

THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH HONORS COLLEGE,
UPMC HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION, HUMANITIES CENTER,
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE,
AND GLOBAL STUDIES PROGRAM, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF
ANTHROPOLOGY, AND GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM,
- P R E S E N T -

Race, Sex, and Human Evolution

A three-part lecture series exposing biases that underlie the study of our evolutionary past

Centuries before fossils were accepted as being extinct human relatives, the conception of human history was based on a Great Chain of Being that not only identified numerous human races, but arranged them and males and females within them hierarchically, from the “lowest” to the “highest”. The discovery in 1857 of the first Neanderthal was seen as providing evolutionary evidence of a racial and sexual hierarchy. Indeed, in *The Descent of Man* (1871), Charles Darwin wrote at length about the evolution of “civilized” from “primitive, barbaric” humans, a notion that, in various incarnations, still informs interpretations of human evolution. This lecture series will challenge preconceived notions of race and sex from the perspectives of an artist who will discuss how, with an unbiased eye, extinct humans – male and female – would have looked, an historian of science who will deconstruct the traditional concepts of “female” and “male”, and an evolutionary biologist who will bring biology into the discussion of “race”.



Original flesh: what did extinct humans really look like?

JANUARY 26, 8:00 PM - FRICK FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

MS. ELISABETH DAYNÈS
DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER, ATELIER DAYNÈS, PARIS



The descent of women: gender issues in human evolution

FEBRUARY 16, 8:00 PM - FRICK FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

CLAUDINE COHEN
DIRECTOR, BIOLOGY AND SOCIETY STUDIES ÉCOLE PRATIQUE DES HAUTES ETUDES, PARIS



Race and the bio-politics of human ancestry

MARCH 2, 8:00 PM - FRICK FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

JONATHAN MARKS
DEPT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA-CHARLOTTE

All lectures are free and open to the public!

