The Archives & Special Collections unit of the Library is pleased to host a series of Author Talks to give College of Staten Island authors an opportunity to discuss their book-length publications.

Rev. Dr. Kathleen M. Cumiskey • Department of Psychology

Rev. Dr. Cumiskey’s latest book focuses on the role of mobile media in managing grief and loss practices. She draws on cross-cultural case studies of mobile media use in and around personal and public rituals of mourning and brings together cultural studies and psychological approaches to explore the nascent but highly important field of mobile media practices in and around loss.

Timothy Gray • Department of English
**It’s Just the Normal Noises.** University of Iowa Press, 2017.

Roots rock, Americana, alt country: what are they and why do they matter? Americans have been trying to answer these questions for as long as the music bearing these labels has existed. Taking a personal approach to the subject matter, Gray reads criticism and listens to music as though rock ‘n’ roll not only explains American culture, but also shores up his life. This book is for everyone who’s heard in roots rock the sound of an individual and a nation singing themselves into being.

Susan Smith-Peter • Department of History
**Imagining Russian Regions.** Brill, 2017.

Susan Smith-Peter shows how ideas of civil society encouraged the growth of subnational identity in Russia before 1861. Adam Smith and G.W.F. Hegel’s ideas of civil society influenced Russians and the resulting plans to stimulate the growth of civil society also formed subnational identities. By 1861, these non-noble and noble publics would come together to form a multi-estate provincial civil society whose promise was not fulfilled due to the decision of the government to keep the peasant estate institutionally separate.

Miguel Aragón • Department of Performing and Creative Arts

In 2015, Prof. Aragón created a large installation at the Historisch-Technisches Museum (Peenemünde) and an exhibit at Till Richter Museum (Buggenhagen), both in Germany, exploring the history of the Nazi-era slave labor missile research center at Peenemünde. Both exhibitions were collaborations with artist Gregorio Iglesias Mayo. Aragón created cyanotype prints, using site-specific materials to burn images into a blank medium, appreciating the parallel between the fading of the image or decay of the materials and fading memories.

This event is a CC CLUE event