

Gender and Sexuality in Violent Times: Remembrance and Memory through Representation

Richard Terdiman defines *memory* as “the modality of our relation to the past” (1993: 7). In this spirit, researchers in the fields of cultural studies, memory studies, and postcolonial studies have examined the ways in which cultural productions that are consumed or inhabited—such as literature, film, museums, monuments, and architecture—may form and inform individual and collective memory. Moreover, the development of new methods of producing and consuming information over the past several decades has led to new realms of inquiry and methods of analysis. In *Present Pasts*, Andreas Huyssen explains, “the past has become part of the present in ways simply unimaginable in earlier centuries” (2003: 1). This panel will build upon existing scholarship in memory studies by exploring the mechanisms and implications of representations of mass violence, such as war, conflict, or genocide. It aims to create space for an interdisciplinary dialogue on the ways in which understandings of gender and sexuality and the use of language mediate the *construction* of the past.

Applying an intersectional, gendered lens to the study of memory, remembrance, and commemoration is necessary in order to address questions essential to the analysis of the representation of violence: Who possesses the cultural and economic capital needed in order to represent? How might geopolitical factors and (trans)national power structures effect which types of narratives are available for public consumption? What discursive strategies might be employed to minimize the politicization and aestheticization of violence? Do memory and representation have a reciprocal, self-fulfilling relationship that can be traced through language? If so, what are the societal consequences of this relationship? This panel invites submissions from researchers of diverse disciplinary backgrounds, studying the mechanisms of representation of violence and/or the sociocultural implications of such representation on individual or collective memory. Submissions should have a focus on language and gender or sexuality.

If you would like to participate in this panel, please email an abstract of up to 500 words to ewj218@nyu.edu by 5 September 2019.