Why We Need a National Lynching Memorial

This talk examines the controversy over a national lynching memorial and argues that how we remember the past is crucial to changing the present and future. The Memorial to Peace and Justice, dedicated to the nation’s thousands of lynching victims, and an accompanying museum on Black history from slavery to mass incarceration opened in Montgomery, Alabama, in the midst of resurgent white nationalism under the Trump presidency, continuing police attacks on Blacks people, debates over immigrants and over Confederate monuments. What is the political basis of white supremacist ideology? What is the role of women in white supremacist ideology? How does the ongoing construction of memory structure a collective way of knowing that affects the ongoing struggles for equality and social justice?

Dora Apel writes about politics, culture, and visual imagery. Her most recent book is Calling Memory into Place, a deeply personal work that explores how memory can be mobilized for social justice and how inherited trauma can be channeled in productive ways. She is the W. Hawkins Ferry Endowed Chair Professor Emerita of Modern and Contemporary Art History at Wayne State University.

Wednesday, December 9, 2020
12:30PM—1:30PM
Join us on Zoom at:
https://wayne-edu.zoom.us/j/91960460512?pwd=TkhRV3grMXlaWW12QzY4eTNmNStWdz09
Zoom Meeting ID: 919 - 6046 - 0512
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