

The Department of Religious Studies, University of Pittsburgh Series on “Queering Religion” presents

# ANN PELLEGRINI

Professor of Performance Studies and Social and Cultural Analysis

Director, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, New York University

**Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 602 Cathedral of Learning**

12:00 noon

## Workshop on “What’s Wrong with Tolerance?” from *Love the Sin: Sexual Regulation and the Limits of Religious Tolerance*

Open to faculty and graduate students.

Advanced readings available at [religiousstudies.pitt.edu](http://religiousstudies.pitt.edu)



5:00 pm

## *Angry Subjects: In/Civility, Christian Nationalism, and the Paranoid Position in an Age of Trump*

Free and open to the public. Reception to follow.

In her now-classic 1981 essay “The Uses of Anger,” Audre Lorde commends anger as a force that allows us to attend to histories of structural oppression. In particular, she urges women of color to name and speak their anger aloud and challenges white feminists to hear it without getting defensive. Meeting Lorde’s charge—to tarry with anger—remains no less urgent and no less discomfiting today than it was when she issued her call in 1981. A call to and for anger may even seem counter-intuitive and counter-productive in the age of Trump. Shouldn’t we want less rancor, fewer angry words in public? This paper returns to Lorde as a resource for the present-day and as a retort, as well, to those who bemoan the loss of civility in U.S. political discourse. Focusing on concrete case studies—and drawing on the resources of queer of color critique, psychoanalysis, and affect studies—this talk traces how norms of civility have worked to encode white Christian nationalism. For which subjects and which bodies, was anger ever permissible and civility ever an achievable ideal?



In addition to her groundbreaking *Love the Sin* with Janet Jakobsen (2003, 2004), **Ann Pellegrini** is author of *Performance Anxieties: Staging Psychoanalysis, Staging Race* (1997); coauthor of “*You Can Tell Just By Looking*” and *20 Other Myths About LGBT Life and People* with Michael Bronski and Michael Amico (2013); coeditor of *Secularisms* with Janet Jakobsen (2008) and *Queer Theory and the Jewish Question* with Daniel Boyarin and Daniel Itzkovitz (2003). Pellegrini coedits the *Sexual Cultures Series* (NYU Press) and is currently completing a book on “queer structures of religious feeling.”

Cosponsored by the Provost’s Year of Diversity, Humanities Center, University Honors College, Asian Studies Center and Indo-Pacific Council, Departments of Anthropology and Sociology, and Programs in Gender, Sexuality & Women’s Studies and Jewish Studies.