

“There is no Relation, Sexual or Otherwise: Black Men, Ontology, and the Anti-black Phallus”



BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Calvin Warren is an Assistant Professor in WGSS at Emory University. His book *Ontological Terror: Blackness, Nihilism, and Emancipation* is forthcoming from Duke University Press. His second book, *Onticide: Essays on Black Nihilism and Sexuality*, argues for a rethinking of sexuality without the human, sexual difference, or coherent bodies. He researches Continental Philosophy, Lacanian psychoanalysis, queer theory, Black Philosophy, Afro-pessimism, and theology.

ABSTRACT

What is the phallus? Feminism and psychoanalysis orbit around this question and enter its abyss through castration, gender, and normativity. This paper suggests that ‘phallic relation’ is an alibi for ontology—it is the way the human orients and positions Being within the world. The phallus, then, structures and organizes what Heidegger would call “care” (guarding Being). By examining the lynching of Claude Neal and the torture of Abner Louima, I argue that anti-blackness displaces black genitalia and relegates it to an unthinkable zone of existence without Being.

Department of Philosophy, Office of the Dean, & Africana Studies

Mini-Conference: A Dialogue Between Dr. Calvin Warren and Dr. T. Hasan Johnson

Tuesday, May 2nd | 3:00-6:00 p.m. | YMCA 401

“Brothers Gonna Work It Out!: Assessing the Implications of Black Masculinism and Black Male Studies On Institutional Anti-Black Misandry”



BIOGRAPHY

Dr. T. Hasan Johnson is an Associate Professor of Africana Studies at California State University, Fresno. His book, *You Must Learn!: A Primer for the Study of Hip-Hop* (2012), examines the socio-political histories that contribute to the development of Hip-Hop culture and creates new theoretical frameworks for understanding its development. He frequently publishes on anti-Black misandry and heterophobia, intra-racial discrimination, White supremacy, Hip-Hop, and Black Masculinism.

ABSTRACT

With the advent of the sub-field Black Male Studies, it is necessary to develop new concepts and a new paradigmatic foundation for analyzing Black men outside of myth and popular misandrist trends. Black males require a radical break from convention in order to be perceived more accurately, and highlights the value of Black men from myriad class experiences, and outlines the origins and the nigh-omnipresent nature of cultural and institutional anti-Black misandry.