

AFRICAN AMERICAN INTELLECTUAL CULTURE SERIES

WINSTON NAPIER CONFERENCE

THEN AND NOW

20TH ANNIVERSARY
of Winston Napier's
*African American Literary
Theory: A Reader*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd, 2020

5^{PM} | ZOOM

*Former students, colleagues,
friends, and family remember
Winston Napier*

POETRY PERFORMANCE BY NICOLE M. YOUNG

Nicole M. Young is a performance poet, playwright, event producer, educator and nonprofit manager originally from Detroit and now based in New England. Autobiographical in nature, Young's writing seeks to fill the spaces for women of color whose fair representations are absent in mainstream media. Her award-winning play, *get (t)his!*, has been produced in Michigan, New York City, and Western Massachusetts. Young's self-produced spoken word album, *In/Put: Live from the Valley*, was released in 2019.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Dr. James Smethurst

Dr. James Smethurst is a professor in the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies at UMASS Amherst. He is the author of *Brick City Vanguard: Amiri Baraka, Black Music, Black Modernity*. Drawing on primary texts, paratexts (including album liner notes), audio and visual recordings, and archival sources, James Smethurst takes a new look at how Baraka's writing on and performance of music envisioned the creation of an African American people or nation, as well as the growth and consolidation of a black working class within that nation, that resonates to this day.

Dr. Kristina Wilson

Kristina Wilson is professor of art history at Clark, where she has taught since 2004. Her forthcoming book is titled *Mid-Century Modernism and the American Body: Race, Gender, and the Politics of Power in Design* and will be published by Princeton University Press in 2021.

*Co-sponsored by the Higgins School of Humanities;
the Office of the Provost; the Department of English;
the Department of Visual and Performing Arts; and
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*Nicole M. Young
Photo by Samm Smith Design
and Photography*