The Wolfe Institute

The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,
in cooperation with the Hitchcock Institute for Studies in American Music
and the American Studies Program at Brooklyn College,
presents

Music in Polycultural America Speaker Series

Blowzy Women and Spineless Men?
Doris Humphrey and Vivian Fine’s *The Race of Life*

Rachel Lumsden, CUNY Graduate Center, is a Chancellor’s Fellow at the CUNY Graduate Center, where she is pursuing a Ph.D. in music theory and the Certificate in Women’s Studies.

Vivian Fine’s first full-length composition for dance, *The Race of Life* (1937), was written for modern dance pioneer Doris Humphrey, and is loosely based on a series of cartoons by James Thurber from the early 1930s. The talk will address how this work creates a space in which Fine and Humphrey use humor as a means of destabilizing traditional gender roles, as well as calling traditional categories of gender themselves into question.

Wednesday, April 25, 2012
2:15 to 3:30 p.m.
Alumni Lounge
Brooklyn College Student Center
Campus Road and East 27th Street

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