



Image: Still from *Hemorrhage*, 2023, an animated film by Ruth Hayes

ART, ACTIVISM, AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

SAT | SEP 30, 2023 | UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

USC Visions & Voices

USC Architecture

USC Cinematic Arts

USC School
of Dramatic Arts

USC Kaufman
Glorya Kaufman School of Dance

USC Roski



SCHEDULE

1-2:45 PM

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS —SESSION I

- **RADICAL BOTANICALS: PHYTOGRAM IMAGE-MAKING WORKSHOP**, with **Holly Willis** (Cinematic Arts) | **HARRIS HALL COURTYARD**
- **OUR BODIES, OUR BATTLEGROUND: ANIMATION AND PROJECTION WORKSHOP**, with **Lisa Mann** (Cinematic Arts) and experimental animator **Ruth Hayes** | **SCHOOL OF CINEMATIC ARTS GALLERY INSIDE THE STEVEN SPIELBERG BUILDING**
- **DIY DESIGN: ZINE-MAKING WORKSHOP**, with **Derek Christian Quezada Meneses** (USC Libraries) | **DOHENY MEMORIAL LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, DML 209**
- **PUBLIC READING OF ROE**, with **Kirstin Eggers** (Dramatic Arts) | **PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING, PED 207**

3-4:45 PM

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS —SESSION II

- **DIY POLITICAL POSTER-MAKING WORKSHOP**, with **Sherin Guirguis** (Art and Design) and representatives from **Self Help Graphics & Art** | **FISHER MUSEUM OF ART COURTYARD**
- **EMPOWERING RHYTHMS: DRUMMING FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**, with **Anindo Marshall** (Dance) | **E.F. HUTTON PARK**
- **OUR BODIES CLAIMING THE SPACE: CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOP**, with **Alison D'Amato** (Dance) | **TOMMY TROJAN, HAHN PLAZA**
- **EXPLORING ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE**, with **Lori Brown** (Syracuse University) and **Esther Margulies** (Architecture) | **HARRIS HALL, HAR 125**

5-7:30 PM

- **WHAT CAN BE DONE?—PANEL DISCUSSION, PROCESSION, AND DRUM CIRCLE** | **INTERACTIVE MEDIA BUILDING, SCI 106**
An empowering conversation featuring **Paula Cizmar** (Dramatic Arts), **Nao Bustamante** (Art and Design), **Lori Brown** (Syracuse University), **Marjani Forté-Saunders** (Dance), and **Phung Huynh** (Los Angeles Valley College), moderated by **Laura Karlin** (Invertigo Dance Theatre), will be followed by a procession through the USC campus, culminating in a drum circle at Tommy Trojan.

**FOR WORKSHOP DETAILS, CLICK HERE OR VISIT
[VISIONSANDVOICES.USC.EDU/AARR.](https://visionsandvoices.usc.edu/aarr)**



Rebecca Gomperts Discusses Art, Activism, and Reproductive Rights

VOCABULARY CORNER

reproductive health focuses on health services and access to health care such as care for reproductive tract infections, sexually transmitted disease, sex education, contraception, abortion, family planning, and more

reproductive justice is “the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities” (SisterSong: Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective)

reproductive rights focuses on legal rights to reproductive health services, including the right to abortion and access to family planning services

Sources: SisterSong: Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice, Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- This is one of two Visions and Voices events this fall exploring how to promote bodily autonomy and reproductive rights through arts, activism, and dialogue.
- The first event, on September 30, will include a series of art workshops; a reading of the play *Roe*; a panel discussion; and a procession.
- The second event, on October 27, will be a presentation by physician, artist, and activist Rebecca Gomperts.

ROE V. WADE

Roe v. Wade is a 1973 Supreme Court case that established the constitutional right to abortion in the United States. Specifically, a set of Texas statutes that criminalized abortion were found to violate the constitutional right of privacy, which the Court held is included in the guarantee of “liberty” in the Fourteenth Amendment. The Court ruled that during the first trimester of pregnancy, the decision to terminate the pregnancy was solely at the discretion of the pregnant person and a state could not restrict the right to an abortion.

When *Roe v. Wade* was decided, abortion was broadly legal in only four U.S. states and banned in 30. In the other 16 states, abortion was allowed under limited circumstances. After *Roe*, abortion became not only legal, but thus more accessible and safer, nationwide.

Roe v. Wade was overturned by the Supreme Court in June 2022, in the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* decision. By the following summer, abortion had been banned or restricted earlier than it was under *Roe* in 22 U.S. states. Legal battles to restrict or expand access to abortion are still taking place in several states.

Sources: Britannica, PBS, New York Times, Center for Reproductive Rights

LISA LOOMER’S ROE

Roe is a play by Lisa Loomer that dramatizes the stories behind the *Roe v. Wade* case. *Roe* looks at the lives of attorney Sarah Weddington, who argued the case at the Supreme Court, and Norma McCorvey (“Jane Roe”), the plaintiff. Loomer aimed to show all sides of the abortion debate through the characters in the play.

Roe premiered in 2016, before *Roe v. Wade* was overturned. Loomer has said, “The problem is that the present keeps shifting,” prompting the playwright to revise and update “present-day” sections of the play.

At this event, a reading of the play will be hosted by Kirstin Eggers and directed and staged by Anita Dashiell-Sparks, both from the USC School of Dramatic Arts.

ABOUT THE PARTICIPANTS AND PANELISTS

LORI BROWN is a Distinguished Professor at the Syracuse University School of Architecture and an architect who leads ArchiteXX, an NYC-based organization dedicated to gender equity in architecture. Her books include *Feminist Practices: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Women in Architecture* and *Contested Spaces: Abortion Clinics, Women's Shelters and Hospitals*.

NAO BUSTAMANTE is an L.A.-based artist and a professor in the USC Roski School of Art and Design. An interdisciplinary artist, Bustamante works in performance art, video installation, filmmaking, sculpture, and writing. Her work has been screened or exhibited at venues including the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Sundance Film Festival, Outfest, and El Museo del Barrio.

PAULA CIZMAR is a professor of theatre practice in dramatic writing at the USC School of Dramatic Arts and a playwright and librettist whose work combines poetry and politics. Her work is concerned with the ways cultures tell stories, and with those who are left out of the discussion. Cizmar's honors include two NEA grants; a residency at the Rockefeller Study Center in Bellagio, Italy; and the TCG/Mellon Foundation's On the Road grant. Her work has been selected for Sundance, the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, and EnVision at Bard.

ALISON D'AMATO is an associate professor of practice at the USC Kaufman School of Dance whose scholarly and choreographic work investigates generative and indeterminate notation in order to investigate relationships between choreographic authority, inscription, agency, and archival practices. Her dances and scores have been presented in Los Angeles at Anatomy Riot, Pieter PASD, The Hammer Museum, and HomeLA; in New York at Movement Research, the Tank, AUNTS, Waxworks, Dixon Place, and BAX/Brooklyn Arts Exchange; and in Philadelphia, the UK, and Poland.

ANITA DASHIELL-SPARKS is a professor of theatre practice; serves as associate dean of equity, diversity, and inclusion for the USC School of Dramatic Arts; and has taught acting, movement, and critical studies at USC for over 18 years. As an actor based in New York and Los Angeles, she has performed on Broadway in *Night Must Fall*, starring Matthew Broderick; and *The Sunshine Boys*, starring Tony Randall and Jack Klugman. In addition to acting, teaching, and directing, she is a trained and certified Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) practitioner by SEED and NADOHE.

KIRSTIN EGGERS is an assistant professor of theatre practice in comedy performance at the USC School of Dramatic Arts. She is also co-founder of the Arts in Action program "Cancer & Comedy" in collaboration with USC Norris Adolescent and Young Adults Cancer Center and serves as performance coach for the award-winning USC Dornsife Trial Advocacy Program. Eggers has been a working actor and writer for over 20 years, with extensive commercial, guest, recurring, and series regular television appearances. Off-camera, she has performed sketch and improv at the Groundlings, UCB, and Comedy Central Stage, and accepted invitations to appear at comedy festivals nationwide.



MARJANI FORTÉ-SAUNDERS is an artist in residence at the USC Kaufman School of Dance, co-founder of LOVE/FORTÉ A COLLECTIVE, and one of two directors of the Alkebu-Lan Cultural Center in Pasadena. She is a recipient of the 2017 Outstanding Performance Bessie Award as one of 21 Black womyn and gender-nonconforming artists of the collective Skeleton Architecture. Her latest collaborations include working alongside director Kahlil Joseph as a choreographer on Sampha's short film *Process* and a Pantene Pro-V commercial campaign.



SHERIN GUIRGUIS is a professor of practice, art, and design and Chair of Foundation at the USC Roski School of Art and Design. Guirguis's work investigates narratives and histories that have often been forgotten, marginalized, and/or erased. She has had solo museum exhibitions at the Craft Contemporary Museum of Los Angeles and the American University's Tahrir Cultural Center, Cairo, and her work is in the permanent collections of museums such as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Minnesota Museum of American Art, Orange County Museum of Art, Houston Museum of Fine Arts, and Las Vegas Museum of Contemporary Art.



RUTH HAYES animates in film, video, and pre-cinema formats exploring materiality and chance occurrences in crafting and projection, and taking essayistic and experimental approaches to address autobiographical, political, and experiential themes. Her most recent film, *Hemorrhage*, animates rubbings and appropriated imagery and text to protest the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and the evisceration of women's rights. Ruth earned her MFA in experimental animation from CalArts and is faculty emerita at Evergreen State College, where she taught in broadly interdisciplinary courses that integrated animation into the visual, media, and performing arts; the humanities; and the sciences.



PHUNG HUYNH is a professor of art at Los Angeles Valley College and an artist whose practice includes drawing, painting, public art, and community engagement. Exploring cultural perception and representation, Huynh challenges beauty standards by constructing images of the Asian female body vis-à-vis plastic surgery to unpack how cosmetic surgery can whitewash cultural and racial identity. Huynh's work has been exhibited internationally, including solo exhibitions at Gagosian Gallery and the Sweeney Art Gallery at UC Riverside.



LAURA KARLIN (moderator) is a teacher, choreographer, movement activist, and the founder and artistic director of Invertigo Dance Theatre. Karlin's work for Invertigo has been presented at venues including the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Ford Amphitheatre, Los Angeles Theatre Center, Broad Stage, and LACMA. Karlin also teaches Invert/ED and Dancing through Parkinson's classes and practices sustainable gardening.



LISA MANN is a professor of cinematic practice at the USC School of Cinematic Arts' Expanded Animation program, where she teaches stop motion and cinematic installation. Her art practice encompasses site-specific installations and media projections that explore homelessness, guns and children, domestic labor, and motherhood. Her most recent installation advocates for gender equity in birth control. Mann was awarded a My Town grant from the NEA and a Rockefeller Media Arts Fellowship. She organized the SCA symposium, "Breaking the Glass Frame: Women and Animation," to explore solutions to sexual harassment, bias, and lack of diversity in the animation industry.



ESTHER MARGULIES is the assistant director of graduate programs in landscape architecture and urbanism, associate professor of practice, and liaison of diversity and inclusion at the USC School of Architecture. As a licensed landscape architect, founder of The Office of the Designed Landscape (OotDL), and practice leader at nationally recognized firms, she has led multidisciplinary integrated teams on public-realm and private-sector projects including urban transit, park, and mixed-use projects. Her work has included award-winning cultural preservation, urban storm water, K-12, planning, higher education, and park projects.



Beginning her musical and dance career in her homeland of Kenya as a vocalist, dancer, and percussionist, **ANINDO MARSHALL** enjoyed a successful solo career in Europe as a vocalist. Today, Marshall is a certified Dunham Technique instructor, a member of the Katherine Dunham Certification Board, and lecturer at the USC Kaufman School of Dance, who teaches at schools worldwide including the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, Dance Dimensions, Lula Washington Dance Theatre, Occidental College, Loyola Marymount University, UC Irvine, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, and Cleo Parker Robinson Dance.



DEREK CHRISTIAN QUEZADA MENESES is a rare books librarian at the USC Libraries and member of the Los Angeles Preservation Network.



Since 1973, **SELF HELP GRAPHICS & ART** has fostered the creation and advancement of new art works by Chicana/o and Latinx artists through experimental and innovative printmaking techniques and other visual art forms. Rooted at the intersection of arts and social justice in the community, the organization provides a home that fosters the creativity and development of local artists, establishes international collaborations and nationwide partnerships, and creates worldwide cultural exchanges.



HOLLY WILLIS is the co-chair of the Media Arts + Practice Division in the USC School of Cinematic Arts, where she teaches classes on digital media, post-cinema, and feminist film. The Los Angeles-based writer, filmmaker, and photographer is the author of *Fast Forward: The Future(s) of the Cinematic Arts and New Digital Cinema: Reinventing the Moving Image*, as well as *Björk Digital*. She is also the co-founder of *Filmmaker Magazine* and served as editor of *RES Magazine* and co-curator of RESFEST. She writes frequently for diverse publications about experimental film, video, and new media, while also exploring experimental nonfiction and poetry.



SELF HELP GRAPHICS & ART

Self Help Graphics & Art is a community arts center in Boyle Heights. Founded in 1973, the organization is rooted in the community and offers programs including art workshops, a professional printmaking program, artist mercaditos, exhibitions, an annual printmaking summit and fair, a mobile art studio, and summer art workshops for local youth. With a focus on innovative printmaking techniques and new art by Chicana/o and Latinx artists, Self Help Graphics & Art works at the intersection of arts and social justice.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- How has art shaped your understanding of health, rights, and justice?
- How can art contribute to social and political change?
- Lisa Loomer aimed to show all sides of the abortion debate in *Roe*. Was she successful? What is the impact of representing multiple sides of a contentious debate?

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

- 10/27** [Rebecca Gomperts Discusses Art, Activism, and Reproductive Rights](#)
- 11/2** [Graphic Medicine: Comics as Tools for Advocacy and Self Reflection](#)
- Arts in Action | artsinaction.usc.edu
- Self Help Graphics & Art | selfhelpgraphics.com
- Center for the Study of Political Graphics | politicalgraphics.org
- SisterSong's Artists United for Reproductive Justice | sistersong.net/artist-united-for-reproductive-justice
- The Art of Abortion Storytelling at the Center for Cultural Power | culturalpower.org/stories/art-abortion-storytelling

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS RESOURCE LIST

- Access Reproductive System | accessrj.org
- Aid Access | aidaccess.org
- California Black Women's Health Project | cabwhp.org
- California Latinas for Reproductive Justice | californialatinas.org
- Commission for Women | laccw.lacounty.gov/about-us
- League of Women Voters | lwv.org
- Los Angeles Coalition for Reproductive Justice | lacrj.org
- Office of Women's Health | publichealth.lacounty.gov/owh/index.htm



Graphic Medicine: Comics as Tools for Advocacy and Self Reflection



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VISIONSANDVOICES.USC.EDU

- ◉ SisterSong Reproductive Justice
sistersong.net/reproductive-justice
- ◉ Women's March Action (political arm of WMF)
womensmarchaction.com/our-mission
- ◉ Women's March Foundation (L.A.)
womensmarchfoundation.org

RESOURCES AT USC

- ◉ Survivor Support Community at USC | uscssc.carrd.co
- ◉ USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health Student Advisory Council (IGH SAC)
globalhealth.usc.edu/about/student-advisory-council
- ◉ USC Student Assembly for Gender Empowerment (SAGE)
sageusc.carrd.co

DISCOVER MORE AT THE USC LIBRARIES

Ariana Varela 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 but may require the user to log in using their USC credentials.

ARTICLE

Anu Kumar, "[Activism for Abortion Rights and Access Is Global: What the United States Can Learn from the Rest of the World,](#)" *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law* 48, no. 4 (2023): 593–602.

BOOKS

Betsy Greer, [Craftivism: The Art of Craft and Activism](#) (Vancouver: Arsenal Pulp Press, 2014).

Kimberly Mutcherson, [Feminist Judgments: Reproductive Justice Rewritten](#) (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2020).

Loretta Ross, ed., [Radical Reproductive Justice: Foundation, Theory, Practice, Critique](#) (New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 2017).

Lesley Shipley and Mey-Yen Moriuchi, eds., [The Routledge Companion to Art and Activism in the Twenty-First Century](#) (New York: Routledge, 2023).

DATABASES

[Gale One File: Gender Studies](#)

[GenderWatch](#)

[Gender: Identity and Social Change](#)

STREAMING MEDIA

[Abortion Helpline, This Is Lisa](#) (Women Make Movies, 2019).

[Roe is Gone. What Now?](#) (New York Public Radio, 2022).

