

# 13<sup>th</sup> Ida B. Wells Conference

## “Southern Hip Hop and Black Liberation”

Friday, April 22

9:30 am – 10:00 am: Coffee and Pastries

10:00 am – 10:10 am: Opening Remarks by Natalyah Davis (University of Memphis)

10:15 am – 11:45 am: Undergraduate Panel

Idowu Odeyemi (Ekiti State University) | “Conceptualizing ‘Soft Decolonization’ in Kwesi Wiredu’s Decolonial Theory”

Valeria Pott (Cornell College) | “Motivation of a Slaveholder”

John Henry Merritt (Howard University) | “The Stillness: N. K. Jesmin’s Afrofuturist Geography”

Chair: Corey Reed (University of Memphis)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm: Lunch

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm: Graduate Panel 1

Brandice P. Walker (Howard University) | “Aww Sookie Sookie Now: Reading the Erotic in Big K.R.I.T.’s Verse”

Victoria M. Washington (Jackson State University) | “Healin’ Myself: Black Masculinity and Mental Health in J. Cole’s Lewis Street”

Chair: Jasper St. Bernard (University of Memphis)

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm: Mentoring Session 1 (*closed to participants*)

Applying to and Surviving Graduate School | Discussion Led by Lindsey Stewart (University of Memphis)

4:00 pm – 5:30 pm: Keynote 1

Myisha Cherry (University of California, Riverside) | “On James Baldwin, Lauryn Hill, and Black Rage”

Chair: Nyla Bush (University of Memphis)

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm: BBQ hosted by Mike Monahan (University of Memphis)

Saturday, April 23

10:00 am – 10:30 am: Coffee and Pastries

10:30 am – 11:30 am : Graduate Panel 2

Gabriel Pulido (Penn State University) | “‘Praise Our Hands that can Birth Beautiful’: Elevating Collegiate Black Women’s Voices to Inform Higher Education Pedagogical and Policy Practice through Spoken Word”

Corbin Covington (Northwestern University) | “‘The Negro is a Toy in the White Man’s Hand’: The Opiate of Aestheticization and the Shaping of Modern Identity in Public Art”

Chair: Nyla Bush (University of Memphis)

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm: Lunch

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm: Graduate Panel 3

Semasso Boko (University of California-Irvine) | “Had to Wear the Dress/‘Cause I had a Stick”

Zuri Arman (Brown University) | “A Meditation on Black Music”

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm: Mentoring Session 2 (*closed to participants*)

Navigating the Job Market | Discussion Led by Corey Reed (University of Memphis)

4:00pm – 5:30 pm: Keynote 2

Kris Sealey (Fairfield University) | “Humanizing the Landscape from the Edge(s) of Empire”

Chair: Corey Reed (University of Memphis)

6:30pm – 8:30 pm: Dinner with Participants

\* Special thanks to the Philosophy Department, the African and African American Studies Department, and the Lillian and Morrie Moss Chair of Excellence in Philosophy at the University of Memphis for their support of the conference this year.