



## **BLOUSTEIN SCHOOL, AMERICAN STUDIES DEPARTMENT SCHEDULE MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES TO MARK 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11**

The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy and the American Studies Department of Rutgers are co-sponsoring a memorial lecture series this September featuring celebrated author **Angus Kress Gillespie** and photographer **Jonathan Hyman** to mark the fifth anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks.

On **September 11, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.**, Gillespie, a professor of American Studies at Rutgers and the author of the best-selling book, *Twin Towers: The Life of New York City's World Trade Center*, will deliver a lecture on "Rebuilding the World Trade Center." Professor Gillespie will look back over the last five years and tell the story of the struggle to rebuild one of the most important iconic sites in America, the 16 acres where the Twin Towers of New York City's World Trade Center once stood. It is a story not only of politics and architecture, but also of public participation and seemingly endless debate.

On **September 27, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.**, Hyman, an art photographer whose images of Americans in the aftermath of 9/11 will be exhibited by the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation and The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, will deliver an illustrated lecture, entitled, "Visual Response to 9/11." Hyman will explore September 11<sup>th</sup>-related vernacular expression in images of patriotic devotion, grief, and outrage. With emphasis on the murals made after the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, this lecture will present many of the social, political, historical, and artistic issues raised by these artworks.

Both events, free and open to the public, will take place in the **Special Events Forum at the Bloustein School**, located at 33 Livingston Avenue in New Brunswick. Please RSVP by phone to 732.932.3640, ext. 638, or email, [douge@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:douge@rci.rutgers.edu)

## **Angus Kress Gillespie**

A graduate of Yale University and a Fulbright Scholar, Angus Kress Gillespie is professor of American Studies at Rutgers University. In 1999 Rutgers University Press published his book, *Twin Towers: The Life of New York City's World Trade Center*. This unique history covered the complete life of the Twin Towers: the sky-high hopes during their planning and construction, the years during which they stood at the pinnacle of the Manhattan skyline, their symbolic meaning to the city, the nation, and the world. The book was well reviewed but enjoyed only modest sales; however, after the events of 9/11/01, *Twin Towers* became a *New York Times* Bestseller. Professor Gillespie appeared on National Public Radio, *Good Morning America*, and *Larry King Live*. The following year, in 2002, *Twin Towers* was republished in an updated paperback edition with a new chapter and photographs.

## **Jonathan Hyman**

For many years prior to the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, Jonathan Hyman had worked as an art photographer with an interest in contemporary American popular culture. In the immediate aftermath of the attacks of September 11, 2001, he took the initiative to travel the East Coast and parts of the Midwest to photograph the wide variety of ways that Americans expressed themselves through art. Realizing that the grass roots American response to the 9/11 attacks was by its very nature an ephemeral one and, realizing there was no time to lose, Hyman, without government or foundation grants, set out as an independent photographer on a five-year documentary project. To date, on his own time and at his own expense he has taken 15,000 photographs. Now on the fifth anniversary of the attacks, Hyman's belief in the importance of this work has been confirmed by two large solo exhibitions of his work. The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia will host an exhibition of 100 photographs and the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation will exhibit 65 of his works at the new 7 World Trade Center. Both exhibits open in early September of 2006.