Abolish Border Imperialism! – A Convergence for Abolition and Decolonization
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota
October 6-8, 2017
Register at abolitionjournal.org

Tentative Program
(check back in a few weeks for a more final version)

Friday, October 6, 2017
Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey School, University of Minnesota-West Bank campus

2:00pm-5:00pm – Abolition Collective Meeting
(closed event)

6:00pm-8:00pm – Plenary Panel Event

Nick Estes (Kul Wicasa Sicangu Tintonwan) holds a BA and MA in history from the University of South Dakota and is currently a PhD candidate in American Studies at the University of New Mexico. Born and raised along the Mni Sose (Missouri River), much of Estes' previous research focused on the river’s environmental history and politics of the Pick-Sloan dams, federal Indian policy, South Dakota political history, and the Oceti Sakowin (The Seven Council Fires or "The Great Sioux Nation"). Historian by training, he also incorporates critical Indigenous studies, oral history, decolonization methodologies, settler colonial theory, affect theory, and new materialism into his current research. Estes' work interrogates the political economy of the northern Great Plains, the politics of property, land tenure, resource extraction, border town violence, Indigenous internationalism, Lakota treaties and history, and human rights.

Ricardo Levins Morales describes himself as a “healer and trickster organizer disguised as an artist.” He was born into the anti-colonial movement in his native Puerto Rico and was drawn into activism in Chicago when his family moved there in 1967. He left high school early and worked in various industries, and over time began to use his art as part of his activism. This activism has included support work for the Black Panthers and Young Lords to participating in or acting in solidarity with farmers, environmental, labor, racial justice and peace movements. Increasingly he has come to see his art and organizing practices as means to address individual, collective and historical trauma. He co-leads workshops on trauma and resilience for organizers as well as trainings on creative organizing, social justice strategy and sustainable activism, and mentors and supports young activists. His art has won numerous awards but the greatest affirmation is the uses to which is has been put by grassroots movements and communities.
K-Sue Park is an Equal Justice Works Fellow and staff attorney in the El Paso office of Texas RioGrade Legal Aid, where she practices foreclosure defense and investigates predatory mortgage lending and servicing. She received her J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School and her PhD from the Rhetoric Department of the University of California, Berkeley. She is currently working on a book provisionally entitled If Your World Were Built on Dispossession: Strategies of Conquest by Settlement in America.

*And an additional speaker who has written and organized on the topic.

Evening – Convergence Reception
Everyone welcome. More information coming soon!

Saturday, October 7, 2017
Division of Indian Work, 1001 E. Lake St., Minneapolis

8:30am-9:00am – BREAKFAST
9:00am-10:15am – SESSION I

Radical Fronterizas: Pláticas of Surviving and Resisting the Borderlands
Judith Flores Carmona, Manal Hamzeh, Cynthia Bejarano, Yvonne El Ashmawi, Ma. Eugenia Hernandez Sanchez, Vanessa Lina Martínez

Mino bimaadiziwin under the border: A spatial analysis of Indigenous time and movement between the US and Canada
Elsa Hoover, Algonquin Anishinaabe artist-architect/writer

Gender and Sexuality
- LGBTQ Migrant Returnees Creating Survival Strategies in Mexico, Sandibel Borges, Assistant Professor in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
- Transfeminismo, or a Transnational Critique of Masculinity, Ana Baginski, UC Irvine
- “Empty Lands” to “Empty Signifiers”: Nativism, Race, Gender, and National Populism, Jasmine Noelle Yarish, Abolition Collective

Abolition, Decolonization and the Politics of Pleasure & Play
- Black Pleasure as a Political Project, Jallicia Jolly, Abolition Collective
- A Field of Dreamers: Place, Space, and Belonging in Toronto’s Recreational Softball Leagues, Craig Fortier & Colin Hastings, Abolition Collective
- The Rent is Too Damn High: Place-making as politic, Scz, Abolition Collective
• Race, Colonialism, and the Politics of Indian Sports Names and Mascots, Kevin Bruyneel, Abolition Collective

10:15am-10:35am – BREAK

10:35am-12:35pm – SESSION II

State Violence Beyond Borders: U.S., Israel, and Tactics of Control
Jewish Voice for Peace - Twin Cities

Speaking Our Truths, Mapping Our Stories: Cartography and Decolonial Activism
Annita Lucchesi, faculty at Blackfeet Community College and PhD student in the Critical Cultural, Social, & Political Thought at the University of Lethbridge

Inside/Outside Collective Study Session
Critical Resistance – Oakland Chapter

Ain’t No Justice...It’s Just Us: Transformative Justice & Community Accountability 101
Lena Palacios, Abolition Collective member and Assistant Professor of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, University of Minnesota

12:35pm-2:05pm – LUNCH

2:05pm-3:20pm SESSION III

Abolition and the Carceral State
• “Mass Incarceration” as Misnomer, Dylan Rodriguez, Abolition Collective, University of California Riverside and Critical Resistance
• “we are going further, past reform, to wonder”: Notes on an Abolitionist Reentry Praxis, Renée M. Byrd, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Humboldt State University
• Lessons of Border Imperialism and Penal Abolition: Democracy, the Rule of Law, and Other Utopias, Michael J. Coyle, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice, California State University, Chico

Coming to this Location: A Police-Free Minneapolis
Ricardo Levins-Morales, Twin Cities-based artist and activist

Toward Decolonizing the Community College: Radical Educators and Student Activists Building Abolitionist Objectives, Albert Ponce Ph.D. (Abolition Collective), Frank Ortega Ph.D., Newin Orante Ed.D. and Hassam Jawaid, Diablo Valley College

Feminist Economics Yoga (for Abolishing Imperialism), Cassie Thornton, The Feminist Economics Department
Health

- Imperial Medicine: A Settler Colonialist Critique of the US Health Care System, Anthony Jimenez Doctoral Candidate, Department of Sociology University of Minnesota
- The Clinic as Border Checkpoint: The Institutional Intersections of Health and Immigration Enforcement in Arizona, Erin Hoekstra, Abolition Collective/University of Minnesota
- The Entanglement of Border and Psy Imperialism: Global Modernity and the Making and Managing of the Mind, Lindsay Miller, University of Sheffield, UK

3:20pm-3:40pm – BREAK

3:40pm-4:55pm – SESSION IV

Dream Justice - Keeping A Radical Imagination Under Trump
Keno Evol – The Free Black Table

Humanitarian Intervention in the Borderlands

- Abolitionist Care in the Militarized Borderlands, China Medel, Ph.D., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- Demilitarizing the Imagination: No More Deaths, Reporting Human Rights Abuses and Shifting the Conversation along the US-Mexico Border, John Washington, freelance journalist
- Border as Crisis: Sovereignty And Boundary-Making Practices In The American Immigration Crisis Of 2014, Samuel Law, University of Chicago and Ana Montgomery
- “Undocumented: The Architecture of Migrant Detention by ting chak”, Nicole at Adastra Comix

Racism, Colonialism, and Borders in US Midwifery
Wičáŋȟpi Iyótaŋ Win, Certified Professional Midwife, Granite Falls, MN; Tehmina Islam, Certified Professional Midwife, Madison, WI; Perla Fierro Web designer, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico and Former client, Maternidad La Luz, El Paso; Annie Menzel, Assistant Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies, UW-Madison

Radical Pedagogy: Race, Anti-Colonialism, and the Politics of Teaching in US Universities
Kevin Bruyneel, Babson College and Jaskiran Dhillon, The New School

Sunday, October 8, 2017
Division of Indian Work, 1001 E. Lake St., Minneapolis

8:30am-9:00am – BREAKFAST

9:00am-10:15am – SESSION I

International
- Spectacles of the State: Imperial Borders on Birthright Israel, Sophia Goodfriend, University of Chicago/Students for Justice in Palestine/Jewish Voice for Peace
- Schengen Agreement in Africa: Rethinking the ECOWAS Protocol on Free Movement, Okunade Samuel Kehinde, doctoral candidate in the Department of Conflict Transformation and Peace Studies, University of Kwazulu-Natal Pietermaritzburg
- No Borders in France and UK, Tasha, Calais Migrant Solidarity

Racial Capitalism
- "It'll Be Worse Than BP": Resisting State Policy through Coastal Knowledges in Southeast Louisiana’s Commercial Fisheries, Simi Kang, Coastal Project Coordinator, Coastal Communities Consulting, Visiting Adjunct Professor, Bard Early College in New Orleans and Ph.D. Candidate, Feminist Studies, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Listening to Black Lives Matter: “Racial Capitalism” as a Challenge to Critiques of “Neoliberalism,” Siddhant Issar, PhD student in Political Science, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- “Jap Internment on Indian Land”: The Role of Archives in Separating Japanese American World War II Incarceration and Its Infringements On Native Sovereignty

The Poetics of Abolition
Max Haiven, Lakehead University, Canada Research Chair in Culture, Media and Social Justice, Director, The Reimagining Value Action Lab (RiVAL)

Feminist Anti-Militarization in Colombia
Carol Rojas, Witness for Peace

10:15am-10:35am – BREAK

10:35am-11:50am – SESSION II

Grieving, Sorrow and Rage: Rebellion from the Brazilian Graveyard
A panel organized by Jaime Alves, City University of New York and Raquel de Souza: University of Texas, at Austin
- Rute Fiuza: Mother of Davi Fiúza, a 14-year old black teenager killed and disappeared by the Military Police in Salvador/Bahia. Meanwhile Rute continues her journey to find the remains of her dead son, she is also organizing black mothers in the periphery of Salvador to curb state terrorism.
• **Dina Alves**: Anti-prison abolitionist and performer, Dina Alves is also the author of White Judges, Black Defendants: an intersectional analysis of prison and policing in São Paulo/Brazil.

• **Debora Silva**: is the founder of Mães de Maio, the prominent black movement against black genocide in Brazil. Mother of Rogério Silva dos Santos, a 29-year old black man killed by the Military Police during the so-called Crimes of May of 2006 when the police killed 493 individuals from the peripheries of São Paulo and beyond.

• **Railda Silva**: is the founder of AMPARAR (Parents Against Mass Incarceration). Railda organizes parents, friends and prisoners coming home to stop mass incarceration in Brazil. Her organization has helped to free dozen of individuals in the last ten years.

• **Raquel de Souza**: Raquel is the author of “Cruel Co-existence: racial paradise and black suffering in Salvador/Bahia” (forthcoming). Besides being a social anthropologist, is a public intellectual and prominent voice against state terrorist in Bahia.

Media and Abolition

• *Pirate Radio for Abolition*, Jake Nussbaum, artist and activist based in New York

• *Free Radio Berkeley: Radio Waves Blast Through Borders*, Lindsay Krantz, Free Radio Berkely

*Rebellious Mourning: The Collective Work of Grief*

Cindy Milstein is the author of Anarchism and Its Aspirations, co-author of Paths toward Utopia: Graphic Explorations of Everyday Anarchism, and editor of the anthology Taking Sides: Revolutionary Solidarity and the Poverty of Liberalism

*Storytelling to Abolish Immigration Detention from the Inside-Out*

Soros Justice Fellow Tina Shull and Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement (CIVIC)

Feminism and Reproductive Justice in the International Context

• *Building Feminist International Solidarities*, Gwenola Ricordeau

• “The ‘Digital Pill’: On Global Politics of Reproductive Surveillance, Anastasia Kārkliņa, Doctoral Student, Graduate Program in Literature, Duke University

11:50am-1:20pm – LUNCH

1:20pm-2:35pm – CLOSING ASSEMBLY