

Spring 2018

# Public Programs and Engagement



SATURDAY, MARCH 3  
10AM-8PM

## More Than a Manifesto: The Poet's Essay:

Organized by **Dorothea  
Lasky, Writing**

WITH **KEN CHEN, ANAÏS DUPLAN,  
ARIEL GOLDBERG, MYUNG MI KIM,  
WAYNE KOESTENBAUM, TRACIE  
MORRIS, RAQUEL SALAS RIVERA,  
BRANDON SHIMODA, AND CECILIA  
VICUÑA**

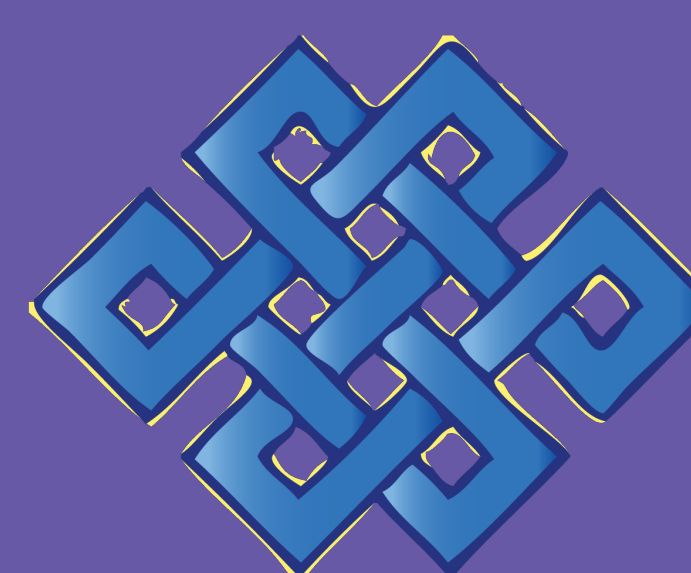
KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY **FRED MOTEN, NYU**

The term “essay” itself was coined by Michel de Montaigne in the 1500s, and it comes from the French word, *essai*, which means to test or experiment with what one knows as a learning tool (and is in some opposition to the terms we use to discuss the essay now, such as thesis). The More Than A Manifesto symposium will explore the possibilities inherent in this original conception of the essay, and ask esteemed poets to come together and discuss what a poet’s essay can do in 2018 and how poets themselves can resist the pressure to have theses or arguments in all forms of writing. The day will be organized around three themes: “Logic, Aesthetics, Meaning, and Memory in a Poem-Essay,” “The Essay, The Manifesto, and The Poetic Imagination,” and “Contradictions, The Sea, and The Snow: A Poem-Essay as the Open Space.” Presenters will respond to these themes with original work and also engage in collaboration and conversation. The day will culminate with a keynote speech by Fred Moten. Eventually, the poets’ original writing for the event will be compiled into a book.

Co-presented by Columbia University School of the Arts and The Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities. This event was also made possible by a Lenfest Junior Faculty Grant and the Katherine Garrison Chapin Seminars in Poetry Fund.

THE LANTERN, LENFEST CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
615 WEST 129TH STREET  
(BETWEEN BROADWAY AND 12TH AVENUE)

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