Beyond the Binary: Rethinking Sex, Brain, and Gender
with Dr. Daphna Joel, Professor in the School of Psychological Sciences and
Sagol School of Neuroscience, Tel-Aviv University, Israel

Wednesday, September 13 | 6:00 p.m.
In-person event | Bush Memorial, Russell Sage College Troy Campus

Live streamed via the RSC YouTube channel

The idea of gender is undergoing a revolution, as unconventional gender behaviors gain in acceptance. At the same time, however, virtually every societal move away from the gender binary—such as permitting gender-neutral designations on various documents—triggers a corresponding backlash. These controversies bring to the fore a centuries-old question: how far do the sex categories extend into the human brain and mind? Join us for a fascinating discussion based on Dr. Joel's groundbreaking research on the relations between sex, the brain, and gender.

Wild Women of Oakwood Historic Cemetery Tour
with Rensselaer County Historian Kathy Sheehan

Friday, October 20 | 3:00 p.m.
In-person event | Oakwood Cemetery, Troy NY

We are pleased to offer this tour led by Rensselaer County Historian Kathy Sheehan. She will lead us to the gravesites of women who were movers and shakers in Rensselaer county’s history. These women were a force to be reckoned with — suffragists, philanthropists, and even a clairvoyant physician! This tour will also include a stop at the historic chapel and crematorium and light refreshments.

Limited to 30 people; sign up early to reserve your spot! Cost: $20.00 per person.

Séance exhibit | Opalka Gallery
October 31 - December 9 | Russell Sage College Albany campus
Visit https://opalka.sage.edu/ for gallery hours

‘One of the Best Photobooks of 2019’ — TIME

For the past twenty years artist Shannon Taggart (born 1975) has documented Spiritualist practices and communities in the United States, England, and Europe. The resulting body of work, Séance, examines Spiritualism’s relationship with human celebrity, its connections to art, science, technology, and politics, and its intrinsic bond with the medium of photography. Presented in partnership with the Opalka Gallery at Russell Sage College.

Organized by the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, in collaboration with the Pensacola Museum of Art.

Friday, November 3 | 5:30-8:00 p.m. | In-person event
Shannon Taggart artist talk and reception
Shannon will share stories and pictures from twenty years of photographing mediumship, explaining how two decades of investigation developed into the book Séance (Fulgur Press 2019, Atelier Éditions 2022). Spiritualism’s influence on art, technology, and politics, its relationship with celebrity spirits, and the religion’s intrinsic bond with photography will be part of the discussion. The artist talk begins at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 4 | 2:00 p.m. | In-person event
Conversation on the intersection between Spiritualism, Feminism, and Art
Join us for an illuminating conversation on the intersection between Spiritualism, Feminism, and Art between photographer Shannon Taggart and Dr. Ann Braude, Director of Women’s Studies in Religion, Harvard Divinity School.

For more information visit http://sage.edu/TheWomensInstitute or call 518-244-2442.