

Yale University

Workshop in Urban Ethnography

Spring 2013

Event and the City



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Robin Wagner-Pacifici is Chair and Professor of Sociology at The New School for Social Research. Previously, she taught at Swarthmore College for over two decades. She is the author of *The Art of Surrender: Decomposing Sovereignty at Conflict's End*, *Theorizing the Standoff: Contingency in Action* (winner of the 2001 American Sociological Association's Culture Section Best Book Award), *Discourse and Destruction: The City of Philadelphia versus MOVE*, and *The Moro Morality Play: Terrorism as Social Drama*.

Event and the City

Events are fundamentally restless, taking shape over time and across space as various constituencies mold them, move them along, or slow them down. My new sociological approach to events aims to track them as restless, unfinished, and unbounded, and to examine the temporary forms in which events live. In tracking the event of September 11, 2001, I have come to understand Lower Manhattan as an "event space." My paper describes this urban landscape as an "event space," and in so doing hopes to simultaneously advance our analytic purchase on events and on urban ethnography.

Lunch Served * * * All Welcome

Monday, January 28, 11:30a-1:20p

210 Prospect Street, Room 203, New Haven

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