

The Wolfe Institute

*The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,
in cooperation with the Department of History,
presents*

What Gandhi Says



Finkelstein will speak on what Gandhi actually meant by nonviolent resistance, and the practical application of his ideas in the world today.

Mantena will address how even in his own time, Gandhi's politics were consistently met with a curious mix of admiration and disavowal. His closest associates in the nationalist struggle expressed reticence for various aspects of Gandhi's ideology while clinging at the same time to what they took to be politically useful – his personal authority and his tactics for resistance and mobilization. This paradox of appropriation and disavowal was especially acute in relation to one of the central pillars of Gandhi's political imagination: the constructive program. She will talk about Gandhi's investment in constructive work and the faultlines it engendered within Congress politics.

Norman Finkelstein received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in politics (1988). He is the author of eight books, which have been translated into more than forty foreign editions, most recently, *Knowing too Much: Why the American Jewish Romance with Israel is Coming to an End* (2012), and *What Gandhi Says: About Nonviolence, Resistance and Courage* (2012).

Karuna Mantena is associate professor of political science at Yale University. She holds a B.Sc. in economics and in international relations from the London School of Economics (1995), an M.A. in ideology and discourse analysis from the University of Essex (1996), and a Ph.D. in government from Harvard University (2004). Her research interests include modern political thought, modern social theory, the theory and history of empire, and South Asian politics and history. Her first book, *Alibis of Empire: Henry Maine and the Ends of Liberal Imperialism* (2010), analyzed the transformation of nineteenth-century British imperial ideology. Her current work focuses on political realism and the political thought of M.K. Gandhi.

Thursday, November 8, 2012
3:40 to 4:55 p.m.
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library

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