

Irreverence The Third Annual Critical Femininities Conference							
	1:00pm–1:30pm	1:30pm-3:00pm	3:00pm-3:15pm	3:15pm-4:45pm	4:45pm-5:00pm	5:00pm-6:30pm	
Day 1: Thurs, Aug 17, 2023	Opening Remarks	Session 1: Wayward Femininities	Break	Session 2: Aesthetic Embodiment	Break	Session 3: Irreverent <i>Interfemmetions</i>	
	1:00pm-1:30pm	1:30pm-3:00pm	3:00pm-3:30pm	3:30pm-5:00pm			
Day 2: Friday, Aug 18, 2023	Tea & Chats	Session 4: Workshop	Break	Session 5: Femme Caricatures			
	9:00am-9:15am	9:15am-10:45am	10:45am-11:00am	11:00am-12:30pm	12:30pm-1:30pm	1:30pm-2:30pm	2:30pm-3:00pm
Day 3: Sat, Aug 19, 2023	Coffee & Chats	Session 6: Irreverent Becomings	Break	Session 7: Regulating Bodies	Lunch	Session 8: Keynote	Closing Remarks
<i>*All times in Eastern Daylight Time (Toronto, ON)*</i>							

DAY ONE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023

Session 1: Wayward Femininities | 1:30pm – 3:00pm EDT

Chair: Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa | Moderator: Andi Schwartz

Presenters:

1. Kuan-Yun Wang, “Gazing back: a visual and qualitative analysis on Palestinian motherhood and nationhood in Mai Masri’s 3000 nights”
2. Justine Wallace, “Queer Migration Beyond Neo-colonial Linearity: The in-betweens and elsewheres of Afro-Caribbean queer migration”
3. Karisa Shiraki, “Fighting Femininity: Rage in Rebeca Lane’s Alma Mestiza”

Session 2: Aesthetic Embodiment | 3:15pm – 4:45pm EDT

Chair: Kathleen Cherrington | Moderator: Andi Schwartz

Presenters:

1. Johnathan Clancy, "Male Antagonists, Thongs, and Gender Policing"
2. Stef Torralba, "Dragging Behind: Corny Aesthetics and Xandra Ibarra's Nude Laughing"
3. Hannah Dickson, "Babes, Bimbos, and Burlesque: an exploration of high femme malicious compliance"

Session 3: Irreverent Interfemmetions | 5:00pm – 6:30pm EDT

Chair: Mackenzie Edwards | Moderator: Hannah Maitland

Presenters:

1. Myra Bloom, "Irreverent Mothers: Refusing the Maternal Script in Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette's Suzanne"
2. Ariella Markus, "From Potential to Actual: Using Jewish Art to Reclaim the Label of the Yatzanit"
3. Emily Olive Moore, "The Sublime Feminine in Tang Fei's 'Call Girl'"
4. Celeste Sandstrom, "The Erotics of Trans Narratives: A Close Reading of Torrey Peters' Detransition, Baby"

DAY TWO: FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2023

Session 4: "Dying But Fine: Memeing the Void": A Workshop with Kristel Jax | 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Chair: Andi Schwartz

About the Workshop

How can one infiltrate the zeitgeist with stealth, accuracy, and grace? In this Zoom workshop artist Kristel Jax of niche online humour operation @DyingButFine (rumoured to be indirectly inspirational to 2023 box office smash Barbie) will aim to answer any question you've ever had about making, and sharing, memes.

Workshop Leader: Kristel Jax

Kristel Jax runs Instagram meme account @DyingButFine, a parody retreat where trademarked dolls are free to embody chaos, nihilism, and catharsis. Jax aka Brigitte Bardot is the host of Drone Therapy Podcast, and shares the only real estate she'll ever own, a once-curbed, 2015 era Barbie Dream House, with her mini pug, Lana.

Session 5: Femme Caricatures | 3:30pm – 5:00pm EDT

Chair: Sara Shroff | Moderator: Kathleen Cherrington

1. Ruth O'Sullivan, "We Try to Behave Ourselves: Humor, Subversion, and Normativity in 20th Century Housekeeper-Humorists"

2. Alex MacKenzie, "Loving Parody: Examining the Representation of Sex Work on RuPaul's Drag Race"
3. Emilie Collyer, "You should smile more: using poetry to disturb and resist notions of feminine cheerfulness"

DAY THREE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023

Session 6: Irreverent Becomings | 9:15am – 10:45am EDT

Chair: Hannah Maitland | Moderator: Andi Schwartz

Presenters:

1. Ashika Shaikh, "Colouring Outside the Lines: An Arts-Based Inquiry into Gender Experience"
2. Katelyn Barker, "Anne Lister and Her Lovers: Queering the Feminine Historical Figure"
3. Brittney O'Neill & Katie Slep, "Making maricón respectable on Rupaul's Drag Race: Respectability politics in translation"
4. Steff Juniper Mendolia, "Nothing is Sacred: Femme Subjectivity and the Politics of What Matters To Us"

Session 7: Regulating Bodies | 11:00am – 12:30pm EDT

Chair: Mackenzie Edwards | Moderator: Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa

Presenters

1. Anoosha Hasan, "How are Menstrual Relief Programs designed and implemented to meet the needs of a Vulnerable Population? A Case Study of Recent Floods in Pakistan"
2. Lensa Hassan, "Black Feminist Geographies of Harm Reduction: Race, Space & the Embodied Consequences of Drug Use in Toronto, Canada"
3. Ramanpreet Bahra, "Sizeism, Shapeism and the Body-without-Organs"
4. Thea Jones, "The Outlawed Nipple: Breastless parents and the desire to conform to normative motherhood"

Session 8: "Femme Fiction: Irreverence, Resistance, and Intersectionality": Keynote Address by SJ Sindu | 1:30pm – 2:30pm EDT

Chair: Mackenzie Edwards

What does it mean to write and create stories from a femme perspective? As a queer, genderqueer femme Tamil diaspora writer, I approach my art from a heritage of resistance. In this talk, I'll trace the histories, theories, and politics that inform and interact with my creative practice, with a focus on irreverence as a technique to subvert expectations in the publishing industry.

SJ Sindu is a Tamil diaspora author of two literary novels (Marriage of a Thousand Lies, which won the Publishing Triangle Edmund White Award; and Blue-Skinned Gods, which was an Indie

Next Pick and a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award), two hybrid chapbooks (*I Once Met You But You Were Dead* and *Dominant Genes*), two graphic novels (*Shakti* and the forthcoming *Tall Water*), and one forthcoming collection of short stories (*The Goth House Experiment*). Sindu holds a PhD in English and Creative Writing from Florida State University and is a co-editor for *Zero Street*, a literary fiction series featuring LGBTQ+ authors through the University of Nebraska Press. Sindu is an assistant professor at Virginia Commonwealth University. More at sjsindu.com or [@sjsindu](https://twitter.com/sjsindu) on Twitter/Instagram/Threads.