

# Experiments in Blackness

an **undisciplined encounter** featuring

**Margo Natalie Crawford**  
**Dennis Childs**  
*and Carter Mathes*

**Tuesday, February 2, 2:10 p.m.**

English Department Conference Room, HMNSS 2212

Refreshments will be served

Throughout the contemporary era, Black arts, music, and literature have registered the urgency of struggle against racialized violence, coloniality, and imperialism. Join us for this dialogue about Black experimental aesthetics, abstraction, freedom, and the urgency of that struggle.



**Dr. Margo Natalie Crawford** is the author of *Dilution Anxiety and the Black Phallus* (2008) and the coeditor of *New Thoughts on the Black Arts Movement* (2006). She is an Associate Professor of African American literature and global black studies in the Department of English at Cornell University. She has recently completed *Black Post-Blackness: the Black Arts Movement and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Black Aesthetics*. Her works in progress include *What is African American Literature?* and a coedited volume *Global Black Consciousness*.



**Dr. Dennis Childs** is Associate Professor of Literature and affiliate faculty member of the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). He currently serves as Director of UCSD's African American Studies Minor, and faculty advisor for Students Against Mass Incarceration (SAMI UCSD). He is the author of *Slaves of the State: Black Incarceration from the Chain Gang to the Penitentiary* (University of Minnesota Press, 2015), a work that considers the connections between chattel slavery and mass incarceration from the late nineteenth century through the prison industrial complex.



**Dr. Carter Mathes** Professor Mathes is Associate Professor of English at Rutgers University. He is the author of *Imagine the Sound: Experimental African American Literature After Civil Rights* (University of Minnesota Press, 2014), which focuses on the relationship between sound and literary innovation during the 1960s and 1970s. He has also co-edited (with Mae G. Henderson) a volume on Black Arts Movement writer and critic Larry Neal, *"Don't Say Goodbye to the Porkpie Hat": The Larry Neal Critical Reader* (University of Illinois Press, 2015).

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**Undisciplined Encounters** is a series of experimental exchanges that seeks to extend conversations on race, power, critical gender and sexuality studies, and settler colonialism. This event is sponsored by the UCR Department of English.