



CounterPULSE and City Lights Foundation present



SHAPING San Francisco's

Spring Talks 2007

2nd and Last Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at CounterPULSE, 1310 Mission Street (at 9th) • 415.626.2060, www.counterpulse.org

Wednesday, April 25

The National Park Where We Live



Amy Meyer is essentially the “godmother” of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). If not for the heroic efforts of Amy and other environmental activists, we might not have a GGNRA today. Amy has written a book entitled, “New Guardians for the Golden Gate: How America Got a Great National Park,” in which she and her co-author, Randy Delehanty, provide exquisite details of the social and political context for the creation of our local urban ecological jewel, which is internationally important. Join us for a typical Counterpulse evening, during which Amy reveals the politics of national park conservation.

Wednesday, May 30

Butterflies in the City



Despite the revolutionary ecological changes on the San Francisco peninsula over the last 240 years, the city abounds with spectacular native biodiversity, including a couple of dozen species of butterflies. Like many insects, butterfly species have co-evolved with specific plants in an ecological co-evolutionary dance over millions of years. The Franciscan bio-region is home to several locally endemic species, such as the mission blue, which only lives on coastal bedrock ridgetops. A subset of our native butterflies have adapted to some non-native plants, including some weeds. Join us for an exhilarating and beautiful ride through this fascinating subject. **Barbara Deutsch, Deirdre Elmansoumi, Mia Monroe, Liam O'Brien.**

Wednesday, April 11

When the Mission was Low and Slow



Join a special screening and talk by members of the Mission Archives on April 11, 8 pm, at CounterPULSE. Back in the late 1970s and early '80s Mission St. was home to a wild scene of lowriders every weekend. Bouncing, shimmying, and gleaming cars full of excited kids and long-time Missionistas would fill Mission for miles and hours. A unique public space erupted every week for several years in the face of police harassment, created and maintained by the ever resourceful youth of Latino San Francisco. Join original participants, filmmakers and today's young activists with rarely seen footage, and the trailer for a new documentary, “Why We Ride: From Low to Show.” We'll also discuss the changing nature of youth culture, street life, public space, and life in San Francisco's Mission District. *The event is free, but donations \$5-\$50 are requested to help both CounterPULSE, the evening's host, and the Mission Archives/Conscious Youth Media Crew, who are providing facilities and video training for local youth.*

Wednesday, May 2

From Enclosures to Fast-Food: Immigration, Work and Agriculture....

Today the centuries-long process of land enclosure continues with the replacement of subsistence agriculture in the global south by agribusiness export crops. Loss of land starts the movement of populations into cities, eventually leading to migration across borders too... When people leave home they take their favorite foods with them. Waves of immigrants have brought many different foods to California, which slowly have merged into “California Cuisine”... Ironically—perhaps tragically—today's immigrants very often work in the fields for agribusiness OR in the restaurants and hotels of SF, often in kitchens and food service sector... VIDEO CLIPS: 1) occupation strike in Paris at a McDonalds by largely African immigrant workers; 2) scene from Peter Watkins' movie “La Commune” wherein a group of Algerians sits around a table talking about immigration and capital--in 1871!

Speakers: Grey Kolevzon, Chris Carlsson, and TBA