniadecki in Conversation

FILM SCREENING + Q&A: Wednesday, April 13, 5:00-7:00PM  
112 Wurster Hall, UC Berkeley [map](#)

PEOPLE'S PARK is a 78-minute single shot documentary that immerses viewers in an unbroken journey through a famous urban park in Chengdu, Sichuan Province. A sensory meditation on cinematic time and space, PEOPLE'S PARK offers a fresh gaze at public interaction, leisure and self-expression in China. After the screening, there will be a Q&A with filmmaker J.P. Sniadecki. Co-Sponsored by GloUH and the Experimental Ethnographies Townsend Working Group. [Learn more](#)

### GloUH Picks

### Unnatural: People, Energy, and Materials in 3 Acts

LECTURE: Monday, April 4, 7:30PM  
Banatao Auditorium, Sutardja Dai Hall, UC Berkeley [map](#)



Western thought conceptualizes nature and culture as distinct domains of anthropological understanding. However, as inhabitants of the Anthropocene, we humans have significant influence on our planet's ecosystem: nature is also culture. In three acts, Ron Rael--who co-taught the GloUH Fall 2014 methods course [Sensing Cityscapes](#)--will discuss the back story of design projects that he views as "unnatural": border walls, solar energy, and 3D printing. [Learn more](#)



## Utopian by Design: On the Mythologies of Technosocial Practice

LECTURE: Thursday, April 7, 4:00-5:30PM  
470 Stephens Hall, UC Berkeley [map](#)

Morgan Ames, Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for Science, Technology, Medicine, and Society

Digital media technologies now touch the lives of the majority of the world's population. The promises attached to these technologies--to "disrupt" tradition, to "flatten" social inequalities, to usher in a brave new technological world through "design thinking"--circulate out of the Silicon Valley engineering firms that promote them around the world, retaining power even in the face of evidence that they can never be realized. [Learn more](#)



## THATCamp Historic Places

UNCONFERENCE: Saturday, April 16, 9:00AM-4:00PM  
The Presidio Trust, San Francisco [map](#)

This fun, informal, and participatory event gathers humanists and technologists from all skill levels and backgrounds. As an "unconference," participants bring their own session ideas and collaborate in real-time to explore new ideas, create new tools, and solve problems related to history and place. If you're into old maps, old stuff, new ways of defining place, new stuff in old places, new interpretations of old data, old interpretations of new data, time travel, using technology for historical preservation, augmented reality, real augmentation, or anything close to it, this is for you.

[Registration](#): First come, first served  
[Learn more](#)



## CROSS-SECTOR Open Engagement Pre-Conference

SYMPOSIUM: April 28-29  
The Magnes Collection, 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley [map](#)

This symposium brings together artists, scholars, curators, industry leaders, community organizers, and cultural administrators to mine the goals, pragmatics, and puzzles of "cross-sector" exchange. In plenary lectures, break-outs, and workshops, we will ask participants to share successful strategies and epic failures in cross-sector collaboration, exploring new practices of art-making, practitioner training, curation, cultural leadership, philanthropy, and cultural investment. GloUH steering committee member Prof. Shannon Jackson will chair and GloUH Project Director Susan Moffat will be a moderator. [Learn more](#)

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## Opportunities

**Note:** Previously announced opportunities that are still accepting applications can be found on the [Opportunities](#) page of our website.

### CFP - Ecopoetics: Global Poetries and Ecologies

Montana Tech

Application deadline: April 15

This is a call for article-length scholarly contributions for inclusion in a proposed anthology broadly focused on the entangle relationship between poetries and ecologies. We seek essays that deal with poetries from diverse cultural traditions and historical epochs, and that position themselves in opposition to, and/or in conversation with, the traditions of nature poetry.

Please email a 500-word abstract, or a 8,000-11,000-word (including notes) paper along with a short bio to [icampos@mttech.edu](mailto:icampos@mttech.edu) by April 15, 2016. [More info](#)

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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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