



**ASAP/9:
The Arts of the Present
October 26-28, 2017**

Hosted by the University of
California, Berkeley
at the Oakland Marriott
City Center

New Submission Deadline: April 3, 2017

ASAP/9 invites proposals from scholars and artists addressing the contemporary arts in all their forms since the 1960s—literary, visual, performing, musical, cinematic, design, and digital. We are interested in work across disciplines and media that examine the formal, cultural, social, and political dimensions of the arts today.

/ What roles can we imagine for the arts in relation to forms of social action and political resistance now?

/ What can artists, activists, and scholars do to sustain and support their work in the face of new restrictions on intellectual inquiry, expression, and movement?

/ What conditions of risk and precarity inform contemporary artistic practice, reception, and community?

/ What sense of the world at various scales—global, local, national, and more—can we discover in the particular sites and wider networks that define the arts today?

/ What defines the environments and ecologies of the present, and how do we understand the duration and futurity of human action over time?

/ What flows of people, capital, and power shape the arts today, and how do experiences of migration and displacement register in national and transnational contexts?

/ What technologies, genres, platforms, or systems distinguish the contemporary arts, and what media archaeologies do we discover in the material histories of the present?

/ What performances of affect, attention, and fandom characterize the arts of the present, and how do different modes of distribution (serial, streaming, viral) address their audiences?

Proposals assessing the current place and past legacies of the Bay Area in the arts are especially welcome, as well as those considering comparative, hemispheric or transpacific figures, movements, and formations with Bay Area connections. The program committee is interested in sessions that explore the recent histories of activism, protest, innovation, and change that have long distinguished the communities of Oakland, Berkeley, San Francisco, California, and the Pacific Rim.

Participants are encouraged to think as broadly and imaginatively as possible about the intersections between and among the contemporary arts and their institutions, economies, policies, and traditions. Proposals may focus on individual artists, writers, designers, composers, or performers; they may consider artistic movements, collectives, and local scenes, including those online, or underground; they may discuss any theoretical, intellectual, or aesthetic formation that figures in the world of the arts as we know them now.

TRAVEL INFORMATION: In light of recent and proposed executive orders by President Trump, ASAP knows that international scholars and artists traveling to the United States may be profoundly affected by visa restrictions on targeted Muslim nations, and by other forms of discrimination. ASAP also recognizes that undocumented individuals traveling within the United States may also be at risk of immigration action in the future. Information about Bay Area resources for international and undocumented travelers will be available on the conference website. The organizers will also do whatever is possible to permit conference participants who are unable or unwilling to travel to the United States to present their work via web conferencing, or to arrange for representatives to deliver their papers on their behalf.

SESSION FORMATS: We welcome and encourage creative and alternative presentational styles, alongside traditional papers and panels. Seminars, workshops, panel debates, artist discussions, films, installations, visual displays, and other session types will be considered. Seminar leaders are asked to propose topics by the CFP deadline and to submit the full roster of participants by MAY 2, 2017. Seminars normally meet for a single session, and papers are circulated among participants in advance of the conference.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION: <http://www.asap9.org/>

QUESTIONS AND HELP: asap9berkeley@gmail.com