

**MEMORIES OF A MASSACRE: MEMPHIS IN 1866,  
A SYMPOSIUM EXPLORING SLAVERY, EMANCIPATION, AND RECONSTRUCTION**

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS, UNIVERSITY CENTER THEATER (499 UNIVERSITY STREET)  
MAY 20-21, 2016

**PRELIMINARY (TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

**FRIDAY, MAY 20:**

8:45 to 10:15: Slavery and Slave Life in the Mississippi Valley

- Joshua D. Rothman, University of Alabama, "The Cotton Economy and the Rebirth of American Slavery"
- J. Calvin Schermerhorn, Arizona State, "'Cash for Slaves': The African American Trail of Tears"
- Max Grivno, University of Southern Mississippi, "Death on the River: Slavery in the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta"

Moderator: [Madeleine C. Taylor, Executive Director, NAACP Memphis, to be confirmed]

10:30-12:00: Civil War and Emancipation in the Mississippi Valley

- Joseph P. Reidy, Howard University, "Black Soldiers and Sailors: Rebuilding Families and the Nation amidst the Chaos of Civil War in the Mississippi Valley"
- Jim Downs, Connecticut College, "Dying to be Free: The Deadly Consequences of Emancipation"
- John C. Rodrigue, Stonehill College, "From Emancipation to Abolition in Civil-War Tennessee"

Moderator: Femi I Ajanaku, Director, Center for African & African American Studies, LeMoyne-Owen College

12:00-1:00: Lunch

1:00-2:30: Giving Meaning to Freedom

- Susan Eva O'Donovan, University of Memphis, "The Problem of Freedom in the Era of Emancipation"
- Kate Masur, Northwestern University, "Urban Battlegrounds: Reconstruction in Southern Cities"
- Heather Williams, University of Pennsylvania, "We Must Get Education for Ourselves and Our Children: Freedpeople's Advocacy for Education"

Moderator: Ladrica Menson-Furr, Director of African & African American Studies, University of Memphis

#### 2:45-4:15: The Memphis Massacre

- Steven V. Ash, University of Tennessee, "A Massacre in Memphis: May 1866"
- Hannah Rosen, College of William and Mary, "Race, Gender, and Sexual Violence during the Memphis Massacre"
- Andrew Slap, East Tennessee State University, "On Duty in Memphis: Fort Pickering's African American Soldiers"

Moderator: Bobby Lovett, Professor Emeritus, Tennessee State University

#### 6:00-8:00: Keynote Address (reception at 5:30 pm)

- Robert K. Sutton, Chief Historian of the National Park Service, "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of American History: Remembering Reconstruction"

Opening remarks by Ronald A. Walter, President and General Manager, WREG-TV, Memphis

Moderator: Aram Goudsouzian, Chair, Department of History, University of Memphis

### **SATURDAY, MAY 21:**

#### 8:45-10:15: The Radicalization of Reconstruction

- Julie Saville, University of Chicago, "Looking Forward: Reconstruction and the Black Organizing Tradition after Slavery"
- Carole Emberton, SUNY-Buffalo, "'The Violent Bear It Away': White Responses to Black Political Mobilization during Reconstruction"
- Timothy S. Huebner, Rhodes College, "Constitutionalism and Violence in the Era of Reconstruction"

Moderator: Antoinette Van Zelm, Assistant Director for the Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University

#### 10:30-12:00: Remembering Reconstruction

- Cecelia E. O'Leary, Cal-State Monterey Bay, "'Lies Agreed Upon': The Politics of Historical Memory"
- Andre E. Johnson, University of Memphis, "'If I See Next Year': Henry McNeal Turner and the Rhetorical Legacy of Reconstruction"
- Peter R. Gathje, Memphis Theological Seminary, Religion and Reconstruction: Lesson for Today?
- Charles McKinney, Rhodes College, "Reconstruction's Protean Post-Civil Rights Legacy"

Moderator: Steve Masler, Manager of the Exhibit Department, Pink Palace Museum, Memphis