

SPEAKING IN TONGUES:

FELLOWSHIP WRITING AND THE TASK OF SCHOLARLY SELF-DESCRIPTION

A conversation with **ARA MERJIAN**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Italian Studies, NYU and **KELLY QUINN**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of American Studies, Miami University



THURS | SEP 24
5:30 - 7PM | SOS 250

Two dynamic, interdisciplinary scholars (and multiple fellowship winners) discuss their approaches to professional self-description in the context of their dissertations and current book projects.

ARA MERJIAN, a specialist in 20th century European art history, film, and theory, is currently completing **Urban Untimely: Giorgio de Chirico and the Metaphysical City**, a book examining the artist's early Metaphysical cityscapes in the light of Nietzschean philosophy. Before teaching at N.Y.U., Merjian was Lauro de Bosis Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University; Member, Society of Fellows at Stanford University; Paul Mellon Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts (CASVA), a Fulbright Scholar, Jakob K. Javits Fellow, and a Mellon Fellow in Humanistic Studies. Merjian received a Ph.D. in the Dept. of History of Art at U.C. Berkeley in 2006.

KELLY QUINN's current book project, **Making Modern Homes**, documents the early architectural and social history of a New Deal housing program built by and for African Americans in Washington D.C. Her thesis on this topic received the John Reys Prize for Best Dissertation in American Planning History from the Society for American City Regional and Planning History. The recipient of an AAUW American Fellowship and a pre-doctoral fellowship at the Archives of American Art, Quinn has just been awarded fellowships from the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Research Center, the Center for the Study of Modern Art at the Phillips Collection, and the Institute for Advanced Study at the University of Minnesota. She received a Ph.D. in American Studies at the University of Maryland in 2007.