

Society for the History of Women in the Americas (SHAW)

NEWSLETTER, February 2025

SEMINAR

Our next Gender in the Americas seminar will be on 14th Feb 2025 at 18:00pm, presented by Bruno Walter Rentato Toscano, post-doc at the University of Venice, and is entitled "Revolutionary Bonds: Women of Color, the Global South and Transnational Activism in the Cold War (1970-1989)." As always the seminar is free to attend on Zoom. Register here -

<https://www.history.ac.uk/events/revolutionary-bonds-women-color-global-south-and-transnational-activism-cold-war-1970-1989>

Read the abstract to find out more:

Amidst the upheavals of the long '68, various organizations emerged, drawing inspiration from the Black Power Movement, Second Wave feminism, and the New Left. Among the most influential forces in grassroots activism were Black feminist organizations, which played a crucial role in increasing the participation of marginalized women of color in various campaigns. However, historians have often overlooked how these diverse Black feminist organizations established connections with countries in the Global South during the latter part of the Cold War. This paper highlights the transnational relationships between women of color organizations and the Global South by examining the extensive history of the Third World Women's Alliance (TWWA). With chapters across the United States, the TWWA was a multiracial, Marxist organization that advocated for reproductive rights and emphasized solidarity with Cuba and Vietnam. In the 1980s, the TWWA evolved to include white women, transforming into the Alliance Against Women's Oppression (AAWO) while promoting solidarity with the Global South, particularly with Central America. By organizing various cultural events in the U.S. featuring women from the 'Third World,' both organizations reinforced their Third Worldist perspectives, thereby internationalizing discussions on the intersections of race, class, and gender. As this paper underscores, analyzing the extensive history of the TWWA can offer insights into how transnational solidarity was harnessed to condemn the impact of racial capitalism in the U.S. and globally, envisioning the formation of a global women's community that unites minorities in the U.S. with those in the Global South.

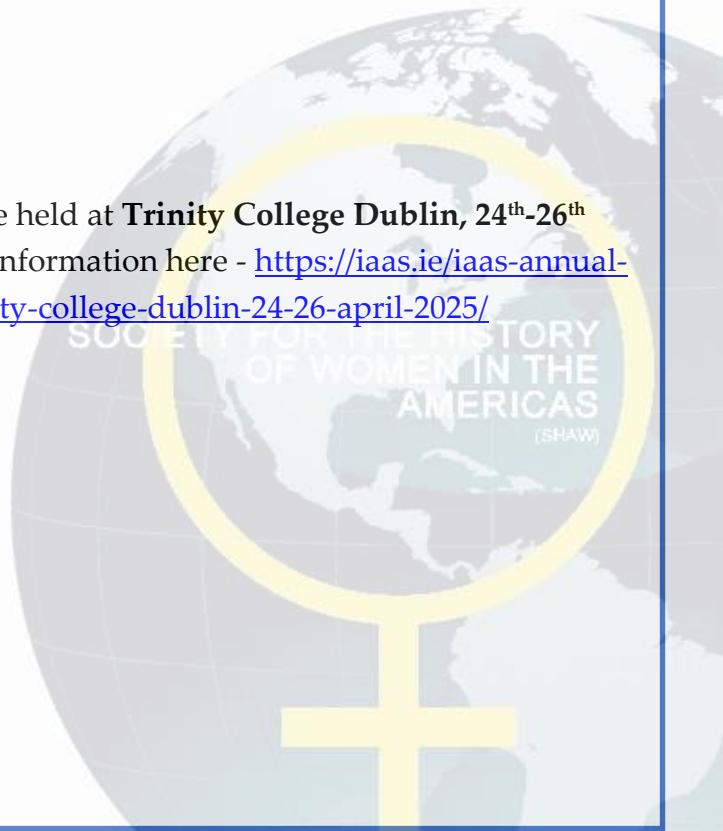
Events and opportunities:

American Nineteenth Century History journal's new editors invite new manuscripts to be considered for publication, with particular encouragement towards doctoral students. More information can be found at this link: https://baas.ac.uk/news-and-events/2023/11/american-nineteenth-century-history-new-editors/?utm_content=bufferc2922&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

HOTCUS Winter Symposium registration is open. This will take place at the **University of Gloucestershire** on **21st Feb 2025**, please register before that date. More information here - <https://store.glos.ac.uk/product-catalogue/university-events-courses/seminars/hotcus-winter-symposium-registration>

HOTCUS Annual Conference CFP is open! The conference will be held at the **University of Lancaster**, **18th-20th June 2025**. The deadline is **March 2nd, 2025**. Please send a brief CV (no more than two pages), plus a title and 200-300-word abstract for the proposed paper. Please place both the abstract and CV in a single document, with your surname as the file name. Please email all submissions to events.hotcus@gmail.com.

IASS Annual Conference CFP is also open! This will be held at **Trinity College Dublin**, **24th-26th April 2025**. Please submit by **14th February 2025**. More information here - <https://iaas.ie/iaas-annual-conference/2025-annual-conference-we-the-people-trinity-college-dublin-24-26-april-2025/>



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SHAW Steering Committee 23-24:

CHAIR

Dr. Olivia Wright (Leeds Beckett University)

Olivia is an interdisciplinary scholar of the United States based at Leeds Beckett University. Her research explores how different communities have historically used cultural tools and artistic expression to navigate and theorize various manifestations of confinement—both physical sites, such as prisons, psychiatric facilities and reformatory schools, and the various racial, gendered, and socioeconomic confinements that impact upon society more broadly. Her current book project, *Caged Sister: Women's Prison Zines in the United States*, is the first study to collect, analyse, and theorise the long history of collective writing from women's prisons, and is grounded in an analysis of over fifty different publications and nearly 1,000 individual issues gathered through original archival research.

Co-SECRETARY

Dr Hélène Charley

Hélène is an Associate Professor at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès. Hélène specializes in American Studies and Film and Television Studies. More specifically, her recent research has focused on contemporary black women filmmakers, aesthetics, and distribution strategies. Her research is grounded on the theoretical background developed by the black feminist scholarship. Hélène brings a wealth of experience to the role and will help expand SHAW's reach into Europe and help to cultivate existing and new connections.

Co-SECRETARY

Dr Rachell Sánchez-Rivera

Rachell is a scholar from Cambridge University, and her interests lie in Eugenics, Racism, Reproductive Justice, Historical Sociology, Sociology of Health and Illness, Critical Race Theory, Disability Studies, Gender, and Queer/Cuír Theory. Her first book, *What Happened to Mexican Eugenics: Racism and the Reproduction of the nation* is currently under review with Cambridge University Press. Her current project focuses on *The Cultural Politics of Reproduction in Latin America* (alongside Dr. Rebecca Ogden, University of Kent). Rachell is a tech guru and plans to record some / all our seminar series and make them available on YouTube to further broaden our reach.

TREASURER

N.B. The post of treasurer is still available, if you are interested, please contact Olivia Wright to discuss the role.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE EDITOR

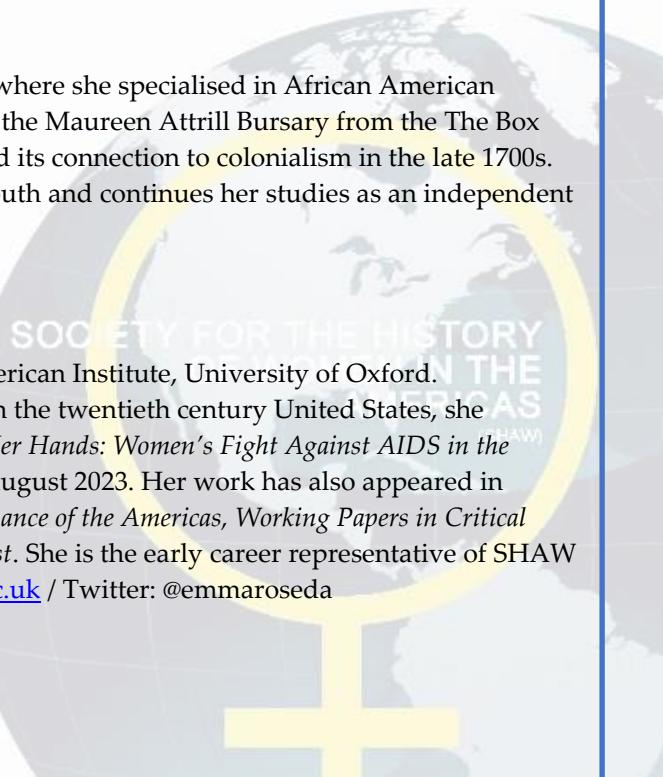
Gabrielle Tymkow

Gabrielle is an MA History graduate from the University of Plymouth, where she specialised in African American History of the early 20th century. In 2020, Gabrielle was the recipient of the Maureen Attrill Bursary from the The Box Museum, looking at the history of the Plymouth Porcelain collection and its connection to colonialism in the late 1700s. Gabrielle is currently the ceramics technician at the University of Plymouth and continues her studies as an independent researcher. gabrielle.tymkow@plymouth.ac.uk

EARLY CAREER REPRESENTATIVE

Dr Emma Day

Emma is a Research Fellow in American History at the Rothermere American Institute, University of Oxford. Specialising in the histories of gender, sexuality, activism, and disease in the twentieth century United States, she completed her PhD in History at Oxford in 2020 and her first book, *In Her Hands: Women's Fight Against AIDS in the United States* is forthcoming from the University of California Press in August 2023. Her work has also appeared in *Modern American History*, *Theatre Annual: A Journal of Theatre and Performance of the Americas*, *Working Papers in Critical Disaster Studies: Historical Approaches to Covid-19*, and the *Washington Post*. She is the early career representative of SHAW and lives in London with her partner and whippet. emma.day@rai.ox.ac.uk / Twitter: @emmaroseda



POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE

Genevieve Johnson-Smith

Genevieve is a PhD candidate in the history department at Newcastle University, working on a project around fugitive abolitionism, emancipatory activism and anti-slavery radicalism in the UK, particularly Wales. She has carried out extensive research on forced and coerced Indigenous sterilisation and remains dedicated to this very important work. She contributed a chapter to the collective *Sacred Bundles Unborn* (2021) and has also contributed her research and writing to the BBC history/comedy podcast *You're Dead To Me*. She is the postgraduate representative of SHAW and a member of the Northern Bridge EDI group.

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OFFICERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

Prof. Kate Dossett

Kate is Professor of American History at the University of Leeds where she researches and teaches Black cultural histories, women and gender history. Her most recent book is *Radical Black Theatre in the New Deal* (2020).

k.m.dossett@leeds.ac.uk

For any general SHAW enquiries please email shawsociety@gmail.com or visit the SHAW website at <https://shawsociety.net>.



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