WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY PROGRAM PRESENTS

Sex Museums: The Politics and Performance of Display

Monday, March 5 at 4 PM
MCCLUNG TOWER, ROOM 1210

What roles have museums played in using display as a technique for disciplining sexuality?
In her talk, Jennifer Tyburczy examines the formation of Western sexuality and how categories of sexual normalcy and perversity are formed. Most museum exhibits, she argues, assume that white, patriarchal heterosexuality and traditional structures of intimacy, gender, and race represent national sexual culture for their visitors. Tyburczy illuminates the history of such heteronormativity at most museums and proposes alternative approaches for the future of public display projects, while also offering curatorial tactics—what she calls queer curatorship—for exhibiting diverse sexualities in the 21st century.