

Anthropology/Folklore C262B. **THEORIES OF TRADITIONALITY AND MODERNITY**
Katharine Young, Spring 2009. (Course # 02963)
Lectures: Thursday 9:00-12:00, Gifford Room, Kroeber Hall.
Office Hours: Thursdays 1:30-2:30, Mondays 2:20-3:30. 273 Evans.
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Different aspects of culture change at different rates. We, as folklorists, have traditionally been interested in the bits that change slowly, that hold out against the perceived rhythms of modernity and that thereby display an edge, a marked difference between themselves and the felt fluidity of the present. We occupy the present as instability and experience stability as the past. Folk objects and events are not, of course, static; they are asynchronous. For that reason we perceive them as repositories of the past, as if in them, by them, time could be held still. Our interest in difference, in archaism, in resistance and holding out, has distracted us from following folklore dissecting out into the matrix of the ordinary, fast folklore, folklore cutting to the quick. Traditional genres of folklore - myths, legends, and folktales; proverbs, riddles, and metaphors; folksongs, folkdances, and folk rituals - positioned to keep culture in place, can also act as little insurrections against the order of things, creating new spaces of stability and instability as they move. Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to trace out the aesthetic ecology, affective ecology, and somaesthetics of a piece of folklore as it moves between space and place; presence and affect; body and sense; past, present, and future.

CLASS DESIGN

The class will be divided into three groups:

- Aesthetes, affiliated with Part I, Aesthetic Ecologies;
- Empaths, affiliated with Part II, Affective Ecologies;
- Sensualists, affiliated with Part III, Somaesthetics.

One of you from each group will jointly present work by the following theorists from your particular perspective: Richard Wollheim, Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, Edward Casey, Jack Katz, Amy Shuman, Sigrid Norris, Maxine Sheets-Johnstone, and Susan Stewart. Each student will present two of the books and two of the articles,

Every student will be required to post a question about, comment on, or respond to one of the week's readings in the bSpace forum by midnight, Saturday. Presenters will respond in their presentations to any posts directed to the readings for which they are responsible.

Two hours of each seminar will be devoted to our discussion a theory or theorist, usually initiated by your joint presentation. The third hour will be devoted to your assessment of the interconnections between these works and your own.

COURSEWORK

Posts to bSpace: Minimum of 10 (Skip weeks 1, 14, & 15). 10% of Grade. Due weekly.

Three theoretical studies and a Prospective Framework:

- I, Theorize Objects and/or Spaces
7 pages. 20% of Grade. Due Thursday, March 5th
- II, Theorize Emotions, Affects and/or Interactions
7 pages. 20% of Grade. Due Thursday, April 9th
- III, Theorize the Body, Movement, and/or the Senses

7 pages. 20% of Grade. Due Thursday, May 7th

IV: Speculate on how some set of the theories you have characterized might come to bear on your proposed dissertation work. Incorporate all or any of your three theoretical studies that are pertinent to this final framework of analysis.

20-25 pages, 30% of Grade. Due Wednesday, May 20th

BOOKS

Richard Wollheim. 1968. *Art and its Objects: An Introduction to Aesthetics*.
New York: Harper & Row.

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett. 1998. *Destination Culture: Tourism, Museums, and Heritage*.
Berkeley: University of California Press.

Edward Casey. 1993. *Getting Back into Place: Toward a Renewed Understanding of the Place-World*.
Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

1997. *The Fate of Place: A Philosophical History*.
Berkeley: University of California Press.

Jack Katz. 2001. *How Emotions Work*.
Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Kathleen Stewart. 2007. *Ordinary Affects*.
Duke University Press.

Amy Shuman. 2005. *Other People's Stories: Entitlement and the Critique of Empathy*. Urbana:
University of Illinois Press.

Sigrid Norris. 2004. *Analyzing Multimodal Interaction: A Methodological Framework*.
New York: Routledge.

Maxine Sheets-Johnstone, 1999. *The Primacy of Movement*.
Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Maurice Merleau-Ponty. 1962. *The Phenomenology of Perception*, tr. Colin Smith.
London: Routledge.

Richard Shusterman. 2008. *Body Consciousness: A Philosophy of Mindfulness and Somaesthetics*.
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Susan Stewart. 1984. *On Longing: Narratives of the Miniature, the Gigantic, the Souvenir, the Collection*.
Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

David Howes, ed. 2005. *Empire of the Senses: The Sensual Cultural Reader*.
Oxford: Berg.

ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

Dorothy Noyes. 2008. "Humble Theory." *Grand Theory*,
Special Issue, *Journal of Folklore Research*.

David Hume. 1757/2005. "Of the Standard of Taste." *The Taste Culture Reader*,
ed. Carolyn Korsmeyer. Oxford: Berg, 197-208 .

Barbara Herrnstein Smith. 1988. "Contingencies of Value." *Contingencies of Value*.
Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 30-53.

Walter Benjamin. 1968. "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction."

- Illuminations*. New York: Schocken, 217-251.
- Lucy Lippard. 1997. Introduction and V, "Looking Around."
The Lure of the Local: Senses of Place in a Multicentered Society.
 New York: The New Press, 4-20, 261-292.
- Robert Cantwell. 1993. "The Empire of Ice Cream: A Poetics of Recognition."
Ethnomimesis: Folklife and the Representation of Culture.
 Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 249-300.
- John Dorst. 1989. "Chadds Ford as a Site of Postmodernity: Veneer, Vignettes, and the Myth of Tradition." *The Written Suburb: An American Site, An Ethnographic Dilemma*. Philadelphia University Press, 137-172.
- Michel de Certeau. 1984. "Spatial Practices." *The Practice of Everyday Life*.
 Berkeley: University of California Press, 91-130.
- Gaston Bachelard. 1964. "The House," "House and Universe," "Drawers, Chests and Wardrobes," "Corners," & "The Phenomenology of Roundness." *The Poetics of Space*, tr. Maria Jolas.
 Boston: Beacon Press, 3-37, 38-73, 74-104, 136-147, 232-241.
- Yi-Fu Tuan. 1974. "From Cosmos to Landscape." *Topophilia: A Study of Environmental Perception, Attitudes, and Values*.
 New York: Columbia University Press, 129-149.
- Matthew Potteiger & Jamie Purinton. 1998. "Landscape Narrative." *Landscape Narratives: Design Practices for Telling Stories*. New York: John Wiley, 31-70.
- Christopher Tilley. 1994. "Space, Place, Landscape and Perception: Phenomenological Perspectives." *A Phenomenology of Landscape: Places, Paths and Monuments*.
 Oxford; Berg, 7-34.
- William James. 1884. "What is an Emotion?" *What is an Emotion?* ed. Cheshire Calhoun
 & Robert Solomon. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 127-151.
- Denise Riley. 2005. "Malediction." *Impersonal Passion: Language as Affect*.
 Durham: Duke University Press, 9-27.
- Fredric Jameson. 1991. "The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism." *Postmodernism or, The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1-54.
- Sianne Ngai. 2005. Introduction. *Ugly Feelings*.
 Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1-37.
- Young, Katharine. Forthcoming. "Gestures, Intercorporeity, and the Fate of Phenomenology in Folklore." *Journal of American Folklore*.

SEMINARS

- Jan. 22nd Seminar I. **Aesthetics**
 Reading: Dorothy Noyes. 2008. "Humble Theory."
Grand Theory, Special Issue, *Journal of Folklore Research*
 (10 pages).

Part I. AESTHETIC ECOLOGIES

- Jan 29th Seminar 2. **Aesthetes**
- Readings:* David Hume. 1757/2005. "Of the Standard of Taste" (12).
Richard Wollheim. 1968. *Art and its Objects*, 1-64 (64).
Barbara Herrnstein Smith. 1988. "Contingencies of Value"
(24)
- Feb. 5th Seminar 3 . **Art**
- Readings:* Richard Wollheim. 1968. *Art and its Objects*, 64-133 (70).
Walter Benjamin. 1968. "The Work of Art in the Age of
Mechanical
Reproduction" (35)
- Feb. 12th Seminar 4. **Artifact**
- Readings:* Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett. 1998. *Destination Culture*,
17-78, 203-248, 259-281.
"Objects of Ethnography" (62),
*"Confusing Pleasures" (46),
*"Disputing Taste" (23).
Lucy Lippard. 1997. Introduction and Part V, "Looking
Around" (48). *Supplements:* Robert Cantwell. 1993. "The Empire of Ice
Cream:
A Poetics of Recognition" (59)
John Dorst. 1989. "Chadds Ford as a Site of Postmodernity:
Veneer, Vignettes, and the Myth of Tradition" (36)
- Feb. 19th Seminar 5. **Space**
- Readings:* Maurice Merleau-Ponty. 1962. "Space" (56).
Michel de Certeau. 1984. "Spatial Practices" (40)
- Supplements:* Gaston Bachelard. 1964.
"The House" (35)
"House and Universe" (38)
"Drawers, Chests and Wardrobes" (16)
"Corners" (12)
"The Phenomenology of Roundness" (10)
Yi-Fu Tuan. 1974. "From Cosmos to Landscape." (21)
- Feb. 26th Seminar 6. **Locality**
- Readings:* Edward Casey. 1997. "Giving a Face to Place in the
Present:
Bachelard, Foucault, Deleuze and Guattari, Derrida,
Irigaray." (45)
The Fate of Place. Berkeley: University of California
Press, 285-330.
1993. *Getting Back into Place*, 43-70, 71-105, 109-145.
*"Directions" (28),
*"Dimensions" (35),
*"Two Ways to Dwell" (36).
Matthew Potteiger & Jamie Purinton. 1998. "Landscape
Narrative" (40)
Mary Hufford. Forthcoming. "The Ecstatic Ecology of Place
Names" (51)
- Supplement:* Christopher Tilley. 1994. "Space, Place, Landscape and
Perception:
Phenomenological Perspectives." (28)

Part II. AFFECTIVE ECOLOGIES

March 5th Seminar 7. **Empaths**
Readings: William James. 1884. "What is an Emotion?" (27).
 Jack Katz. 1999. *How Emotions Work*.
 "Mundane Metamorphoses" (36)
 "Shameful Moments" (33)
 "What is Crying?" (48)
Supplements: Daniel Robinson. 1996. "Aristotle on the Emotions"
 (3)
 Robert Solomon. 1980. "Getting Angry:
 The Jamesian Theory of Emotion in Anthropology" (17)
Due: Objects and Spaces paper

March 12th Seminar 8. **Emotion**
Readings: Amy Shuman. 2005. *Other People's Stories*, 1-27, 71-88, 120-148, 149-162.
 "Introduction: Subversive Stories and the Critique of Empathy" (27)
 *"Allegory and Parable as Subversive Stories" (18)
 "Redemption and Empathy in Junk-Mail Narratives" (29)
 "Speaking from Experience" (14)
 Denise Riley. 2005. "Malediction" (20)

March 19th Seminar 9. **Affect**
Readings: Fredric Jameson. 1991. "The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism" (54)
 Sianne Ngai. 2005. Introduction. *Ugly Feelings* (37)
 Kathleen Stewart. 2007. Any 3 passages from *Ordinary Affects*. (c10)

Spring Break

April 2nd Seminar 10. **Interaction**
Readings: Maurice Merleau-Ponty. 1962. "Other Selves and the Human World" (22). Sigrid Norris. 2004. *Analyzing Multimodal Interaction*.
 "Communication Modes" (47)
 "Multimodal Transcription" (21)
Supplements: Norris, "Modal Density" (16)
 "Levels of Attention/Awareness" (33)
 "Modal Density Foreground-Background Continuum..."
 (20)

Part III. SOMAESTHETICS

April 9th Seminar 11. **Sensualists**
Readings: Richard Shusterman. 2000. "Somaesthetics: A Disciplinary Proposal" (22).
 *2008. *Body Consciousness*. (One of 6 chapters)
Due: Emotions, Affects, Interactions paper

April 16th Seminar 12. **Movement**
Readings: Maxine Sheets-Johnstone. 1999. "Consciousness: A Natural History" (47)
 *"The Primacy of Movement" (46).
 Maurice Merleau-Ponty. 1962. "Sense Experience," (36).

- April 23rd Seminar 13. **Body**
Readings: Susan Stewart. 1984. *On Longing*,
"The Miniature" (33)
"The Gigantic" (34)
"The Imaginary Body" (28)
Supplement: Katharine Young. 1993. "Introduction," *Bodylore*. xvii-xxiv.
1994. "'Whose Body? An Introduction to Bodylore,'" *Journal of American Folklore* 107: 423, 3-8.
- April 30th Seminar 14. **Senses**
Readings: *David Howes. *Empire of the Senses*. (One of 22 chapters)
- May 7th Seminar 15. **Ecologies**
Reading: Katharine Young. Forthcoming. "Gestures, Intercorporeity,
and the Fate of Phenomenology in Folklore." (26)
Due: Bodies, Movements, Senses paper
- May 20th
Due: Final Theory paper

*Asterisks indicate readings *required* only of presenters of the work in question, though recommended to all.