Kale Bantigue Fajardo

Original Goonies: Filipino Workers in Oregon and the Politics of Asian-American History and Queer Studies

This paper focuses on the submerged and forgotten histories of Filipino cannery workers in Astoria, Oregon. Fajardo will discuss his ongoing research in Astoria (and Oregon more broadly), and begin answering the question: “Why is Oregon often overlooked in Asian-American Studies?” He will suggest a trans* methodology that responds to queer indigenous studies’ critiques of US-based queer diaspora studies and to queer-of-color critique.

Kale Bantigue Fajardo is an Associate Professor of Asian/Pacific/American Studies at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. His first book was Filipino Crosscurrents: Oceanographies of Seafaring, Masculinities, and Globalization. His second book project, tentatively titled Chasing Carlos: Filipino/a Masculinities Across Waters, continues the project of decolonizing, queering, and trans*ing Filipino/a masculinities.