Open to the public, a workshop on the intersection of “trans” and “performance” in relation to Montreal as a site of translation, transmigration, and transidentification

Curator and Co-Director, Amelia Jones (Formerly Art History & Communication Studies, McGill University; currently Rethinking School of Art & Design, USC)

Co-Director, Katie Zien (Department of English, McGill)

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE DAY 1
Thursday September 17: McGill University, Coach House (CH 200), 3715 Peel Street
9:30 am: WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS, coffee
10:00-11:30 am: Trans-identification and the transformative
Chair/Moderator-Professor Amelia Jones (McGill University/University of Southern California)

>>Local queer/trans-performers and global theories of trans-identification: Tawney Andersen; Kama La Mackerel; Johnny Forever Nawracaj; Michel Pouliqu; VK Preston; 29fk

>>An exploration of practices that activate the processual nature of identification, or the “trans-” of the transformative. Attention will be paid to transgender performativity, but particularly in relation to other aspects of identification including those relating to specific geographic locations such as Montreal.

11:30-11:45 am: coffee break
11:45-1:15 pm: Trans-Media and Translation
Chair/Moderator: Prof. Erin Hurley (McGill University)

>>Leslie Baker, Zbysz.tv (Stephen Lawson and Aaron Pollardi); Marie-Christine Lesege; Sarah Henz

>>This roundtable addresses performances that cross or mix media (so-called “trans-media” and inter-artistic performance). During this roundtable discussion among trans-media/trans-disciplinary artists and scholars, we will consider contemporary/trans-disciplinary performance in Montreal as a space of potential translocational forms, institutions, and histories. Each participant will present a short clip, text another object from her or her recent work that highlights an issue, challenge, or possibility of trans-media/performance as a form of translation. The goal across the two days of discussions, performative interventions, and viewings is to develop the concept of “trans-” in relation to performance and performance studies in general, but also in relation to local geographies and artistic practice. These participants’ work on “interartistique au chétheta (étellieurs)” will significantly enrich our conversations.

1:15-2:30 pm: lunch, provided to workshop participants
2:30-4:00 pm: Transaction/Transformation: Perceiving the Event in a Liminal Time-Space Continuum
Chair/Moderators: Victoria Stanton (Independent performance artist/Rooms/Architecture), Sylvie Tournangeau (Independent performance artist/Writings/Performance facilitator/curator)

>>Giving agency to the performative as a way of observing that which is difficult to perceive, a short presentation by Victoria Stanton and Sylvie Tournangeau on collective performative experience of the transaction and transformation with Evelyne Bouchard, Diane Dubeau, Anjuna Langevin, Julie Laurin, Suzanne de Loubinon-Harwood and Nicole Panneton, artists working in micro-intervention and la déambulation.

4:00-5:30 pm: Transmigration/Mobile Homes: Enduring Fluidity
Anna Thain (McGill University); Jen Spiegel (Concordia University); Christoph Brunner (Zurich University of the Arts); Blanca Sollar (Artis); Tomi Pape (University of Amsterdam); Department of Biological Flow (Segal-Matis, Bar-Fornasier, and April Warn Kannt)

>>Fluid States proposes to interrogate the ways in which, in thought, ideas and art move, through a focus on distributed “landing sites” for artistic and academic actions in dialogue with the larger Trans-Montreal PI project. For our intervention in the Montrealeased events of Fluid States, we will explore the potential of an event distributed in space (trans-locality) and time (trans temporality), through discussion and enactment of event based projects that explore what it means not simply to work towards an event, but to sharcologically archive collaboration. What would it mean for us to think of ourselves as local, not just as our embodiment, and from the city itself, how does one reassert the city as a “landing site” after a long absence, and what is the potential for collectivity and the re-embodiment of the world in which the city has remained a home base? We will take up three concepts: hospitality (a key question in current work on cosmopolitanism and what Isabelle Stengers calls “cosmopolitics”), “landing sites” (from the work of Arakawa and Gins, building on a Shift from PSI 2012 to Lessis and “matacabélé” collection, developing the work of Gilbert Simon), what are the techniques that one has for making oneself at home in mobility, exploring techniques for making home “a way of going outside” (Meaghan Morris)

5:30-7:30 pm: Screening of film Quèbèckoisie
Followed by Skype discussion with filmmakers François Carrier & Olivier Higgins

IGSF
McGill Institute for the Study of Canada
L'Institut d'études canadiennes de McGill
Trans-Montreal / Fluid Identities: Performance in Montréal, Québec, and Beyond
WORKSHOP September 17- September 18, 2015 at McGill University, Montréal

Open to the public, a workshop on the intersection of “trans-“ and “performance” (in relation to Montréal) as a site of translation, transmigation, and transidentification

Curator and Co-Director, Amelia Jones
(formerly Art History & Communication Studies, McGill University; currently Roski School of Art & Design, USC)

Co-Director, Katie Zien (Department of English, McGill)

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE DAY 2
Thursday September 17: McGill University, Coach House (CH 200), 3715 Peel Street
12:45 pm: WELCOME and further introductions
1:00-2:30 pm: Trans-History and performance
Chair/Moderator—Professor Anne Bénichou
>> Geneviève Chevalier (post-doctoral fellow, UQO and part-time teacher, UQAM), Catherine Lavoie-Marcus (PhD candidate, UQAM), Noémie Solomon (post-doctoral fellow, Brown University)
>> Les phénomènes de récréation, de reconstitution, de reprise et d'autres formes de réactivation d'œuvres du passé, d'événements historiques ou de phénomènes culturels : Comment peut-on articuler les archives, les représentations historiques et les phénomènes de reprise en jeu ? Comment les processus d'excorporation et d'incorporation que présuppose « la remise en jeu du vivant » ébranlent-ils notre compréhension des événements ou des œuvres du passé que nous connaissons à travers les films, les vidéos, les photographies, les récits, etc.? Quelles relectures de l'histoire permettent-elles, et quelles histoires contribuent-elles à construire? Quelles généalogies se dessinent et s'expulsent à travers les processus de répétition ? Quels effets les états de corps, les affects, les singularités propres à la corporelité des ré-interprètes produisent-ils sur ces représentations?
>> Reconstructions, re-enactments, redoling, and other forms of re-activating works of art, cultural phenomena from the past, or historical events: How can we articulate archive, historical representations and re-enactments? How do processes of “excorporation” and incorporation underlying « the replaying of the live » change our understanding of past events and works of art as we know them through films, videos, photographs, narratives, etc.? What types of genealogies are emerging through the processes of repeating and rehearsing? What could be the effects of states of body, affects and singularities specific to the re-interpreters’ corporeality on the historical representations?

2:30-3:00 pm: coffee break/tech set up and check
3:00-4:30 pm: Transmigration: Aboriginal/Autochtone performance
At the Edges of the Water and Land: Improvisation and Indigeneity
(Regina, Saskatchewan)
Chair/Moderator: Prof. Heather Iglioliorto (Concordia University) in Montréal and Rebecca Caines, in Regina
>> Skype panel with University of Regina/ First Nations University: organized by Kathleen Irwin; Jesse Archibald-Barber
>> Contributors: Rick Kotowich, Amanda Schenstead, Jo-Ann Episkewew; Erin Goodpiper, with Petra Kupers as panel keynote and respondent

4:45-5:00 pm: coffee break
5:00-6:00 Closing comments/ summation of Trans-Montréal, with all participants in Montréal