Speakers’ Bios:

Thea Cacchioni is a full-time lecturer at UBC Okanagan, Women’s And Gender Studies. Cacchioni received her PhD from the University of Warwick, UK, Department of Sociology. Cacchioni’s upcoming publication is The Labour of Love: Women in the ‘Second Sexual Revolution’. Her research interests include gender; sexuality; health; medicalization; ‘Female Sexual Dysfunciton;’ and ‘Sexual Revolution’.

Alessandra Capperdoni holds a Ph.D. from Simon Fraser University, her dissertation Alter/Nations – Long(ing) Poems: explores the reconfiguration of Nation-Discourse in the 60s to 80s. Her research focuses on modernist and postmodern women’s literature and culture; feminist poetics and theory; gender and sexuality in relation to nationalism and new global subjectivities. She has published articles on Canadian literature, feminist writing and theory, feminist translation, transsexuality and transgenderism, and citizenship.

Joseph Clark is a media historian with a PhD in American Civilization from Brown University. Clark’s research has been focused on understanding the relationship between media and social, political, economic and cultural change. His fields of research include film history and theory; gender studies; popular culture; 19th and 20th Century US History. He is on the Board of DOXA, Vancouver’s documentary film festival and currently teaches B-Girls, Dragon Ladies and White Chicks: Race, Gender and Representation in the US.

Mandy Koolen has a PhD in English and is an associate lecturer at Southampton Solent University in England. Her doctoral dissertation entitled Que(e)rying History: Historical Fiction and the Construction of Contemporary Pasts revalues historical identification as a potentially political and pleasurable mode of engaging with the past-- quite apart from arguments that nostalgia for same sex attraction or cross-gender identification result in "gay chauvinism" or "homosexual essentialism" ( Halperin, How to do History of Homosexuality).

Trish Salah has a PhD in English and is interested in contemporary Queer and Transgender poetics and politics. Her dissertation entitled Writing Trans Genre explores transsexual and transgender rhetorics, affects and politics. She is an active cultural producer and organizer, and past editor of FUSE magazine. She has taught at York University in transsexual and transgender production and contemporary writing by women.