911—A Public Emergency?
Special Issue Editors Brent Edwards, Stefano Harney, Randy Martin, Timothy Mitchell, Fred Moten, and Ella Shohat

Introduction: 911—A Public Emergency? Randy Martin and Ella Shohat 1

Fragment on Kropotkin and Giuliani Stefano Harney 9

Lyric in a Time of Violence Meena Alexander 21

The Poet in the Public Sphere: A Conversation with Meena Alexander Lopamudra Basu 31

Exit Sandrine Nicoletta 39

Cloud Bench Yigal Nizri 43

The Cold War, Imperial Aesthetics, and Area Studies Ban Wang 45

Area Studies, Gender Studies, and the Cartographies of Knowledge Ella Shohat 67

Feminisms in the Aftermath of September 11 Zillah Eisenstein 79

Homeland Insecurities: Racial Violence the Day after September 11 Muneer Ahmad 101

Monster, Terrorist, Fag: The War on Terrorism and the Production of Docile Patriots Jasbir K. Puar and Amit S. Rai 117

Theses on the Questions of War: History, Media, Terror Rosalind C. Morris 149
Explanation and Exoneration, or What We Can Hear
Judith Butler  177

The New International of Decent Feelings  Fred Moten  189
Muneer Ahmad is an assistant professor of law at American University Washington College of Law. He was previously a staff attorney at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center in Los Angeles, where his work focused on legal and organizing strategies for Asian and Latina/o garment workers in Los Angeles sweatshops. He has also been an active member of the South Asian Network in Artesia, California.

Meena Alexander was born in India and raised in North Africa and England. She is Distinguished Professor of English and Women’s Studies at Hunter College, New York, and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. Her poems and prose works, which have been widely anthologized and translated, include the memoir Fault Lines (The Feminist Press at the City University of New York) and The Shock of Arrival: Reflections on Postcolonial Experience (South End). Her new book of poems, Illiterate Heart (Northwestern University Press), is winner of the 2002 Pen Open Book Award. She is currently at work on a commission from the Royal Festival Hall, London, to compose a poem on New York City for Poetry International 2002.

Lopamudra Basu grew up in Calcutta and attended the University of Delhi in India. She is a doctoral candidate in English at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She is working on a dissertation on “The Postcolonial Migrant Intellectual,” examining South Asian and African novels as reflections of, and engagements in, critical debates in postcolonial societies.

Judith Butler is Maxine Elliot Professor of Rhetoric and Comparative Literature at the University of California at Berkeley. She is the author of several books and numerous articles on philosophy and feminist and queer theory. Her most recent book is Antigone’s Claim: Kinship between Life and Death (Columbia University Press).

Zillah Eisenstein is a feminist author and professor at Ithaca College. Her most recent books include Hatreds (Routledge), Global Obscenities (New York University Press), and Manmade Breast Cancers (Cornell University Press). She presently works with feminists in Cairo, Egypt; Accra, Ghana; and Mumbai and Hyderabad in India on antiglobalization politics.
Stefano Harney teaches sociology at the City University of New York, College of Staten Island, and is author of *State Work: Public Administration and Mass Intellectuality* (Duke University Press).

Randy Martin is a professor of Art and Public Policy and Associate Dean of Faculty and Interdisciplinary Programs at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. His latest book is *Financialization of Daily Life* (Temple University Press).

Rosalind C. Morris is an associate professor of anthropology and director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender at Columbia University. Her writings on gender, the media, and modernity in Southeast Asia have appeared in *positions, Public Culture, Social Text*, and *differences*, among other venues. Her most recent book is *In the Place of Origins: Modernity and Its Mediums in Northern Thailand* (Duke University Press).

Fred Moten is an assistant professor of performance studies at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. He has published articles on black performance, literature, and film. His book *In the Break: The Political Erotics of the Black Avante-Garde* is forthcoming from the University of Minnesota Press.

Sandrine Nicoletta studied fine arts in Bologna, later studying abroad with the Erasmus program in France and the Ratti Foundation in Italy. Her work includes interventions in public arts and in private galleries in Italy, France, Korea, Croatia, and the United States. In Italy she is represented by the Neon Gallery and by the Maze Gallery. Her work is also exhibited as part of a permanent installation at the Orum Art Institute in Jeju, Korea. Recently, she held a residency at the World Trade Center in New York.

Jasbir K. Puar is an assistant professor of women’s studies and geography at Rutgers University. Her recent publications include “Global Circuits: Transnational Sexualities and Trinidad,” Signs 26 (summer 2001) and “Transnational Configurations of Desire: The Nation and Its White Closets” (in The Making and Unmaking of Whiteness, ed. Matt Wray et al. [Duke University Press]). She also guest edited a special issue of GLQ titled “Queer Tourism: Geographies of Globalization” (8:1–2, 2002). Her writing on lesbian tourism is forthcoming in Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography.

Amit S. Rai teaches cultural and literary studies at the New School University in New York City. He has published articles on Hindi films, Gandhi, postcolonial criticism, and diasporic identity in cyberspace. His study of sympathy and colonial discourse, Rule of Sympathy: Sentiment, Race, and Power, 1760–1860, will be published by St. Martin’s Press in May 2002. He is currently working on a project on globalization and Hindi films, tentatively titled “New Empire Cinema: Translating Hindi Films for the Global Marketplace.”

Ella Shohat is a professor of cultural studies at New York University. Her most recent books are Dangerous Liaisons: Gender, Nation, and Postcolonial Perspectives (coedited with Anne McClintock and Aamir Mufti; University of Minnesota Press) and Talking Visions: Multiculturalism in a Transnational Age (New Museum of Contemporary Art and MIT Press); and Forbidden Reminiscences (Bimat Kedem). Her writings have been translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Hebrew, German, and Turkish. Her book Taboo Memories is forthcoming from Duke University Press.

Ban Wang is an associate professor of East Asian Studies and Comparative Literature at Rutgers University. He is the author of The Sublime Figure of History: Aesthetics and Politics in Twentieth-Century China (Stanford University Press) and Narrative Perspective and Irony in Chinese and American Fiction (Edwin Mellen Press). He is also cotranslator (with Xudong Zhang) of the Chinese edition of Walter Benjamin’s Illuminations (Oxford University Press).