

# TheFeministArtProject

TFAP@CAA DAY OF PANELS

## Feminism and the State: Art, Politics, and Resistance

College Art Association Annual Conference 2018  
Saturday, February 24, 2018, 10:00am-4:30pm  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

### Roundtable: Curatorial and Artistic Strategies around Activism, Representation, and Collective Space

Courtney Fink, Kate Johnston, Young Joon Kwak, Cauleen Smith  
Moderator: Sarah Williams

**Courtney Fink** is an arts organizer and curator based in Los Angeles, CA. She is the executive director and co-founder of Common Field, a national network of independent visual arts organizations and organizers that connects, supports, and advocates for the artist-centered field. From 2002-2015 she was the executive director of Southern Exposure in San Francisco. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Seed Fund and has held positions at California College of the Arts and Capp Street Project in San Francisco, as well as Franklin Furnace in New York. For nearly twenty-five years, Courtney has been dedicated to developing the capacity of artists and the systems that support them.

**Kate Johnston** is a graphic designer. Her practice melds the forces of language, identity, ideation, communication strategy & making. In 2013, she and two others co-founded the nonprofit organization the Women's Center for Creative Work (WCCW), with a mission to cultivate LA's feminist creative communities & practices. Kate currently serves as WCCW's creative director. She is also principal of her freelance design practice, Radical Rules; the editor/art director of Pants Magazine; a founding member of collage collective Confetti Confidential; and adjunct faculty in the MFA graphic design program at Otis College of Art and Design. She holds an MFA in Graphic Design from CalArts and a BA in Classics from Pitzer College. Kate Lives and works in Los Angeles.

**Young Joon Kwak** (b. 1984 in Queens, NY) is a LA-based multi-disciplinary artist working primarily through sculpture, performance, video, and collaboration. Her work aims to change how we view our bodies by reimagining their form, functionality, and materiality—from static and bound to pre-inscribed power structures, to an expanded sense of bodies and their environs as mutable and open-ended. She is the founder of Mutant Salon, a roving beauty salon/platform for experimental performance collaborations with her community of queer, trans, femme, POC artists and performers, and the lead performer in the electronic-dance-noise band Xina Xurner. Performances and exhibitions include: the Hammer Museum, The Broad, REDCAT, and ONE National LGBT Archives, Los Angeles; Regina Rex and Smack Mellon, Brooklyn; Southern Exposure, San Francisco; Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; and Pavillon Vendôme Centre d'Art Contemporain, Clichy, France. Kwak will be the Artist-in-Residence at LACE (LA) during Summer 2018. Kwak was recently awarded the Art Matters Grant and the Rema Hort Mann Foundation's Artist Community Engagement Grant. She received an MFA from the University of Southern California, MA in Humanities from the University of Chicago, and a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

**Cauleen Smith** is an interdisciplinary artist whose work reflects upon the everyday possibilities of the imagination. Operating in multiple materials and arenas, Smith roots her work firmly within the discourse of mid-twentieth-century experimental film. Drawing from structuralism, third world cinema, and science fiction, she makes things that deploy the tactics of these disciplines while offering a phenomenological experience for spectators and participants. Smith was born in Riverside, California and grew up in Sacramento. She earned a BA in Creative Arts from San Francisco State University and an MFA from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Theater Film and Television. S Smith is the recipient of several grants and awards including the Rockefeller Media Arts Award, Creative Capital Film /Video, Chicago 3Arts Grant, and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Artadia Award, and Rauschenberg Residency. Smith was a 2016 Recipient for the Herb Alpert Awards in the Arts in Film and Video is the 2016 inaugural recipient of the Ellsworth Kelly Award.

**Sarah Williams** is the co-founder and Managing Director of the Women's Center for Creative Work (WCCW). The WCCW is a community arts nonprofit located along the LA River in Elysian Valley, whose mission is to cultivate Los Angeles' feminist creative communities and practices. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Sarah returned to the city 11 years ago to attend USC's Curatorial Practice in the Public Sphere M.A. program after receiving a B.A. in Art History from the University of California, Santa Cruz. In addition to WCCW, Sarah has worked as a project manager at ForYourArt since 2007, served on the 2016/17 Programming Advisory Committee for Arts for LA, and has consulted on projects and events for High Desert Test Sites and Freewaves, amongst other LA-based arts organizations.