SPRING EXHIBIT
LANGSON LIBRARY

APRIL 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2015
MURIEL ANSLEY REYNOLDS EXHIBIT GALLERY

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The UCI Libraries Exhibits Program promotes the diverse holdings and scholarly and cultural value of the Libraries’ collections to the campus and community. To learn more about this and other library programs, please visit our website at http://partners.lib.uci.edu or call 949-824-5300.
The Critical Theory Emphasis (CTE) is an interdisciplinary concentration that develops UC Irvine’s historic legacy of national and international eminence in critical theory. Offering an advanced graduate curriculum and organizing lectures and events, the Critical Theory Emphasis encourages scholars and students to explore, and to develop, theoretical models to analyze literature and art, and general systems of information, including history, language, and political relations. With the recent emergence of the Theory and Culture Ph.D. program, the Critical Theory Emphasis promotes rigorous critical engagements with symbolic categories, particularly gender and ethnicity.

Theorists who have taught as members of the Critical Theory Emphasis include Étienne Balibar, Jacques Derrida, Wolfgang Iser, Jean-François Lyotard, J. Hillis Miller, and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak. UC Irvine’s distinct commitment to theory, reflected in the CTE, the Critical Theory Institute, the Critical Theory Archive, and individual departments, defines the distinguished character of the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at UCI, and contributes to its international reputation for scholarly innovation.

Welcome to the UC Irvine Libraries’ spring exhibit, Through Discerning Eyes: The Origins and Impact of Critical Theory at UCI!

One of the first programs of its kind in the world, the Critical Theory Emphasis supports and encourages the study of theory. Through Discerning Eyes: The Origins and Impact of Critical Theory at UCI explores the development of this international program from its roots in the department of Comparative Literature and English, to its current impact on the broader UCI community and global scholarship.

We are honored to have Dr. Georges Van Den Abbeele, Dean of Humanities at the University of California at Irvine, as our distinguished speaker at the opening night event on April 9, 2015.

A native of Belgium, Dean Van Den Abbeele earned a bachelor’s degree at Reed College and a Ph.D. at Cornell University. A noted scholar of Philosophy and French Literature, as well as a prolific translator of Jean-François Lyotard’s work, Dean Van Den Abbeele’s books and edited volumes include Travel as Metaphor: From Montaigne to Rousseau, Community at Loose Ends, A World of Fables, and French Civilization and its Discontents. Additionally, Dr. Van Den Abbeele is the author of several articles on subjects such as continental philosophy and critical theory, travel narrative, tourism and immigration, and human geography.

This exhibit will be on display through mid-September 2015, during regular library hours. I invite you to explore the exhibit, which honors the UCI Critical Theory Emphasis, recognizes internationally acclaimed critical theorists, and highlights materials from the Libraries’ Critical Theory Archive. I also invite you to return to the UCI Libraries to view future thought-provoking exhibits.

Lorelei Tanji
University Librarian