

# Sex in Contemporary Media: An Interdisciplinary Conference

4 – 6 October 2023 | Zoom & The University of Warwick

WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER | ZOOM ONLY

## 09:45 – 10:00 WELCOME

## 10:00 – 11:40 PANEL 1: DIGITAL NEGOTIATIONS AND SEXUAL SELF-CONSTRUCTION

Chair: Andy Irwin (University of Birmingham)

*"I Just Want to Sell My Titties Online": Digital Gentrification and the Moral Order*

Dr Rébecca S. Franco, University of Amsterdam, Holland

*Self-Pornographization, Glamorization and the Body Under Colonial Capitalism: Art Practices*

AJ Bravo, University of Kent, UK

*Working the Pole?: An Exploration of Pole Dancers' Content Creation Practices on Social Media*

Charlotte Curle, Lancaster University, UK

*The Role of Instagram in Religious Women's Negotiations of Gender and Sexual Identity*

Rachel Abreu, University of Stirling, Scotland

## 11:40 – 12:00 BREAK

## 12:00 – 13:40 PANEL 2: PLATFORMING SEX WORK

Chair: Airelle Amedro (University of Warwick)

*Unveiling Narratives: From Public Health Crisis and Media Bias to the Destigmatization of Sex Work*

Ola Miedzynska, Erobella, Germany

Dr Valerie Webber, Dalhousie University, Canada

*Sex Workers, Influencers, Gig Workers or All of the Above: The Experiences of Sex Workers on OnlyFans in Turkey*

Ece Alparslan, Galatasaray University, Turkey

Duru Su Kadiođlu, Galatasaray University, Turkey

*Intimacy Beyond Sex - Building Customer Loyalty in Digital Media Post-FOSTA SESTA*

Cristiane de Melo, Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil

## 13:40 – 15:00 BREAK

## 15:00 – 16:00 KEYNOTE: LUCA STEVENSON

*Recent Advances and Setbacks of the Sex Workers' Rights Movement*

Chair: Daniel Zacariotti (University of Warwick)

## 16:30 – 18:10 PANEL 3: SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND FEMALE SEXUALITIES

Chair: Emily Nicholson (University of Warwick)

*The Shift in the Representations of Rape in Female-directed Horror Films*

Bruna Foletto Lucas, Kingston University London, UK

\* All times are in British Summer Time (BST)

*"Est-ce que tu aimes le sexe?": Sexual Encounters and Sexual Trauma for Black Girls in Contemporary French Film and Literature*

Tiffany Bailey, University of Boston, US

*Pleasures in Transgression: Excess and Grotesquerie in Chewing Gum*

Jacqueline Johnson, University of Southern California, US

**THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER | ZOOM ONLY**

**10:00 – 11:40 PANEL 1: SEXUAL PEDAGOGIES AND AUTHENTICITY**

Chair: Viola Nassi (University of Leicester)

*Disturbing Encounters: Teens and Tweens Watching Mature Content in Fiction Films*

Adrienne Boutang, University of Franche-Comté, France

*Emerging Indian Asexualities: Challenging the Sexual Normativity through Asexual Archives*

Malavika, IIT Tirupati, India

*Love Bytes: Navigating Entanglements of Sex and Romantic Love through FLINT\* Individuals' Use of the Hinge Dating Application*

Erinne Paisley, University of Amsterdam, Holland

*Losing Touch: (De)Materialising Eros in Contemporary Popular Fiction*

Dr Mary Harrod, University of Warwick, UK

**11:40 – 12:00 BREAK**

**12:00 – 13:40 PANEL 2: TRANSGRESSIVE PLEASURES AND FUTURES**

Chair: Andy Irwin (University of Birmingham)

*The Sex that I Love is Killing Me: Disease, Discrimination, and the Limits of Immuno-Politics in Russell T. Davies'; British Television Drama It's a Sin*

Arindam Nandi, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, India

*Fifty Shades of the Ripper: The Romanticisation of a Nineteenth-Century Serial Killer in Modern Culture*

Katrina Jan, University of Birmingham, UK

*Technologically Mediated Sexual Exploration in Videogames and "The Playful Child": From Sexual Surveillance to Queer Futurism*

Jean Ketterling, Carleton University, Canada

*Perverse Lesbianism: BDSM, Rape, and Incest in Cyber Chinese Girls' Love (GL) Fiction*

Dr Jamie J. Zhao, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

**13:40 – 15:00 BREAK**

**15:00 – 16:00 KEYNOTE: SUSANNA PAASONEN**

*In a Sea of Dicks: On the Limits of Porn*

Chair: Harrison Charles (Birmingham City University)

**16:30 – 18:10 PANEL 3: PORNOGRAPHIES**

Chair: Harrison Charles (Birmingham City University)

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*Terms of Service: Audacity, Imagination and Archiving Black Sexual Pleasure*

Dr Alexandria C. Cunningham, Independent Scholar, US

*Blacked out of Vanilla: Redressing Authenticity of Male Blackness through Satire in Interracial Porn*

Kellen Sharp, University of Texas, US

*Feminist Pornography as Radical Flank: A Consideration of Historical Rupture*

Rachael Liberman, University of Denver, US

*Be(ing) Quiet with Silence: An Undisciplined Analysis of Silence(s) Surrounding Black Male Homoerotic Desire and Being in Moonlight*

Tirrezz Hudson, University of California, US

**FRIDAY 6 OCTOBER | IN-PERSON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK (& ONLINE ACCESS VIA ZOOM)**

**08:30 – 09:00 REGISTRATION AND COFFEE**

**09:00 – 10:40 PANEL 1: MEDIATING BODIES**

Chair: Airelle Amedro (University of Warwick)

*Queer Sex, Trans Sexuality, and Haptic Visuality in Ester Martin Bergsmark's Something Must Break (2014)*

Mingyuan Wan, University of Cambridge, UK

*Beyond the 'Happy Hooker': Politics of Refusal and Ambivalence in the English Collective of Prostitutes Archive (1975-2019), Bishopsgate Institute*

Emily Pickthall, University of Warwick, UK

*Filling the Literary Line-Break: The Politics of Blank Space in Writing Sex*

Melissa Wan, University of Leeds, UK

*Censorship and the Role of the Media in the Perceptions of Sex and Disabled Individuals*

Cavyn Mitchell, London, UK

**10:40 – 11:00 COFFEE BREAK**

**11:00 – 12:40 PANEL 2: PERFORMING (DIS)INTIMACIES**

Chair: Yaqian Xu (University of Warwick)

*The Frenzy of the Intelligible: AI Sex in Her and Blade Runner 2049*

Dr Laurence Kent, University of Bristol, UK

*Between Bodies: Coordinating Consensual Intimacies*

Heath Pennington, University of California Santa Barbara, US; Queen Mary University, UK

*She Said, She Said: Silence Breaking, Performance Activism and Screening Women's Stories of Sexual Harassment*

Dr Donna Peberdy, Solent University Southampton, UK

**12:40 – 13:30 LUNCH BREAK**

**13:30 – 14:30 KEYNOTE: CLARISSA SMITH**

*Humour, Pathos, and Provocation: Deconstructing Adult Material and its Contradictions*

Chair: Polina Zelmanova (University of Warwick)

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**14:30 - 15:00 COFFEE BREAK**

**15:00 – 16:40 PANEL 3: HORNINESS AND SEXUAL AFFECTS**

Chair: Katie Deane (University of Warwick)

*'Daddy is a State of Mind': Horniness, Stardom, and Pedro Pascal*

Dr Julie Lobalzo Wright, University of Warwick, UK

*"That goes in the butt bank": Tina Belcher and The Horny Teen in a Queer Time and Place*

Dr Matt Denny, University of Warwick, UK

*Horny Furniture and Renting by the Hour: The Motel as a Place of Sexual Permission and Play in American Cinema*

Danielle Rae Childs, University of Warwick, UK

**16:45 – 17:00 CLOSING REMARKS, followed by an informal reception at Scarman Hotel on campus.**