

TRANSNATIONAL FUTURES: (Re)Imagining Diaspora, Borders, Politics



Keynote Speaker
Professor John Keene

Chair, Department of African American Studies

Rutgers University Newark

2018 Recipient of MacArthur Fellowship

Author of *Counternarratives* (2015)

February 22, 2019

Organized by the Graduate Program of the
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Co-sponsored by the Africana Studies Program
University of Miami



MIAMI

Submit abstracts by December 13, 2018 to umiamigradconference@gmail.com

Image: "Aerial view of boat transporting rescued Cuban rafters," Cuban Photograph Collection
Courtesy of Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami Libraries



November 9, 2018

Call for Papers

The doctoral program of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at the University of Miami invites graduate students in all disciplines to join our annual conference: “Transnational Futures: (Re)Imagining Diaspora, Borders, Politics.” The conference will be held on **February 22, 2019**.

Conference organizers aim to foster discussion about how the cross-border movement of people, information, and products questions stable categories of identity and identification as they relate to nationhood, race, ethnicity, gender, and/or sexuality. In this age of resurgent nationalisms, how do questions of futurity, borderlands, language, justice, and translation impact the development and practice of critical consciousness, political protagonism, and diverse forms of cultural production?

Our keynote speaker for this year’s conference is John Keene – novelist, poet, essayist, artist, translator, and Chair of the Department of African American and African Studies at Rutgers University—Newark, where he is also a faculty member in the English Department and the MFA in Creative Writing Program. Professor Keene is the author of *Counternarratives* (New Directions, 2015); *RIND* (ITI Press, 2016); and *Playland* (Seven Kitchens Press, 2016), among many other works. He received the 2018 McArthur Prize in acknowledgement of his groundbreaking work “exploring the impact of historical narratives on contemporary lives and re-imagining the history of the Americas from the perspective of suppressed voices.” (<https://www.macfound.org/fellows/1016/>)

Please send abstracts of 250 words and an abbreviated CV to umiamigradconference@gmail.com by **December 13, 2018**. We welcome abstracts and presentations in English, Spanish, French, or Portuguese.

Please do not hesitate to contact us using the above email address with any questions.

Regards,

Ruming Yang
Sam Johnson
Jordan Rogers
(Organizing committee)