

THE INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE STUDIES  
IN LITERATURE, ART AND CULTURE WORKSHOP  
Thursday, November 7, 2013 from 4:00 – 5:30  
Carleton University Art Gallery, St. Patricks Building

## **Performing Identities: the representational strategies of Kent Monkman and Sophie Calle**

**Anna Khimasia (Cultural Mediations PhD Candidate)**  
**(Un)framing Life/(Un)framing Fiction**

For his novel, *Leviathan* (1992), American author Paul Auster *borrowed* eight projects from contemporary French artist Sophie Calle, for his fictional character Maria. In her book, *Double Game* (1999), Calle includes the pages from Auster's novel that describe these projects as carried out by the fictional Maria. This paper looks specifically at these pages, which have been annotated by Calle, arguing that Calle's markings not only accentuate this double relationship of art and life, fact and fiction, but serve to problematize the relationship between authorship, origin and truth.

**Professor Penny Cousineau-Levine (University of Ottawa)**

The world of Kent Monkman's alter-ego Miss Chief Eagle Testickle resonates with a dizzying and spectacular array of representations, identifications and counter-identifications. A pastiche of references from pop icon Cher to the First Nations two-spirited Berdache informs Monkman's masquerade, posing questions of cultural appropriation and the redressing of colonial wrongs.