“Theorizing Black Studies: Representing African-Americans in the African Imagination”

9: 50am Remarks by FDI Director, Victoria Wolcott
10: 00am Senior Dean for Humanities
10am-12pm- Session 1 African-Americans in the Caribbean Imagination
  • Martin Munro, Florida State University: “Rhythm and Diaspora: Haiti, New Orleans and Jazz”
  • Faith Smith, Brandeis University: “(African) Americans and Caribbean Self-Fashioning”
    Moderator: John Michael, U. of Rochester

1:30-3:00pm- Session 2 The Challenge of Representation: From Africa and the Francophone Diaspora.
  • Odile Cazenave, Boston University
    “Alain Mabanckou’s Lettre à Jimmy and Leonora Miano’s Soulfood Tropicale: for a new Interpretation of the American Soul”
  • Alexie Tcheuyap, University of Toronto
    “African-Americans in Africa: Challenges of Representation”
    Moderator: Sharon Willis

3:00-5:00pm- Session 3 Formal Opening of the Conference by Thomas DiPiero
      Senior Dean of Humanities
      • Keynote speech by Maryse Condé
        “Between Hope and Reality: Is there such a thing as a Black World?”
        Moderator: Cilas Kemedjio, U. of Rochester

6:00pm Reception

Saturday December 4, 2010
10:30-12pm- Session 4 African-Americans and the “Come Back to Africa”: a critical appraisal
  • Lisa Aubrey, Northern Arizona State University
  • Cilas Kemedjio, University of Rochester
    “Maryse Condé and her afrocentric Sisters: A critical reading of African-americans’ representations of Africa”
    • “Representing African-Americans in the African Imagination: A Visual Anthology”
      Moderator: Larry Hudson, U. of Rochester

1:00-3:00pm- Session 5 Musical Mediations in Diasporic Encounters
  • Tejumola Olaniyan, University of Wisconsin, Madison
    “Fela Kuti’s Black America”
  • Célestin Monga, World Bank
    “The New Ethics of Looting: Shakira, Michael Jackson and others in the Age of Plagiarism”
  • Lydie Moudileno, University of Pennsylvania
    “Representing African-Americans in the African Imagination”: New Perspectives in Black Diasporic Studies”
    Moderator: Jeff Tucker, U. of Rochester

4:00pm FDI 10th Anniversary Celebration (Meliora Salon D)