

Location of the event:
Université Gustave Eiffel
Bâtiment Copernic
Cité Descartes
5 Boulevard Descartes
Champs-sur-Marne
77454 Marne-la-Vallée Cedex 2
univ-gustave-eiffel.fr

Transport: RER A
Noisy-Champs stop (30 minute ride from Champs-
Elysées RER A stop)
Zoom link: <https://univ-eiffel.zoom.us/j/81998019146>
ID de réunion : 819 9801 9146
Mot de passe : 1T5E4xDM

Wednesday, May 25 2022

Transatlantic Black Queer

Networks

A conversation with

E. Patrick Johnson and Jean-Paul Rocchi



May 25 2022

from 6 to 7 pm

Université Gustave Eiffel

(Bâtiment Copernic, 3rd floor, room 3V071)



Chaired by **Xavier LEMOINE**

Université Gustave Eiffel, LISAA, SEA

Description: This event is a 1 hour conversation between two major scholars in Queer African-American studies from both sides of the Atlantic: Professors Jean-Paul Rocchi and E. Patrick Johnson. It aims at preaching and practicing the dialectics of global networking by crisscrossing various fields (literature, performance studies, and cultural studies) through multiple positionalities (national, regional and global) and epistemologies.

Professor at the Université Gustave Eiffel in Paris, **Jean-Paul ROCCHI** teaches in American studies and African American literature and gay, lesbian, and queer studies. A Fellow of the Du Bois Institute (Harvard, Fall 2007), he has been the Deputy Director of the Graduate School "Cultures et Sociétés" (Université Paris-Est, 2014-20). He has published several essays on James Baldwin and other contemporary black writers, and on race, sexualities, psychoanalysis, and epistemology. He is the author of several edited collections including *L'objet identité: épistémologie et transversalité* (2006), *Dissidence et identités plurielles* (2008), and *L'art de la discipline: disciples, disciplinarité et transdisciplinarité* (2016) published in the e-journal *Quaderna* ([http://](http://quaderna.org/3/)


quaderna.org/3/). He was in 2011 the main organizer of the CAAR Conference "Black States of Desire: Dispossession, Circulation, Transformation" (<http://caar2011.caar-web.org>) from which he has co-edited three collections: *Understanding Blackness through Performance—Contemporary Arts and the Representation of Identity* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2013); *Black Intersectionalities—A Critique for the 21st Century* (Liverpool University Press, 2014); *Black Europe: Subjects, Struggles, and Shifting Perceptions (Palimpsest, A Journal on Women, Gender, and the Black International*, SUNY Press, 2015). In 2016, Jean-Paul Rocchi published the monograph *Ce qui compte, a personal introspection and a study on art, love, and identity*, in the issue *On Contemplation* edited by Myron Beasley for *Liminalities, A Journal of Performance Studies* (<http://liminalities.net/12-2/cequicompte.html>). His anthology of critical essays *The Desiring Modes of Being Black—Literature & Critical Theory* was published with Rowman & Littlefield International in 2018. Jean-Paul Rocchi was a research fellow at the CNRS (the French Center for Scientific Research) in 2019-2021. His last publication is « L'intersectionnalité ou la conceptualisation de la chose vécue » in *Qu'est-ce que l'intersectionnalité - Dominations plurielles: sexe, classe et race*

(Payot & Rivages, 2021) edited by Myriam Boussahba, Emmanuelle Delanoë and Sandeep Bakshi.

E. Patrick JOHNSON is Dean of the School of Communication and Annenberg University Professor of Performance Studies and African American Studies at Northwestern University. He is a 2020 inductee into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Johnson is a prolific performer/scholar, and an inspiring teacher, whose research and artistry has greatly impacted African American studies, Performance Studies, Gender and Sexuality studies. He is the author of *Appropriating Blackness: Performance and the Politics of Authenticity* (2003); *Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South—An Oral History* (2008); *Black. Queer. Southern. Women.—An Oral History* (2018); and *Honeypot: Black Southern Women Who Love Women* (2019), in addition to several edited and co-edited collections, essays, and plays. Johnson's written and performance work dovetail intimately. His staged reading, "Pouring Tea: Black Gay Men of the South Tell Their Tales," has toured to over 100 college campuses since 2006. The full-length stage play, *Sweet Tea—The Play*, premiered in Chicago, toured across 8 other cities, and to the

National Black Theater Festival. Johnson is also among the subjects and co-executive producer of the film, *Making Sweet Tea*, which has received several awards, including Best LGBTQ Film at the San Diego Film Festival, Best Documentary Audience at the Out on Film Festival, and the Silver Image Award from the Association of American Retired Persons (AARP) for Positive Representation of LGBTQ People over Fifty at the Chicago Reeling LGBTQ Film Festival.



The encounter will be followed
by a cocktail
Please register at
xavier.lemoine@univ-eiffel.fr