The Department of English

Presents

Marsha Gordon
Film Studies
North Carolina State University

Sam Fuller’s Nontheatrical Lexicon:
Home Movies, Stock Footage, and the Hollywood War Film

Abstract: Marsha Gordon is Associate Professor of Film Studies at North Carolina State University. She is the author of Hollywood Ambitions: Celebrity in the Movie Age (Wesleyan University Press, 2008), the co-editor of Learning with the Lights Off: A Reader in Educational Film (Oxford University Press, 2012), which received the Society for Cinema and Media Studies book award for best edited collection in 2013. A former editor of The Moving Image (University of Minnesota Press), she is the co-founder of the Bastard Film Encounter and a UCR English alum.

Professor Gordon will be talking about her book-in-progress, Organized Insanity: Sam Fuller’s Hot/Cold War Films. Focused on the genre that best defined the American director’s career—the war film—her book draws on unexplored archival materials, such as Fuller’s FBI and Department of Defense investigative files, as well as his WWII-era 16mm amateur films and the war-related stock footage he used in his feature films. Recounting her discovery of mislabeled and never-before-identified 35mm location scouting footage that Fuller shot for The Big Red One in the 1950s, almost twenty-five years before the film was finally made and released in 1980, she will discuss the process of putting this puzzle together to make a case for why scholars need to consider what might otherwise be regarded as ancillary material.

Monday, March 10th
12:30pm-2:00pm
English Conference Room: HMNSS 2212

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