

Feminist Theory and Music 14

July 27-30, 2017

“Still We Rise”: Feminist Musicology in a Time of “Bitter, Twisted Lies”

Call for Proposals: Papers and Performances
Proposals due Mar. 1, 2017 [extended to Mar. 10]

The 14th meeting of the international, biennial conference, Feminist Theory and Music, will take place in San Francisco, CA, July 27-30, 2017. Sponsored by San Francisco State University, the conference program invites presentations in a variety of formats.

There is no time like the present for gathering around the defiant clarion call of Maya Angelou’s 1978 poem, “Still I Rise”: “You may shoot me with your words / You may cut me with your eyes / You may kill me with your hatefulness / But still, like air, I’ll rise.” What strategies does feminist scholarship offer in a time when we so urgently need to reenvision the poem’s “wondrously clear daybreak” and its bold stance of not only survival, but of “sassiness” and hope?

Feminist Theory and Music 14’s conference theme, “Still We Rise,” continues themes from 2015’s conference, “Feminism and Black Critical Praxis in an Age of Scarcity.” If the time was ripe to explore “the sustainability of feminist and critical race work in a new century of diminishing resources” in 2015, then the events of the past two years have brought even fewer reasons to be hopeful. To that, the program committee for 2017 says, “Still we rise…” through a focus on the following: intersections of political activism and experimentalism in music, archiving of musical “rising” -- the practices, sounds, listening, and community-building through music in which people being “trod into the dirt” still rose “like dust.”

Proposals focusing on current social / political issues and any area of music and gender are encouraged. The conference also invites extended reflection on two momentous events of 2016: the opening of the long-awaited National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the passing of path-breaking composer Pauline Oliveros (1932-2016).

The Program Committee continues FT&M’s practice of seeking participants from within and without the academy and from any disciplinary or interdisciplinary perspectives that engage substantively, through papers or performances, with music in relation to the African Diaspora, diverse communities, feminism, gender, or sexuality.

In addition to individual papers and performances, proposals for 90-minute panels of various structures are also welcome. Please submit an abstract of no more than 250 words for scholarly papers of 20 minutes in length. Proposals for panels should include the overall theme of the panel and individual abstracts of each presentation (presentation abstracts should be 250 words maximum). Please specify any AV or other equipment needs, although we may not be able to provide all requested equipment.

We also invite proposals for musical performances and lecture-recitals. Performances may be of varying lengths. Lecture-recitals may not exceed 35 minutes in length. Proposals for both performances and lecture-recitals should include the following: 1) an abstract no longer than 250

words; 2) requests for equipment or other needs; 3) length of the work or program; 4) brief biographies for any performers you will supply; 5) name(s) of work(s) to be performed; 6) if possible, links to samples of works. The Performance Committee will consider other proposal formats for alternative modes of presentation.

Feminist Theory and Music 14 will take place on the campus of San Francisco State University <http://www.sfsu.edu/>. Information on reasonably priced lodging and transportation options will be posted shortly.

Please send all proposals to the FT&M 14 Program Committee at the following address: feministtheoryandmusic@gmail.com on or before March 1, 2017 [extended to Mar.10]. Direct questions about the conference program to Dr. Annie Randall (arandall@bucknell.edu).

Queries to the Conference Director and on-site host may be sent to Dr. Dee Spencer / School of Theater and Dance / San Francisco State University / 1600 Holloway Ave / San Francisco CA, 94132 / Phone: (415) 338-7303 / Email: dspencer@sfsu.edu