

# ARCHIVAL INTIMACIES

## Queering South/East Asian Diasporas

Thursday, March 3, 2022

ONE Archives at the USC Libraries  
University of Southern California

### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- L.A.-based artists Vinhay Keo and Prima Jalichandra-Sakuntabhai will perform and screen excerpts of their work, followed by a conversation with independent curator Aziz Sohail, USC Dornsife professor Nayan Shah, and ONE Archives curator Alexis Bard Johnson.
- In conjunction with the event, the USC Libraries is presenting an exhibition of materials from ONE Archives and Satrang, a community organization that supports South Asian LGBTQ communities.

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Prima Jalichandra-Sakuntabhai** was born in Bangkok; studied art and film in Nantes, Paris, Chicago, and San Francisco; and now lives and works in Los Angeles, creating performative lectures and site-specific installations. Jalichandra-Sakuntabhai's work has been seen in group exhibitions at venues including the Feminist Center for Creative Work and Echo Park Film Center, and in solo exhibitions and performances at the Bangkok City Library, PAM Residencies, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tucson, among others.

**Vinhay Keo** is an artist and researcher working in photography, video, installation, performance, sculpture, and writing. His work interrogates the effects of intergenerational trauma from the Vietnam War, Khmer Rouge genocide, French colonialism in Indochina, and queer temporality.

## VOCABULARY CORNER

### DIASPORA

People settled far from their ancestral homelands; the movement or migration of people away from their homelands; or the places where these people live. While historically the term was used in relation to the forced displacement of certain peoples, specifically Jews, it is now used generally and by many peoples to describe those living geographically far from traditional, ancestral, and/or historic homelands.

### QUEER TEMPORALITY

“[M]any queer communities experience and spend time in ways that are very different from their heterosexual counterparts,” wrote the queer theorist Jack Halberstam in a 2003 essay that anticipated the 2005 book *In a Queer Time and Place*. *Queer temporality* refers to how experiences not based on or contained within heteronormative structures or timelines might create or reflect different relationships to time.

### SITE-SPECIFIC ART

Art created for a specific location; the location is part of the meaning and/or form of the work. Related to: environmental art, land art.

### SATRANG

Satrang is a Southern California-based organization that creates social, educational, and advocacy-related events to promote awareness, acceptance, and empowerment of the South Asian LGBTQ community.

### ONE ARCHIVES AT THE USC LIBRARIES

ONE Archives at the USC Libraries is the largest repository of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer materials in the world. Founded in 1952, ONE Archives currently houses over two million archival items, including periodicals, books, films, video and audio recordings, photographs, artworks, organizational records, and personal papers. ONE Archives has been a part of the USC Libraries since 2010.

### FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Did the art give you a window into any ways of thinking about, or relating to, time or space that you had not previously encountered?
- Did the art prompt you to think, or feel, anything new regarding identity? History?
- What are some examples of queer temporality? What about diasporic temporality?
- What connections or resonances did you find between the performances and the exhibition?



Prima Jalichandra-Sakuntabhai



Vinhay Keo



Satrang serves the South Asian LGBTQ community since 1997.

## IF YOU LIKED THIS EVENT, YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK OUT:

- Prima Jalichandra-Sakuntabhai Online [primasakuntabhai.com](http://primasakuntabhai.com)
- Vinhay Keo Online | [vinhaykeo.com](http://vinhaykeo.com)
- ONE Archives at the USC Libraries | [one.usc.edu](http://one.usc.edu)
- Satrang | [satrang.org](http://satrang.org)
- South Asian Network | [southasiannetwork.org](http://southasiannetwork.org)
- API Equality-LA | [apiequalityla.org](http://apiequalityla.org)
- Feminist Center for Creative Work [womenscenterforcreativework.com](http://womenscenterforcreativework.com)
- Echo Park Film Center | [echoparkfilmcenter.org](http://echoparkfilmcenter.org)
- Outfest and the Outfest Fusion QTBIPOC Film Festival [outfest.org](http://outfest.org)
- Queer and Trans API Initiative at USC  
Email [qtapi@usc.edu](mailto:qtapi@usc.edu) for information
- USC LGBTQ+ Student Center | [lgbtrc.usc.edu](http://lgbtrc.usc.edu)
- Upcoming Visions and Voices events:  
**3/11:** [Chutney Popcorn—Screening and Conversation with Nisha Ganatra and Maryam Keshavarz](#)  
**3/31:** [Tracing Our Creative Origins: A Workshop with Sita Kuratomi Bhaumik](#)  
**4/1:** [Belonging as Survival: Creativity, Activism, and Community](#)

## DISCOVER MORE AT THE USC LIBRARIES

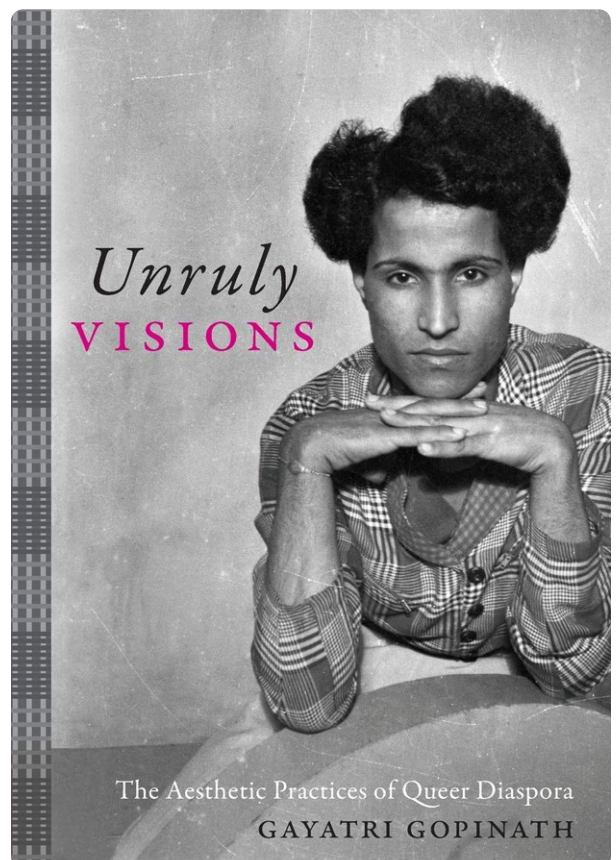
**CHRISTINA SNIDER** of the USC Libraries selected the following resources to help you learn more about this event. Electronic resources are accessible through the search bar on the USC Libraries homepage at [libraries.usc.edu](http://libraries.usc.edu) but may require the user to log in using their USC credentials.

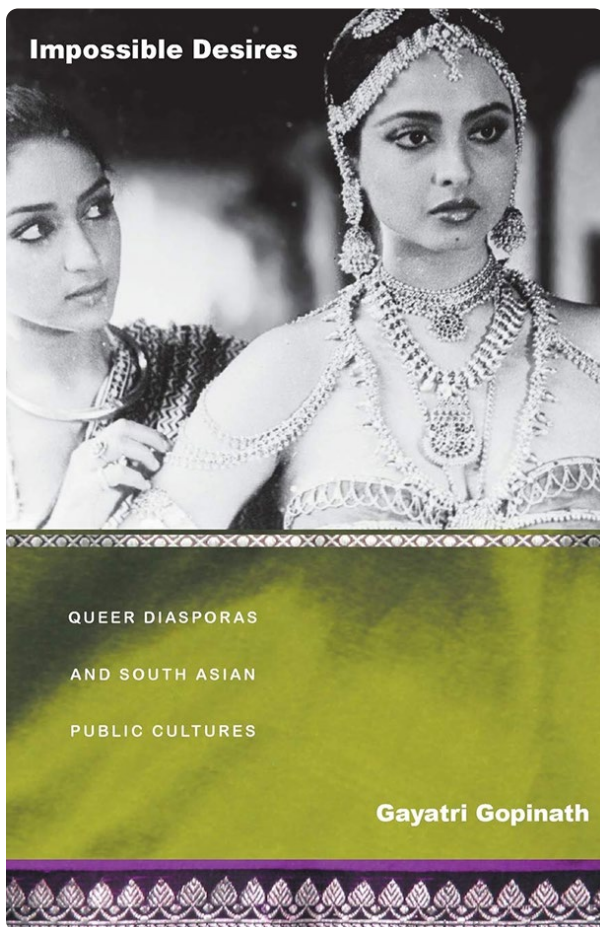
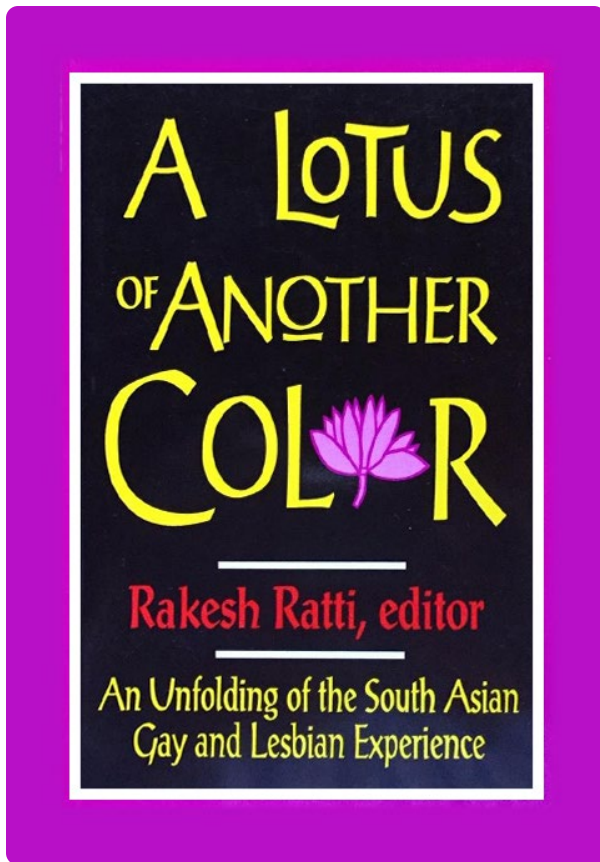
### BOOKS

- Poulomi Desai and Parminder Sekhon, [Red Threads: The South Asian Queer Connection in Photographs](#) (London: Diva Books, 2003).
- Gayatri Gopinath, Judith Halberstam, and Lisa Lowe, [Impossible Desires: Queer Diasporas and South Asian Public Cultures](#) (North Carolina: Duke Univ. Press, 2005).
- Gayatri Gopinath, [Unruly Visions: The Aesthetic Practices of Queer Diaspora](#) (North Carolina: Duke Univ. Press, 2018).
- Martin F. Manalansan IV, Judith Halberstam, and Lisa Lowe, [Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora](#) (North Carolina: Duke Univ. Press, 2003).
- Rakesh Ratti, [A Lotus of Another Color: An Unfolding of the South Asian Gay and Lesbian Experience](#) (Boston: Alyson Publications, 1993).



USC LGBTQ+ Student Center, Student Union 415





## ARTICLES

- Shweta Adur, "[In Pursuit of Love: 'Safe Passages', Migration and Queer South Asians in the US](#)," *Current Sociology* 66, no. 2 (2018): 320–334.
- Shweta Adur, and Bandana Purkayastha, "[\(Re\)Telling Traditions: The Language of Social Identity Among Queer South Asians in the United States](#)," *South Asian Diaspora* 9, no. 1 (2017): 1–16.
- Christopher Ian Foster, "['Leave to Quit Boundaries': Danger, Precarity, and Queer Diasporas in the South Asian Caribbean](#)," *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* 57, no. 1 (2021): 31–46.
- Gabriele Griffin, "[Questions of Mobility and Belonging: Diasporic Experiences Queering Female Identities in South Asian Contexts](#)," *Textual Practice* 25, no. 4 (2011): 731–756.

## DATABASES

- [LGBT Thought and Culture](#)
- [LGBT Life](#)
- [East & South Asia Database](#)
- [Archives of Sexuality & Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940](#)

## MASTER'S THESIS

- Ami Ramesh Patel, "[A Community History of Satrang: Negotiating Visibility as LGBTQ South Asian Americans in Los Angeles](#)," PhD diss., UCLA, 2013.

## JOURNALS

- [South Asian Diaspora](#)
- [GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies](#)

