

ASA Sessions

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Friday, November 16 | Saturday, November 17 | [Sunday, November 18](#)

10:00 AM – 11:45 AM

389. Thawing Polar Discourses: New Queer and Feminist Readings of Hegemonic Polar Narratives

Puerto Rico Convention Center 208B

CHAIR:

Lynne Adrian, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa (AL)

PAPERS:

Tomek Mossakowski, King's College, London (United Kingdom)

Sub-zero Drag: Imperialism and Cross-Dressing During Polar Expeditions in the British and American Military

Lisa Bloom, University of California, San Diego (CA)

Contemporary Art and the Polar Regions: Feminist and Queer Engagements with Narratives of Empire and Climate Change

Judit Hersko, California State University, San Marcos (CA)

Judit Hersko: Pages from the Book of the Unknown Explorer

COMMENT:

Lynne Adrian, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa (AL)

Abstract:

At a time when the Polar regions are shrinking due to melting sea ice, and old and new empires are moving in to secure increasingly available resources, this panel addresses the question: How do queer and feminist perspectives of Arctic and Antarctic spaces contribute to our critical thinking of recent resurgent Polar interest and imperialism? The shared premise of the scholars is that there are demonstrable queer and feminist engagements with Polar spaces, both in the past, present and possibly future, and that understanding these discourses allows for better critical understanding of the hegemonic narratives so typical of Arctic and Antarctic spaces today.