

ZALIKA U. IBAORIMI, PHD

Professional Experience

The Ohio State University: Assistant Professor of Black Sexualities in the Department of African American and African Studies, 2024

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: Assistant Professor of Gender and Women's Studies in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies, 2023 - 2024

Education

University of Virginia: 2021-2023 Carter G. Woodson Predoctoral Fellow

University of Texas at Austin: Ph.D. in African and African Diaspora Studies

Dissertation: "Haunted Femmes, Haunting Spectators: The Black Sexual Logics of Desire, Pleasure, and Shame"

Graduation Date: May 2023

Georgia State University: M.A. in African American Studies

Thesis: "The Daughters of Baartman Return the Gaze: Sexual Shaming and Africana Women's Perceptions of and Speculations on their Sexual Agency and Futures"

Graduation Date: May 2018

Temple University: B.A. in African American Studies

Graduation Date: January 2016

Research Interests

Black Queer Feminism, the Human, Visual Culture, Art & Performance, AntiBlackness, Black Sexual Logics, Black Queer Theory, Black Digital Intimacy, Black Porn/Sex Work Studies, Afterlife of Slavery, Black Death, Black Negativity, Sound Studies, Experimental Research Methods, Black Ontologies, Black Geographies, Black Spectatorship/Surveillance, Film, Horror

Publications

Peer Review

Ibaorimi, Zalika U. 2021. "The (Ho)rror of It All: *Ganja & Hess*, Summer Walker and the Soundtrack of Ho Ontologies" (digital visual article/ textual article), *Journal of Popular Music Studies*

Exhibition

Ibaorimi, Zalika U. 2022. *partus/chorus* (art exhibition) write-up/press release, curated by Ja'Tovia Gary with Eniola Dawodu, Doreen Lynette Garner & Ja'Tovia Gary, galerie frank elbaz, Paris

Photography

A Gathering Together Literary Journal, Fall 2020 'Resonance' issue, photography

Visual and New Media

Ibaorimi, Zalika U. 2020. "Jawn Theory." *Visual and New Media Review*, Fieldsights, June 18.

<https://culanth.org/fieldsights/jawn-theory>

Book Entry

McCoy, Melanie. 2018. "Black Power Encyclopedia: From "Black is Beautiful" to Urban Uprisings." *ABC-CLIO*

Works In Progress

Ibaorimi, Zalika U. 2023. "The Pornographer and the Party." *Women & Performance: a journal of feminist theory* (revised and resubmitted)

Teaching/Pedagogical Experience

Instructor, Representing the Black Female Body (graduate course) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Spring 2024

Instructor, Sexualities (undergraduate course) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Spring 2024

Instructor, Beauty and Culture (undergraduate course) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Fall 2023

Instructor, Introduction to African American Studies (course) at University of Texas at Austin, Summer 2021

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to African American Studies (course) at University of Texas at Austin, 2020

Teaching Assistant, Visual History (course) at University of Texas at Austin, 2020

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to African American Studies (course) at University of Texas at Austin, 2019

Graduate Assistant, Introduction to African American Studies (course) at Georgia State University, 2018

Graduate Assistant, Issues in the African American Community (course) at Georgia State University, 2018

Graduate Assistant, Department of African American Studies at Georgia State University, 2017

Graduate Assistant, Issues in the African American Community (course) at Georgia State University, 2017

Graduate Assistant, History of African Americans in Georgia (course) at Georgia State University, 2016-2017

Presentations

Invited Talks

2024:

“No Humans Involved in Three Acts: Act III., AESTHETICS” (virtual lecture), UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

“No Humans Involved in Three Acts: Act III., AESTHETICS” (virtual guest lecture), Clark University, Worcester, MA

2023:

“Beauty & Surveillance” (guest lecture), “Race/Gender/Surveillance” (course), University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

2022:

“The Correspondence of ‘Negative Capability’: ‘Sula,’ Spillers, and the Repertoire of “Things We Choose Not to Be,” The Nicknames of Distortion: a Hortense Spillers Symposium, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island

“The Art of Black Sexual Ecologies” (panel), School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University, the Institute for Humanities Research, and Emory University’s Anthropology Department

“The Bottom Dwellers: On Spiritual, Material, and Ontological Sites of Deviant Making” Part I and Part II Teach-In/Lecture series, Black Women Radicals’ School for Black Feminist Politics

“Caretaking in so many ways:” A film screening and roundtable discussion. I was a panelist who discussed by Barbora Kleinhamplová with Mistress Velvet’s film *Irresistible* (2021) and the ways in which sex work is portrayed as caretaking, therapy, and caregiving.

2021:

“The Final Girl: The Social Life and Death of Black Uncolonizable Women,” Keynote Speaker for Black History Month at Hamilton College

2020:

“(Ho)ly Ontology: Black Visual Cultural Geographies of the Sexually Illicit,” Teach-In Lecture, Black Women Radicals’ School for Black Feminist Politics

“Black Cultural Revolution: Tearing Down Neo-Confederate Symbolism,” Malcolm X Grassroots Movement

“Nehanda & Assata: Beyond Symbols & Hashtags,” Black Women Radicals in partnership with Malcolm X Grassroots Movement

“Black Women, Books, and the Quest for Liberation: It’s Lit,” Black Women Radicals in partnership with Haymarket Books, Instagram Live

Crash Talk (Artist Talk), Center for Visual Artists, Greensboro, North Carolina

Self-Recognition Through the Other (Art Exhibition), Center for Visual Artists, Greensboro, North Carolina

2019:

“From Organizing to Research-Based Artistic Creation or Or Close Encounters with Black Digital Intimacies,” “Race, Gender and Surveillance” (course), University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

“Horror Noire: A Conversation,” Uncle Bobbie’s Coffee and Books, Philadelphia, PA (organizer)

“Doing Embodied Black Feminism in Black Studies: A Roundtable,” National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), New Orleans, LA

2018:

LOVE/STUDY/STRUGGLE: “Wake Work,” The Paul Robeson House, Lucien F. Blackwell Library, Philadelphia, PA

“Black History Untold: Future” panel, African American Museum, *Philadelphia*, PA

2017:

“First of All...,” a panel addressing social issues with schools in the metro-Atlanta area, The Collegiate 100 of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

“I AM WOMAN: a conversation on how to keep your feminism intersectional,” The Electric Lady Series, PA

Institutions and Professional Organizations

2023:

“The Pornographer and the Party,” Solidarity: What Love Looks Like in Public conference, ASA: American Studies Association, Montreal, QC, Canada

2022:

“The Pornographer and the Party,” ASAP/13: Edge Play conference, ASAP: The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, professional

2021:

“The (Ho)rror of It All: *Ganja & Hess*, Summer Walker and the Soundtrack of Ho Ontologies” from the “Black Music at its Interstices” panel, PopCon

2019:

“Recapturing Flesh, Unveiling Futures: Black Women’s Sexual Politics of Private Performance to Public Image,” “Power Concedes Nothing Without Demand: Activism and Scholarship in Black Studies (African American Studies 25th Anniversary Conference),” Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

2018:

“The Daughters of Baartman Return the Gaze: Sexual Shaming and Africana Women's Perceptions of and Speculations on their Sexual Agency and Futures,” National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), Atlanta, GA

2017:

“NAH.”: Centering Black Life, Voice, and Space (25th GSU/AAS Student Sit-In Anniversary Summit)”, Panels:

“Reclaiming Our Time”- 1992 Sit-In Reflection and Activism in the age of “Black Lives Matter,” “This Is Us”- Gender and Sexuality Issues, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

“What Assata Taught Us: Black Women and Revolutionary Nationalism,” Left Forum Conference, NY

“Some Sh*t is for Us: For Colored Girls who have Considered Sex-Positivity, but Whiteness is Too Much,” National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), TX

2016:

“The Erotic as Homeplace: Africana Women Literary Writers’ Interpretations of Sexuality as a Psychological Site of Resistance and Liberation”/ “Africana Sex-Positivity: Understanding Hypersexuality, Sexuality as Power, and Consent,” National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), NC

2015:

“Being Human: Rejections of Dehumanization & Post-Humanism in Black Possibility,” National Council for Black Studies (NCBS), CA

Awards & Internships

2021: 2021-2023 Carter G. Woodson Predoctoral Fellowship at the University of Virginia

2018: The Asa G. Hilliard Outstanding Graduate Award, Department of African American Studies at Georgia State University

2015: Frances Ellen Watkins Harper Award, Department of African American Studies and the College of Liberal Arts, Temple University

Institutional Service

Gender and Women’s Studies Programming Committee at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2023-

Program Manager for Blackademics TV/ Blackademics Learning in Collaboration with PBS Learning Media, 2020-2021

Co-Founder of the Black Studies Graduate Student Organization at the University of Texas at Austin, 2019-

Planner and Organizer, 25th Anniversary of Georgia State University's Student Sit-In Summit, 2017

Organization Membership

2023-: American Studies Association (ASA)

2022: The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP)

2014-: National Council for Black Studies (NCBS)

Media Appearances

2024:

“Freaknik And The Question Of Black Female Sexual Liberation In The '90s,” *HuffPost*, Interview

2022:

“Transforming Ourselves to Transform the World,” *Yes!*, Interview

Black Women Radicals x Philadelphia Printworks: “Black Feminists Taught Us” Photoshoot

2021:

“Processing Grief Through the Afro-Indigenous Spiritual Practices Hoodoo and Ifa,” *Vogue*, Interview

“A Mutual Haunting: Zalika U. Ibaorimi's Ancestral Collaboration”, *A Gathering Together* Literary Journal, Spring 2021, Interview

“The #SilhouetteChallenge's hijacking exposed how women of color are targeted for exploring sexuality,” Prism Reports

“This Black sexual politics researcher has developed her own jawn theory,” The Philadelphia Inquirer

2020:

“Eve's Bayou (1997),” Girls, Guts, & Giallo Podcast

2019:

“Episode 174: Intimacy After the Apocalypse (& Other Afrofuturist Musings),” Inner Hoe Uprising Podcast