



GRADUATE EDUCATION DAY 2019

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Lotus: The Subversive in Flamenco and African American performance

A central element to my dissertation research and the MFA performance *Ink on Cotton* was ultimately subversive performance, how does one maintain agency when performing for oppressive classes. How does one grow like a lotus flower in a negative oppressive world? Key themes that I will explore are excess, performing the self, simultaneous opposition and fluidity of time. All of this will be discussed in the context of African American and Flamenco performance. Key scholars I will be in dialogue with are Rebecca Kowal, Roland Barthes, Brenda Dixon Gottschild, Meira Goldberg, Brooke Baldwin, Elizabeth de Martelly and more. Therefore, this project's quest of honoring and visibilizing blackness is joining a legacy of artists, scholars and activists working on unearthing the invisibilization of blackness (Gottschild 1-2) and bringing to light an influence that has been buried by racism.