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"States and Performative Power: Notes on violence and non-violence in the early American republic"

Isaac Ariail Reed, University of Virginia

What is performative power? Via a historical study of the early American republic, this paper considers performances of sovereignty as a form of state-making particularly suited to crisis, and as a route to legitimacy that relies on timing and exceptionality. This leads to broader reflections on power, performance, and the relationship between culture and political economy in social theory.

Friday, February 10th **4:00PM-6:00PM** **PSA Building Room 114**

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