

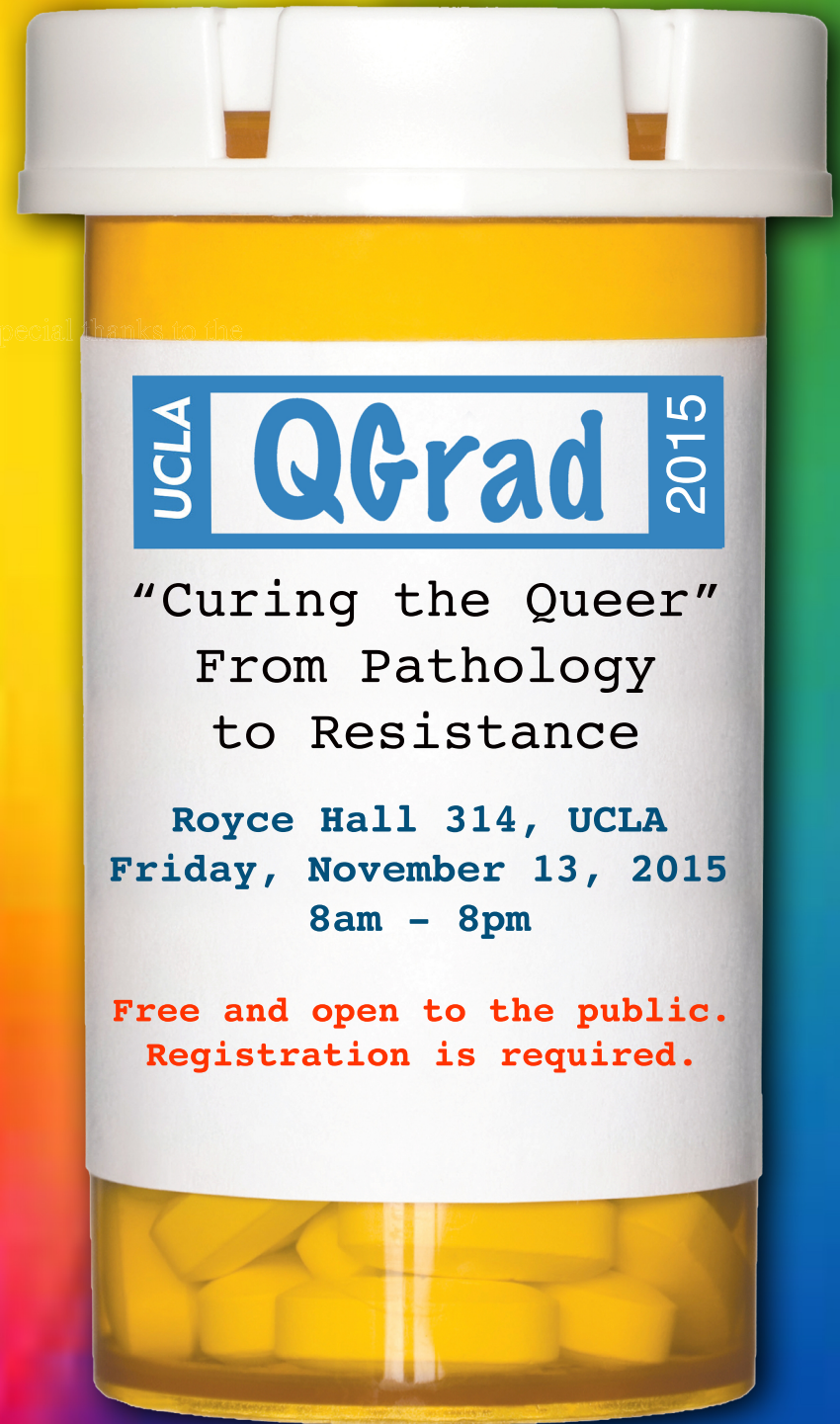


University of California, Los Angeles
LGBT Studies Program
A9 Haines Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095
(310) 206-3032
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lgbts@humnet.ucla.edu



QGradConference.com
qgradconference@gmail.com
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#QGradConference

Special thanks to the



Registration opens: 8:00am
Royce 314 Lobby
Free attendance with required registration

Continental breakfast
Royce 306 (Balcony)
Complimentary breakfast to all registered attendees, presenters, moderators, and volunteers. Ticket Required.

Welcoming and Opening Remarks: 9:00-9:30am

Royce 314
Professor Sean Metzger, Theater and Performance Studies

Session 1: 9:45-11:00am

Panel 1A: Homophobia in Global Public Discourse and LGBTQ Political Activism.

Royce 314
Moderator: Dr. Lisa Sloan, Lecturer in Theater and Performance Studies

- Milkidis, Stefanos. “Two Weddings, a Lawsuit, and a Funeral: Contextualizing Transnational Homophobic Culture.” (Kennesaw State University)
- Baldwin, Eric. “The Silent ‘B’ in LGBT: Bisexual Communities and Political Activism.” (University of California, Irvine)
- Dornhuber de Bellesiles, Lilith. “The Challenge of ‘Corrective’ Rape to Objectivity in Feminist Ethics.” (University of California, Berkeley).

Panel 1B: The LGBTQ Body as a Site of Discipline.

Royce 306
Moderator: Professor Michelle Erai, Gender Studies

- Medina, Kevin. “Acknowledged but Ignored: The Prison Rape Elimination Act and its Implications for the LGBTQ Community.” (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Woolsey, Morgan. “‘Don’t Dream It, Be It’: The Reparative Impulse in the Horror Camp of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.” (University of California, Los Angeles)

- Schottmiller, Carl. ““*Wir Sind Alle Freaks*’: Elevating White Gay Male Oppression Through Freak Discourse on *American Horror Story*.” (University of California, Los Angeles)

Session 2: 11:15-12:30pm

Panel 2A: Queering Popular Culture: From the Medieval to the Modern Mainstream.

Royce 314

Moderator: Professor James Schultz, Germanic Languages

- Camacho-Van Dyke, Stephanie. “The Boy with the Thorn on his Side”: Queering Masculinity and Medieval Cultural Homophobia in Marie de France’s Lanval.” (California State University, Fullerton)
- Carrillo, Vicente. “Re-Imaging Vulnerability: Queer Performance Art in Boyle Heights.” (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Greenberg, Rachael. “Queer Echoes of Selena: (re)Membering Utopian Performativity in *Selenidad*.” (University of California, Los Angeles)

Panel 2B: LGBTQ Rights in Public Policy and Health.

Royce 306

Moderator: Professor Ian Holloway, Luskin School of Public Affairs

- Lo-Records, Christopher. ““A Strong Sense of Panic’: An Analysis of 35 Gay and Trans Panic Defenses.” (University of Southern California)
- Alterman, Amy. “Passive Policy: A Case Study Exploring the Possibilities of LGBTQ Inclusive Sex Education in Atlanta, Georgia.” (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Wallner, Amanda. "Protecting Youth from Institutional Abuse: Gaps in State and Federal Regulation Put LGBTQ Youth at Risk." (University of California, Los Angeles)

Lunch Break: 12:30-1:20pm

Royce 306 Balcony

Free lunch for all registered attendees, presenters, moderators, and volunteers. Ticket Required.

Session 3: 1:30-2:45pm

Panel 3A: Cyborgs and Other Embodied Fantasies of Queer Transformation.

Royce 314

Moderator: Dr. Linzi Juliano, Lecturer in Writing Programs

- Dietering, Averyl. “‘Little Factories’ and ‘Physical Mischief’: Cyborg Bodies and Enforcing Mormon Heteronormativity.” (University of California, Davis)
- Cole, Joshua Bastian. “Disappearing/Reappearing: The Radical Embodied Resistance and Phenomenal Stage Presence of Trans Men Actors.” (Cornell University)
- Fredrickson, Nathan. “Fantasies of Transformation: Conversion and Essentialized Roles in Online User-Generated Fiction and Folksonomies.” (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Panel 3B: (De)Pathologizing Queer Identities

Royce 306

Moderator: Professor Sylvan Oswald, Department of Theater

- Gonzalez, Omar. “The Lost Syllabus: Inserting HIV Subjectivity in Chicana and Chicano Studies.” (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Cardon, Kristen. “‘A Peculiar People’: Rewriting Mormon Theology on the Queer Body.” (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Stockbridge, Kevin. “A Queer Hope: Authenticity and Love (Re)Imagined in the Catholic School” (Chapman University)

Coffee Break: 2:45-3:00pm

Royce 306

Keynote Duet: 3:15-4:30pm

- Christopher B. Argyros, Esq. (Anti-Violence Project, Los Angeles LGBT Center)
- Gary Hayashi (Marriage and Family Therapist)

Moderator: Professor Sean Metzger, Department of Theater

Royce 314

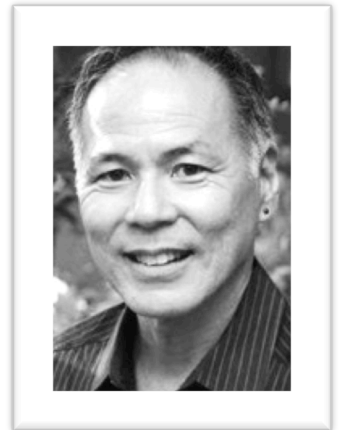
Christopher B. Argyros is the Manager of the Anti-Violence Project at the Los Angeles LGBT Center. In this capacity, Christopher coordinates support and legal assistance to over 250 survivors of hate violence, police misconduct, and discrimination throughout L.A. County each year. He works to end anti-LGBTQ violence through education, media, and community engagement, and has trained over 600 law enforcement officers and prosecutors. Christopher previously



worked as a statewide community organizer with the Empire State Pride Agenda, where he led a dynamic campaign and raised unprecedented support for the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act. Christopher was a key player in significant policy changes to improve the lives of transgender New Yorkers, including a new policy allowing transgender people to amend their birth certificates. Christopher co-founded the Transgender Health Sub-Committee within the New York State LGBT Health and Human Services Network, which was instrumental in ending the ban on transition-related care in New York's Medicaid rules.

Christopher's work is motivated by the core belief that freedom of gender identity and expression is an essential human right. He is a proud AmeriCorps alumni, graduate of Vassar College (2003), and holds a J.D. with Honors from the University of Connecticut School of Law (2010).

Gary Hayashi is a Marriage and Family Therapist with a private practice in South Pasadena, where he specializes in working with both the LGBT and the Asian American communities. After a short lived career as a graphic designer, his journey took him through working with a Christian counseling agency, part time pastoring, and conference speaking for a Los Angeles based ex-gay ministry. In addition to his practice, he also spends his time singing with the Gay Mens Chorus of Los Angeles and trying to have conversations with men in their 50's and 60's who are in the process of coming out.



Closing Remarks: 4:30pm-5:00pm

Royce 314

- Rachael A. Greenberg, Chicana and Chicano Studies
- Kendy D. Rivera, Chicana and Chicano Studies

Reception: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Launch Party for *Queer Cats Journal of LGBTQ Studies*

Royce 306

Free food, refreshments, and entertainment for all registered attendees, presenters, moderators, and volunteers. Ticket Required.

Presenters' Biographies

Amy Elizabeth Alterman is a PhD student of Culture and Performance at the Department of World Arts & Cultures/ Dance at University of California, Los Angeles. She is an alumna of Indiana University with a BA in Folklore and a minor in Gender Studies. Her current research investigates how arts-based educational methods can spark and engage vital conversations about sexual health gleaned insights from Performance Studies, Gender Studies, and Public Health.



Eric Baldwin

My research agenda exists at the intersection of classical liberal thought and modern democratic capitalism. Situated in that context, my research broadly examines issues of domination and resistance through the lens of the history of systems of thought. My current research asks the question: How do social movements and their actors mobilize legal, social, and political systems to rectify perceived injustices?

Stephanie Camacho-Van Dyke is a mixed-race queer woman currently pursuing her Masters of English at the California State University, Fullerton. Her research interests include affect and trauma theory through a queer framework. Stephanie is also a local organizer and peer educator at the Orange County LGBT Center, where she facilitates weekly social groups for queer and transgender youth.



Kristen Cardon is a PhD student in English at UCLA. She studies 20th and 21st century British literature, queer theory, and film. Her academic interests include sexuality, race, gender, and literary theory generally. She was born and raised Mormon in Utah and has two degrees—a BA and an MA, both in English—from the Mormon university BYU, so she is closely acquainted with discourses that pathologize queerness. She has participated in and administered safe spaces for queer Mormons (including Understanding Same Gender Attraction at BYU), and has written about the potential for radical Mormon materialist theology to contribute to suicide prevention.

Joshua Bastian Cole (preferred name Cole) is a first year Ph.D. student in the Department of Performing and Media Arts at Cornell University. His publications include essays in the anthologies *Trans Forming Families*, *Beyond Masculinity*, and *Visible: A Femmethology*. As a social critic, Cole has been featured in Huffington Post, Bust, Autostraddle, Out Magazine, Original Plumbing, The Daily Beast, Time Out New York, London Metro, and Jacob Anderson-Minshall's syndicated column: Trans Nation. Cole's current research interests



encompass dramaturgy and dramatic literature; transgender and queer performance and spectatorship theory; feminist, cyborg, and disability theatre; queer temporalities; phenomenology and embodied practice. He holds an M.A. in Theatre History and Criticism from CUNY, Brooklyn College and a B.A. in Theatre and Dance from James Madison University. Cole's website is: joshuabastiancole.weebly.com



Vicente Carrillo was born and raised in East Los Angeles. As an undergraduate he was a McNair Scholar, majoring in English and minoring in LGBTQ Studies. He was also very active in the LGBTQ Community on campus, volunteering at the LGBT Campus Resource Center's annual events, and served as vice-president of Delta Lambda Phi, a fraternity for Gay, Bi, Trans Men, and organized retreats, fundraisers and social events. Currently, Vicente is a first year Ph.D. student in the department of Chicana/o Studies here at

UCLA. As a Eugene Cota-Robles Fellow, he currently plans to expand his previous projects by focusing on the intersections between Los Angeles, queerness, the Latina/o identity and popular culture.

Averyl Dietering is a PhD student in English at UC Davis. She studies early modern literature through lenses of feminist theory and gender and sexuality studies. She also writes on queer theory as it intersects with contemporary American religions, especially the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (also known as the LDS Church, and more popularly, the Mormons). Averyl was born Mormon and still

identifies herself as a Mormon, despite the fact that her sexuality, feminism, and anti-racism have led her into an increasingly complicated relationship with the LDS Church. She works actively to provide safe spaces for queer Mormon women and gender non-conforming folk.



Lilith C. Dornhuber de Bellesiles is a PhD student studying queer theory, feminist epistemology, and discourses of religion in the Rhetoric Department at the University of California, Berkeley. After graduating from Smith College, Lilith held a Research Fulbright in Germany, received a graduate diploma in Philosophy from the University of St Andrews, and earned an M.St. in Women's Studies from the University of Oxford. As co-founder of the Berkeley Queer Theory Working Group, Lilith co-hosted the Queer Me Out conference last Spring. Clips and recommendations are welcome at lilith.ddb@berkeley.edu.



Nathan Fredrickson is a PhD student of Religions in North America in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), with Master's degrees in Classics, Library and Information Science, and Religious Studies.

Rachael Greenberg is a second year graduate student at UCLA's César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o Studies (M.A., PhD). Her research draws from Chicana feminist theory and Borderlands Performance Studies to explore de-colonial practices and queer perform/antics of *Selenidad* (the study of the posthumous life of Selena Quintanilla-Pérez) within the geographic context of the U.S./Mexico borderlands.

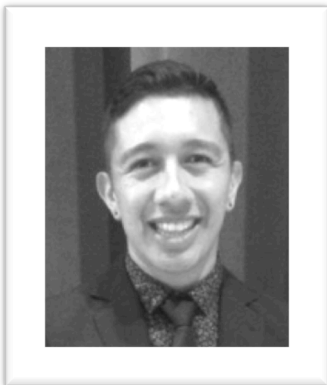




Omar González=

Poz/Puto/Pocho/Pelón/Pueblo/
Pisces de El Paso, Texas, and Ph.D.
candidate in Chicana/o Studies at UCLA.
His dissertation research will focus on
constructing a genealogy of gay
Chicano/Latino discourses that he calls
“*jotería* epistemologies,” beginning with
the groundbreaking literature of Chicano
gay writer, John Rechy.

Christopher Lo-Records is a 3rd-year
Masters in Public Policy student at the
University of Southern California.
Christopher taught Special Education for
four years in Los Angeles Unified, serving
as a Gay-Straight Alliance advisor and an
LGBTQ peer mentor. He has worked with
a variety of LGBTQ organizations,
including Equality California and GSA
Network, and is founder of the USC Price
Queer Policy Caucus and co-founder of the
USC Queer Graduate Alliance. With an
undergraduate background in History and
Classics and long-standing experience in K-12 education, Christopher
has diverse interests in LGBTQ Studies, and has conducted research on
such topics as proscriptions against gender nonconformity in late antique
Roman law and the effectiveness of anti-bullying interventions in
California public schools. He is currently in the process of applying for a
PhD in Sociology, and hopes to focus on children and LGBTQ families.



Kevin Medina is entering his final year as
a Master’s student in Public Policy and
Social Welfare (MPP/MSW) at UCLA.
His research focuses on barriers to mental
health access for non-English speaking
immigrants in Los Angeles County. He
serves as a Co-Chair for the UCLA
Committee on LGBTQ Affairs. In his
current professional role, Kevin conducts
hate crime research and data analyses for
the LA County Human Relations

Commission. His other academic and professional interests lie in the psycho-socioeconomic effects of social policies and public service programs on QTPOC. With Kendy Rivera, Kevin was the co-organizer of QGrad 2014, and also helped organize QGrad 2015.

Stefanos Milkidis is a queer artist, feminist, activist, and a graduate student in the American Studies program at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta. His work is concerned with various approaches by which to explore the intersections between research, writing, and creative production. His scholarly inquiry focuses on the concept of queer space, both in the critical ways it has developed in academic queer theory and as a utopic space in which queer identity is freely expressed. He holds an MA in Fine Arts from Central Saint Martins College in London and an MFA in Visual Arts from Rutgers University. Currently a part-time visual arts professor at Kennesaw State University, he is developing an archival project about artists who negotiate the meaning of queer identity in the rural South.



Kevin Stockbridge is a doctoral student in Education with an emphasis in Cultural and Curricular Studies at Chapman University in Orange, California. Born in Mississippi and having moved often as a child, he lived the majority of his life in the US South. He has a Bachelor's degree in theology and philosophy and two Masters in theological studies and Catholic ministry. He has assumed many roles in his career including youth minister, Catholic priest, and caseworker with juvenile

offenders. His research interests explore the intersections of Catholicism, social justice education, spirituality, and queerness. As a queer researcher who survived reparative therapy, Kevin insists that theory must be put into action for the making of a better and more inclusive world.

Carl Schottmiller is a Doctoral Candidate in the Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance at the University of California, Los Angeles. He holds a M.A. in Folklore from the University of California, Berkeley and a B.A. in English and Women's Studies from Ohio University. His dissertation research explores how *RuPaul's Drag Race* affects contemporary iterations of Camp and drag cultures in Los Angeles.



Amanda Wallner is a Masters of Public Policy student at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs and a 2014-2015 Luskin Leadership Fellow, working in health policy at the Los Angeles LGBT Center. She is a public policy specialist, with an expertise in LGBT policy, health policy, HIV/AIDS policy, and environmental policy. She has additional training in fund raising, electoral campaigns, policy analysis, econometrics, public budgeting, peer-to-

peer outreach, and coalition building. Amanda was involved in the early organizing of and conceptualizations for QGrad 2014, "Queers W/O Borders."

Morgan Woolsey is a doctoral candidate in Musicology at UCLA, and has served as a teaching fellow in Gender Studies, LGBT Studies, and Music History, as well as an instructor for a course on LGBTQ perspectives in popular music. Her work on music, identity, and politics in marginal and disreputable genres of film has appeared in *The Los*



Angeles Review of Books, and the forthcoming anthology *L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema* (University of California Press, 2015). Her dissertation explores music and the representation of sexuality in horror films of the 1970s.

QGrad Committee

Administrative



Dr. Alicia Gaspar de Alba,
LGBT Studies
Program Chair



Tomarion Brown,
LGBT Studies
Program Coordinator

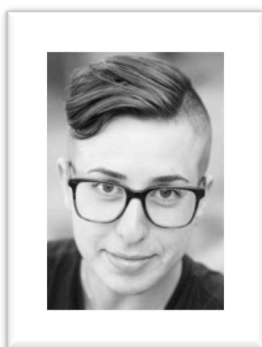


Sean Metzger,
Member of the Faculty
Advisory Committee
for LGBT Studies

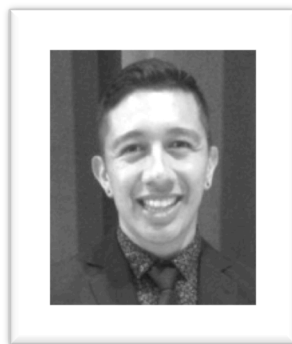
Conference Organizers



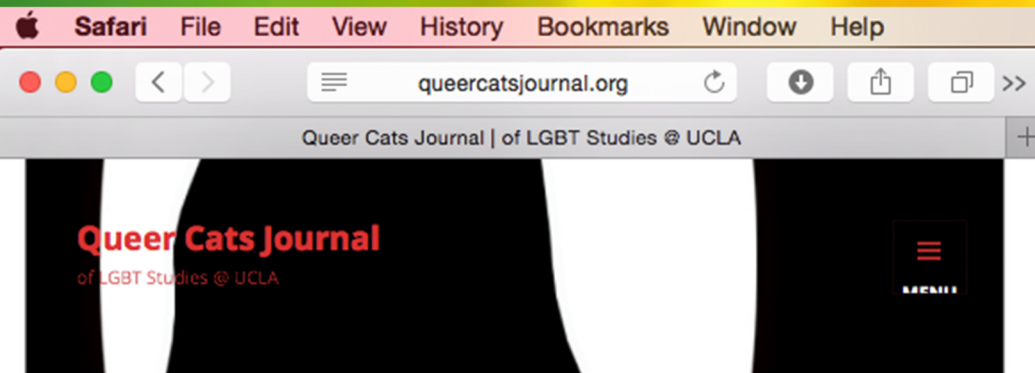
Kendy Rivera,
Chicana/o Studies
PhD Candidate



Rachael Greenberg,
Chicana/o Studies
PhD Student



Kevin Medina,
MPH Candidate



This year we celebrate the inaugural edition of *Queer Cats Journal of LGBTQ Studies*

Established in 2015 at UCLA's LGBT Studies Program, *Queer Cats Journal of LGBTQ Studies* is a graduate-student-run online forum dedicated to publishing interdisciplinary LGBTQ research along with the proceedings of our annual Q-Grad (queer graduate student) conference. Our inaugural issue is focusing on last year's theme, "Queers W/O Borders."

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Special thanks to the **UCLA LGBT Studies Program** for all the support, to **Alma Lopez** for her expert assistance with the program and the logo, to **Tomarion Brown** for every single thing she does to help the conference run smoothly, to Professor Sean Metzger for agreeing to emcee this year's conference while Profe Gaspar is away at a conference, to our **faculty moderators**, our **volunteers**, and all our **co-sponsors**, particularly the following for their generous annual support:



For more co-sponsors, see the conference website:
www.qgradconference.com



Home

Under the aegis of the UCLA Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Program, *Queer Cats Journal of LGBT Studies* is an open-access e-publication of the QGrads @ UCLA graduate-student organization. We publish peer- and editorial-reviewed interdisciplinary LGBTQ research along with the proceedings of our annual QGrad (queer graduate student) conference. *Queer Cats* provokes discourse that inspires, expands and challenges our understanding of LGBTQ issues, from the local to the global. *Queer Cats* provides a critical space for queer knowledge production, as it unites a multiplicity of scholarly voices in a critical dialogue about the past, present and future of LGBTQ studies.

The name "Queer Cats" commemorates one of the earliest LGBTQ uprisings in the United States (pre-Stonewall) that began on New Year's night, 1967, when the patrons of the Black Cat Tavern in the Silverlake neighborhood of Los Angeles protested police brutality in the name of queer freedom.