This talk explores the poetics of sonic dissent in the work of two of pop’s most influential activist voices: the sisters Beyoncé and Solange Knowles. It explores the visual and literary insurgencies in their respective repertoires while paying close attention to the ways in which each artist draws on a combination of classic protest strategies and new aesthetic lines of resistance that challenge and complicate constructions of 21st century black subjectivities.

Daphne A. Brooks is Professor of African American Studies and Theater Studies at Yale University. She is the author of *Jeff Buckley’s Grace* and *Bodies in Dissent: Spectacular Performances of Race and Freedom, 1850-1910*, winner of The Errol Hill Award for Outstanding Scholarship on African American Performance. Brooks is currently working on a new book entitled *Subterranean Blues: Black Women Sound Modernity*, forthcoming from Harvard University Press.