Erotic Screen and Sound
Culture, Media and Desire

An international conference hosted by
the Griffith Centre for Cultural Research, Griffith University
and the Institute of Modern Art

Tuesday 15th – Friday 18th February 2011
Griffith University, South Bank, Brisbane.

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Judith Halberstam
English, American Studies and Ethnicity, and Gender Studies
University of Southern California, USA
Author of In a Queer Time and Place (2005) and Female Masculinities (1998)

Professor Alan McKee
Film and Television, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

Associate Professor Kelly Dennis
Art and Art History, University of Connecticut, USA
Author of Art/Porn (2008)

Few subjects are as simultaneously commonplace and controversial as the erotic. While sex, gender, identity and desire have been traditional mainstays of artistic, academic and public discourses, the erotic often continues to provoke fears, anxieties and resistances. Screen-based media, such as computers, telephones, games, advertising, television and cinema, multiply in contemporary urban space. Erotic imagery and sound are routine – the erotic invitation to the viewer, representations of erotic attraction between individuals, erotic innuendo in songs and sound bites – proliferating into the banal everydayness of contemporary life and culture. Yet at the same time, the erotic remains a site of beguilement, the forbidden, transgression, fascination and mystery.

Erotic Screen and Sound: Culture, Media and Desire is an interdisciplinary conference which will draw together contemporary research and historical thinking on the erotic across the fields of the visual and sonic arts, film, television and media studies, literature, cultural sociology, cultural history, communications and journalism.

We invite scholars and graduates from a range of disciplines to examine, explore, theorise, and historicise erotic moving images, sounds, visual arts, performances and texts.

In addition to individual and panel presentations, we are planning to incorporate an exhibition and screening program. The exhibition and film screenings will feature work by artists whose practice critically mobilises notions of the erotic.
Topics for discussion may include, but are not limited to, the following:

**Representing the erotic**
- Screen nudity
- The eroticisation of childhood/youth
- Erotics and consumerism
- Sex and censorship
- Eroticism and stardom
- Sound/voice/song and the erotic
- Erotics and music video

**Erotic identities**
- Femininities and the erotic
- Masculinities and the erotic
- Queer erotics
- Erotics and race
- Ageing and the erotic
- Disability and the erotic
- Class identity and the erotic
- Sex industry/sex workers
- Eroticism and androgyny
- Erotic rivalries
- Auto-erotics
- Marriage/motherhood and fatherhood

**Erotic aesthetics, forms and genres**
- Erotics and the spectacular
- The erotic and the tragic
- Erotics and the comic
- Melodrama and the erotic
- Surrealism and the erotic
- Erotics and the pastoral
- Erotics, landscape and *mise en scene*
- The exotic/erotic object
- The erotic city/urban erotics
- Kitsch, camp and erotics

**Erotic encounters, taboos and ‘perversions’**
- Sex work and the sex industry
- Erotic spectatorship and voyeurism
- Hysteria and erotics
- Eroticism, conquest and imperialism
- Pornography
- Fantasy and fetishism
- Erotics and violence
- Erotics, horror and the grotesque

The conference convenors, Dr Jodie Taylor and Dr David Baker, seek proposals for single paper presentations and panel sessions.

For individual paper proposals, please send an abstract of between 150 and 200 words to eroticsconference@griffith.edu.au

For panel sessions proposals, please send an abstract of approximately 300 words and the names of all the panel members to eroticsconference@griffith.edu.au

To assist us with organising submissions, in the subject line of your email please type the word ‘abstract’ and your last name, eg: ‘Abstract Smith’.

The deadline for abstracts is Friday 1st October 2010.

Notification of acceptance will mid October 2010.

For further information, please contact eroticsconference@griffith.edu.au

Please visit www.griffith.edu.au/cpci and follow the link to the Erotics Conference page under the ‘news and events’ link. Details will appear on the conference website as they come to hand.

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS CALL FOR PAPERS TO ANY INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED**