

The Spaces of Democracy and the Democracy of Space Research Network

Invites you

4-5 August 2008

Ontology, Space and Radical Politics

August 4th: *Radical Politics Today*, Community Forum
Long Beach Public Library, 101 Pacific Avenue, Civic Center Plaza, Long Beach, 90822, 6-8pm

Panelists: Gilda Haas | Strategic Action for a Just Economy, Los Angeles; Laura Pulido | American Studies and Ethnicity, University of Southern California; Goetz Wolff | Harry Bridges Institute, San Pedro & University of California, Los Angeles
Moderator: Jon Pugh | Director, *The Spaces of Democracy and the Democracy of Space* Network & Geography, Politics and Sociology, University of Newcastle

August 5th: *Ontology, Space & Radical Politics*, Workshop
Karl Anatol Center, California State University, Long Beach, 9am-430pm

Speakers: Nigel Thrift | Vice-Chancellor, Warwick University; Edward Soja | Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles; Lawrence Berg | Geography, University of British Columbia; John Paul Jones III | Geography and Regional Development, University of Arizona; Sallie Marston | Geography and Regional Development, University of Arizona; Keith Woodward | Geography, University of Exeter; Liz Philipose | Women's Studies, California State University, Long Beach; Mary Thomas | Women's Studies & Geography, Ohio State University

Moderator: Deborah Thien | Node Director, *The Spaces of Democracy and the Democracy of Space* Network & Geography, California State University, Long Beach

The 'spatial' is receiving increasing attention in the social sciences and humanities. Much contemporary thinking takes issue with 'space' as a pre-defined background or container of life. As the spatial is opened out and invigorated in new ways, new tensions are foregrounding a number of concerns: ethical responsibility, identity, representation, (post)territoriality, militarism, neoliberalism, belief, among many others. The *Spaces of Democracy and the Democracy of Space* Network is exploring a number of related questions: What is driving this spatial turn and these tensions, and how can we examine their nature and character? What is left out and/or excluded along the way? How is the nature of the spatial turn related to and shaping the character of politics and democracy? In particular, how is 'radical' politics being understood, as new understandings of the spatial come to the fore? What signifies and constitutes radical (political) transformation, today? The events above will reflect upon such questions in a series of wide ranging debates. Speakers include some of the leading theorists shaping the spatial turn. In addition, invited scholars will explore the nature of radical politics as it relates to Long Beach local places (e.g. schoolyards and ports), academic sites, and the spaces of international law.

Attendance is welcome, but workshop space is limited.

For further information about these events, or to reserve workshop space, please contact Deborah Thien at dthien@csulb.edu.