



Agenda *(draft)*

Thursday, March 7, 2024

Freehand Los Angeles - 416 W. 8th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014 (ph: 213-612-0021)

Time	Agenda Item
<i>varies</i>	Participant flights to Los Angeles. Take ground transportation to check-in at Freehand Los Angeles hotel (see notes on reimbursements). (Unless previously discussed, all rooms are under your name and paid for, though you will need to put down a card for deposit/incidentals.)
7-8:30pm	Optional welcome meet-up at the Broken Shaker (rooftop hotel bar, reservation under Harris Kornstein)

Friday, March 8, 2024

Navel - 1611 S Hope St, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Time	Agenda Item
<i>morning</i>	Breakfast on your own (<i>see info below</i>)
9:45am	Meet in hotel lobby for carshare to Navel
10-10:30am	Welcome, Introductions, Group Agreements
10:30-11:15am	Group Discussion
11:15-11:30am	Break
11:30-12:30pm	Presentation 1: Ervin Malakaj
12:30-1:30pm	Lunch (delivered): Guisados (tacos)

1:30-2:30pm	Presentation 2: mattie brice, "How Do We Already Change The World Through Play?"
2:30-2:45pm	Break
2:45-3:45pm	Presentation 3: Shaka McGlotten, "Glitchcraft"
3:45-4pm	Break
4-5pm	Presentation 4: Whit Pow, "Digital TV Breakfast"
5-5:15pm	Break
5:15-6pm	Group Discussion
6:15pm	Dinner: Pine & Crane DTLA (to be confirmed)
<i>after dinner</i>	Optional evening activity: Biqtchin' drag show at Precinct

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Tom of Finland Foundation - 1421 Laveta Terrace, Los Angeles, CA 90026

Time	Agenda Item
<i>morning</i>	Breakfast on your own (<i>see info below</i>)
9:40am (updated!)	Meet in hotel lobby for carshare to Tom of Finland Foundation
10-11am	Group Discussion
11-12pm	Presentation 5: Cas Holman, "Name By Function"
12-1pm	Tour of Tom House
1-2pm	Lunch (delivered): Levant Bistro (Lebanese)
2-3pm	Presentation 6: Tran Templeton, "What Can Paper Do? A Grammar of Materials"

3-3:15pm	Break
3:15-4:15pm	Presentation 7: Nayland Blake, "The Artist's Way: Kink and Queer Play"
4:15-4:30pm	Break
4:30-6pm	Group Discussion
6:15pm	Dinner: Sage Bistro (vegan), 1700 West Sunset Blvd
After dinner	Optional evening activity: Luna Luna

Sunday, March 10, 2024

Navel - 1611 S Hope St, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Time	Agenda Item
<i>morning</i>	Breakfast on your own (<i>see info below</i>)
11am	Meet in hotel lobby for carshare to Navel
11:15am-2pm	Group Discussion: <i>where might we go from here?</i> Working lunch (delivered): Jewel (vegetarian/Californian)
2-6pm	Return travel / unstructured time. Dinner on your own.

Monday, March 11, 2024

Time	Agenda Item
<i>morning</i>	Return travel

Special Thanks

This workshop is generously supported by funds from several University of Arizona units: a RII Workshop Support grant, a Confluentcenter Director's Fund grant, and the LGBTQ+ Institute.

Misc. Notes

Organizer Contacts

- Harris Kornstein: 518-461-1347
- Harper Keenan: 604-362-9452
- Z Nicolazzo: 513-461-3724

Ground Transportation

We have budgeted \$100 for each participant to contribute toward ground transportation (to/from your local airport, and to/from LAX), but this may not be enough for 4 taxi/rideshare rides. There is a small possibility that we may be able to cover additional costs, but cannot guarantee until we collect final receipts.

Taxi/Rideshare at LAX: Best option from/to LAX is taxi, Lyft, or Uber; though note that upon arrival, you need to take the [LAXit shuttle](#) where you actually get a car. (Warning: LAX signage is the worst!)

FlyAway Bus: If you are a public transit enthusiast (or to save funds), there is also the [FlyAway bus](#) which heads to Union Station downtown every half hour (make sure not to take the Van Nuys option). From there, you can take a taxi/rideshare or the Metro to the hotel. One nice thing: the FlyAway stops at the actual terminals (vs. the LAXit).

Please save your receipts for ground transportation, and note the following UA guidelines/restrictions for reimbursements:

- UA cannot reimburse for reservation fees, priority pickup, wait time (on pick up), or upgraded class (Lux, Black, Extra Comfort, SUV, etc.) – you may use these services, but those fees will be removed from your reimbursement.
- The maximum tip/gratuity that UA can reimburse is 20%.
- If you use credits for ground transportation (e.g., prepaid Uber/Lyft credits), you will also need to provide the bank statement showing the transaction where you paid for/added the credit to their Uber/Lyft account.
- For rideshare receipts, you will need to provide an itemized receipt that shows both pick up and drop off information. All receipts need to be itemized and show date and method of payment.
- Airport parking is limited to a maximum of \$5/day.

During the conference, we'll take rideshares to various venues and restaurants—most will be coordinated with workshops organizers to minimize reimbursements. Note: Navel is just over a mile from the hotel (but may not be the most pleasant walk).

→ **Receipt submission form:** <https://forms.gle/4TmcG1ZcPccim477>

Access Notes

Stairs: Please note that the main entrance to Navel is up a long set of stairs. There is also an elevator; if you would like access, please let Harris know, as it requires a separate entrance.

Scents: If possible, please refrain from wearing perfume/cologne due to allergies – no or low scent preferred!

Covid-19: Officially, UA policies on Covid-19 prevent any specific mitigation measures at this point. However, we encourage participants to take whatever measures feel safest to you as far as masking – and we can discuss collectively if there are any requests amongst our group. We will have donated tests and masks available if you would like to use them, and an air filter in our meeting spaces. Dinners will be at restaurants outdoors, weather permitting (please bring a jacket/layers!).

Meals

Breakfast on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will be on your own, with a per diem allowance of \$10/day (no need to submit receipts for this). There are a number of coffee and food options in close proximity to the hotel, including:

- Café Integral (in hotel)
- Rudolph's Bar & Tea (in hotel, closed Sunday)
- Hilltop Coffee & Kitchen
- Bottega Louie (fancy LA bakery institution!)
- Whole Foods
- Grand Central Market (food hall vibes, .7 miles away)

Lunch will be provided Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Dinner will be out with the group on Friday and Saturday; Sunday will be on your own, with a small per diem allowance (\$22-35 depending on whether you're leaving that night, due to university policies; you will not need to save receipts for this either).

We'll also have plenty of snacks and beverages at the workshop venues!

Participants

Nayland Blake is an artist. They were born in 1960 in New York City and live there now, after taking a fourteen year sojourn in California. From 2002 to 2020 they served as the chair at the ICP/Bard MFA program at the International Center of Photography. Currently they are the Co-Director of the Studio Arts Program at Bard College. For ten years, they shared their home with Lehigh, a very self possessed Boston Terrier. In 2005 they paid off their student loans.

mattie brice is an artist and designer working with contemporary social issues through play. She has been a culture worker within the games industry for over a decade as a critic, designer, activist, organizer, curator, and educator. Her creative work manifests as medium-agonistic games and play experiments, from the memoir game Mainichi, conceptual art like EAT, performance with empathy machine, and speculative experiences including The DAFRA Pairing Ceremony. mattie's organizing work spans various scales, having co-organized the Queerness & Games Conference, IndieCade, and #LOSTLEVELS. She now teaches at the University of California: Santa Cruz' Performance, Play, & Design department and her current work focuses on play as activism, speculative methodologies, design bleed, and social relationships of power.

Cas Holman, a designer and educator, challenges us to create without fear of failure, explore new ways of thinking and problem solving, and work together toward revolutionary innovation. It all starts with play. Founder of the independent toy company Heroes Will Rise and former Professor of Industrial Design at RISD, Cas travels the globe speaking about early education, the design process, and the value of play in all phases and aspects of life. Cas has shared her perspective in workshops, seminars, and consultations with the teams at Google, Nike, LEGO Foundation, and Disney Imagineering, and she has worked with architects, CEOs, and university faculty on projects related and seemingly unrelated to design.

Harper B. Keenan is a lot gayer than this bio probably makes him sound, but he is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy at the University of British Columbia. Harper's work examines how adults guide children to make sense of the social world. His primary goals as an academic are to contribute to the education of young children and their teachers, and to shift public thinking about children and childhood. He is the founder of the Trans Educators Network, which includes more than 800 trans-identified PK-12 educators across North America, and is affiliated with SOGI UBC, which aims to transform K-12 schools and teacher education programs to support self-determination surrounding gender and sexuality. Broadly, Dr. Keenan's academic interests include critical pedagogy; childhood; elementary education; teacher education; and trans studies.

Harris Kornstein is a scholar, artist, and drag queen whose research and art practice focuses on digital culture, surveillance, data and algorithms, media art/activism, disability, and queer theory.

Their current book project, *Enchanting Technology: Obfuscation, Play, and Other Queer Strategies for Countering Surveillance Capitalism*, documents queer and trans cultural strategies that mobilize techniques of play, misuse, and obfuscation to counter the harms of surveillance capitalism—a process he theorizes as "queer enchantment." In addition to publishing research in academic journals, Harris has published essays in popular press outlets like Wired and Slate, and written two children's books; they have also presented performances, visual art works, and curatorial projects in a range of museums, galleries, and community venues, including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Saturday Night Live, ONE Archives, and Apex Art.

Ervin Malakaj is associate professor of German studies and director of the center for European studies at the University of British Columbia. His research concerns the intersection of queer studies and central European cultural history. Ervin's first book on Richard Oswald's iconic queer melodrama *Anders als die Andern* (1919) came out in 2023. Currently, he is working on a book of personal essays titled *Tetka Theory*, which is a project about the queer Bosnian diaspora and partially traces his family's refugee trajectory. Ervin is an avid tarot reader and comes from a family of Balkan mystics.

Shaka McGlotten is Professor of Media Studies and Anthropology at Purchase College-SUNY, where they also serve as Chair of the Gender Studies program. An anthropologist and artist, their work stages encounters between black study, queer theory, media, and art. They have written and lectured widely on networked intimacies and messy computational entanglements as they interface with queer of color lifeworlds.

Z Nicolazzo is an associate professor of Trans* Studies in Education at the Center for the Study of Higher Education and a member of the Trans* Studies Initiative at the University of Arizona. Dr. Nicolazzo's research foci include: (1) tracing discourses of gender across postsecondary educational contexts, especially as they influence the livability of trans students, faculty, and staff; (2) transmisogyny as a mode of institutional capture, and; (3) affect theory, with an emphasis on grief and loss. Dr. Nicolazzo's first book is titled *Trans* In College: Transgender Students' Strategies for Navigating Campus Life and the Institutional Politics of Inclusion* (2017; Stylus Publishing), and her second, co-authored, text is titled *Digital Me: Trans Students Exploring Future Possible Selves Online* (2023, Rutgers University Press). She is also an editor of one text, and co-editor of three, with her most recent being *Weaving an Otherwise: In-Relations Methodological Practice* (2022, Stylus Publishing).

Whit Pow (they/them) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Media, Culture, and Communication at New York University. Their book project, *People Orientations: Toward a Transgender Video Game and Software History*, looks at the intersection of trans medical history, surveillance, and policy with computer and video game history. Their work has been published in and is forthcoming from *Camera Obscura*, *Feminist Media Histories*, *ROMchip: A*

Journal of Game Histories and on the Social Sciences Research Council's Just Tech platform, among others. Pow is a recipient of the NYU Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship.

Tran Templeton is a 1.5 generation Vietnamese-American who lives in NYC with her partner and two cats who are on a diet (and are mad about it). She is an Assistant Professor of Early Childhood at Teachers College, Columbia. She has been a teacher of young children and disabled children, as well as a school director in Guatemala City (please don't test her Spanish). Tran studies children's photographs, play, and relations with non-human animals. She's fascinated by the ways that the environments we design "for" children make possible (and impossible) particular forms of thought and practice.