The Wolfe Institute

The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities
presents

A Frederic Ewen Lecture in Civil Liberties and Academic Freedom

Chelsea Manning, National Security Whistleblowing, and the Duties of Imperial Ignorance

The largest leak of classified documents in US history—by Iraq soldier Private Chelsea Manning through Wikileaks to every major media outlet—demands a searching audit of the costs and liabilities of state secrecy. Does runaway over-classification bring greater security or merely the dangers of ignorance? What was the role of government secrecy in the decision to invade Iraq in 2003, or in the invasion of South Vietnam a generation earlier? When 1.4 million people hold top-secret security clearances, what does secrecy even mean? Is ignorance of foreign wars a privilege, a duty, a vice, or a security risk?

Chase Madar is a former civil rights attorney and the author of The Passion of Chelsea Manning: The Story behind the Wikileaks Whistleblower (Verso). He writes about foreign affairs and domestic criminal justice for the London Review of Books, Le Monde diplomatique, the New York Times, Guardian, the National Interest, The Nation, the American Conservative, Jacobin, TLS, TomDispatch, among other venues.

Monday, December 5, 2016
3:40 to 4:55 p.m.
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library

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