

POLITICS OF BEAUTY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

This conference aims to engage with the politics of beauty and their ramifications.

Since the 1970s social movements have been stimulating a wealth of studies on beauty as a racist, classist, ableist, colorist, lookist, sizeist, ageist, and (cis and hetero)sexist regime of representation. Recent research has focused on beauty as a practice or rather as incessant “body work” in neoliberal times – working out, body-building, make-overs, cosmetic surgery, shopping, dieting, etc. –, and its oppressive, discriminatory effects.

Despite this invaluable work, some pertinent questions remain opaque and understudied. How does beauty culture (re)produce and/or stand in tension to discourses of gender, class, race, ethnicity, skin colour, and colonialism? How is beauty productive? What does it produce? What are people’s affective, social, economic, and global investments in beauty? Why does the desire to prescribe beauty standards persist? How to analytically grasp the pleasure of doing body work? What different media strategies are used to programmatically present, transmit and disperse beauty concepts? Crucially, what is beauty doing in helping us understand lived experience and temporalities, language and representation, media images, and physicality? In other words, how to grasp the politics of beauty as forming intersectional selves, corporations, nations and global discourses?

Sponsored by

Swiss Center for Social Research, University of Cambridge:
Centre of Latin American Studies, Centre for Gender Studies,
Department of Sociology, Downing College

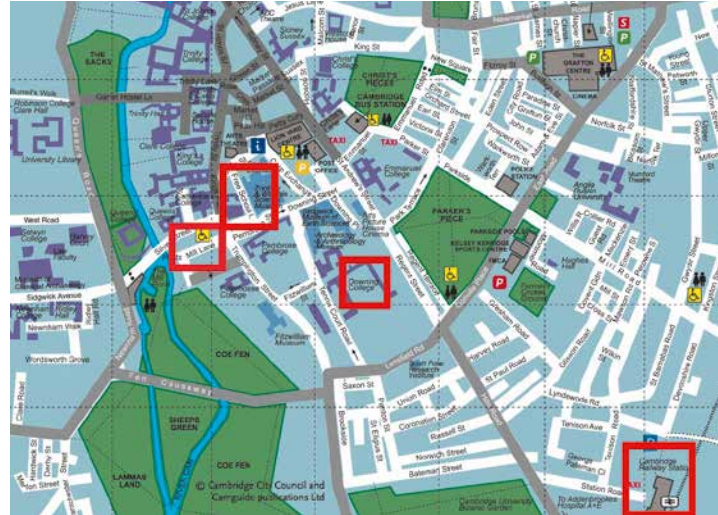
Cover Image

Still from Yellow Fever © by Ng’endo Mukii 2012
Ng’endo Mukii is a Nairobi based artist and animator whose films won numerous awards. <https://vimeo.com/ngendo>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cambridge Map

Conference venue: Mill Lane Lecture Rooms (Room 4)
Main Accommodation Site: Downing College
See this and other suggestions at
www.politicsofbeautysite.wordpress.com



Travel from the train station to the venue of the conference:
Mill Lane Lecture Rooms is approximately 8 minutes by car, and taxis are stationed immediately outside of the train station at all times. Alternatively, delegates can walk from the train station to Mill Lane Lecture Rooms by following signs to the city centre and locating the venue from there. This takes approximately 20–25 minutes. Downing College is on Regent Street, 5 minutes by car from the train station.

If you need to call a taxi we recommend Panther Taxis:
+44 (0)1223 715715

Registration and Conference Fees

Please register by 29th of August 2016 at
www.politicsofbeautysite.wordpress.com
All Participants £ 60, Students £ 20

Website

www.sociology.cam.ac.uk/about/events/beauty-summer-school
www.politicsofbeautysite.wordpress.com

Contact

politicsofbeauty2016@gmail.com

POLITICS OF BEAUTY

DISCOURSES
AND INTERSECTIONS IN THE
GLOBAL SPHERE



PROGRAMME
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
2–3 SEPTEMBER 2016

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER

3.00–3.30 pm	Arrival with Coffee and Registration
3.30–3.45 pm	Welcome
3.45–4.45 pm	Session 1
	The Politics of Beauty Mónica Moreno Figueroa University of Cambridge, UK Margrit Vogt University of Flensburg, Germany Dominique Grisard University of Basel, Switzerland
4.45–6.10 pm	Session 2 Chair: Lauren Wilcox, University of Cambridge, UK
	Vulval Images: Myth, Horror, Transformation Meredith Jones Brunel University, UK
	Cuteness, Womanliness and the Meg Ryan Star Persona Diane Negra University College Dublin, IR
	Unusual Faces Rosemarie Garland-Thomson Emory University, USA
	Q&A
6.10–7.10 pm	Session 3 Chair: Dominique Grisard, University of Basel, Switzerland
	Sacar el Cuerpo: Transformista and Miss Embodiment Marcia Ochoa UC-Santa Cruz, USA
7.30 pm	Dinner

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER

9.00–10.00 am	Session 4 Chair: Mónica Moreno Figueroa, University of Cambridge, UK
	Browning Don't Always Carry the Swing: Or: What Are the Prospects for a Black Anti-Racist Sark Aesthetics? Shirley Tate University of Leeds, UK
10.00–11.20 am	Session 5 Chair: Denise Noble, Birmingham City University
	Beauty Capitalism, Modern Citizenship and Neo-colonial Racial Formations Meeta Rani Jha University of Winchester, UK
	The Promise of Beauty Mimi Thi Nguyen University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, USA
	Beautiful Futures? Fat Bodies and Queer Failure Francis Ray White University of Westminster, UK
	Q&A
11.20–12.00 pm	Network Meetings over Coffee Break
12.00–1.20 pm	Session 6 Chair: Meeta Rani Jha, University of Winchester
	“Strong is the New Skinny:” Gender, Race, and the Politics of the Body Sarah Banet-Weiser University of Southern California, USA
	Plastic or Stuck? Standards of Beauty, Breast Augmentations and Skin Lightening Jackie Sanchez Taylor University of Leicester, UK
	Yes, You Can! On Arms, Muscles, and the Performance of Sovereignty Paula Irene Villa Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, Germany
	Q&A
1.20–2.30 pm	Lunch

2.30–3.40 pm	Session 7 Chair: Manali Desai, Cambridge UK
	The Browning Joy Gregory London, UK
	Film Taxidermy and Re-Animation Ng'endo Mukii Nairobi, Kenya
	Blackamoors, Noble Savages and Mungo Macaronis: the Black Male Body in Fashion Media Christine Checinska University of Johannesburg VIAD, SA/Goldsmiths University of London, UK
	Q&A
3.40–4.20 pm	Network Meetings over Coffee Break
4.20–5.20 pm	Session 8 Chair: Margrit Vogt, University of Flensburg, Germany
	The Digital Cultures of Beauty Surveillance Rosalind Gill City University London, UK
5.20–5.40 pm	Session 9
	General Q&A and Concluding Remarks
5.40–6.00 pm	End of Conference / Departure