

Socialism 2009

San Francisco July 2-5 ★ Building a New Left for a New Era

Thursday, July 2

8:00pm - 9:30pm

Marx in Soho • *Play by Howard Zinn, performed by Brian Jones, introduced by comedian and author Mark Steel*

Women in Sports: Fighting for Equality On and Off the Field • *Dave Zirin, Elizabeth Terzakis, and Dana Blanchard*

The Decline and Fall of California: How the Golden State Lost Its Shine • *Mike Davis*

Friday, July 3

9:30am - 11:00am

40 Acres and a Mule? What Went Wrong? The Rise and Fall of Radical Reconstruction • *James Illingworth*

Death to the State: Can Anarchism Smash Capitalism? • *David Russitano*

How Capitalism Works—And How It Doesn't: The ABC's of Marxist Economics • *Deborah Goldsmith*

The Roots of Women's Oppression: The History of Sexism • *Gillian Russom*

Eye-witness to the 1979 Iranian Revolution • *Barry Sheppard*

11:30am - 1:00pm

Students, Young Workers and Capitalism: How Can We Get the Future We Want? • *James Bichler, Seattle Central Community College; Wael Elasad, Portland State University; Laura Martinez, Mt. San Antonio College; Adam Hudson, Stanford University; Tayler Mehit, San Francisco State University*

Can Socialism Liberate the Oppressed? • *Jesse Hagopian*

Emiliano Zapata and the Mexican Revolution • *Victor Fressie*

Lenin's State and Revolution • *Todd Chretien*

How Eugene Debs Became a Socialist • *Jessica Hansen-Weaver*

1:00pm - 2:00pm Lunch

2:00pm - 3:30pm

The Roots of Racial Oppression: Why Didn't Racism Vanish After Slavery was Abolished? • *Sid Patel*

The General Strikes of 1934: San Francisco, Minneapolis and Toledo. What Can We Learn Today? • *Sharon Smith*

What Would a Sustainable Society Look Like? • *Avery Wear and Michael Yates*

10 Days that Shook the World: How the Russian Revolution Was Won • *Christine DaRosa*

Political Art in a New Era • *Dave Zirin and Jeff Chang*

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Three Strikes, the Death Penalty, "Tough on Crime:" Is It Time to Abolish Prisons? • *Barbara Becnel and Cameron Sturdevant*

Trading in Pollution: Environmental Destruction & the Fallacy of Market Solutions • *Jeffrey St. Clair*

Charlie Chaplin: Never Afraid to Stand Up • *Scott Johnson*

How are Revolutionary Parties Built? • *Ahmed Shawki*

Venezuela: The Bolivarian Revolution and Socialism in the 21st Century • *Martin Sanchez*

5:30pm - 7:00pm Dinner

Stand Up Dinner Comedy and Politics with Mark Steel on the Life of Che Guevara

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Prop 8 is Going Down! Winning Gay Marriage in California • *Sherry Wolf with Gay Marriage activists from up and down the West Coast, including: Kip Williams, San Francisco; Chanan Suarez Diaz, Seattle; Zakiya Khahir, San Diego; and more to come!*



Amy Goodman



Brian Jones



Nora Barrows-Friedman



John Pilger



Sherry Wolf



Jess Ghannam



Justin Akers-Chacón



Rose Aguilar



Dennis Brutus

Saturday, July 4

9:30am - 11:00am

The Revolutionary Ideas of Charles Darwin: Is Capitalism Natural? • *Andy Libson*

Luxemburg's Reform or Revolution • *Doniella Maher*

The Communist Party in the 1930s: How the Left Organized in the Great Depression • *Adam Sanchez*

James Connolly and the Irish Revolution • *Alessandro Tinonga*

Sexuality and Socialism • *Sharon Smith*

11:30am - 1:00pm

Class Traitor or Capitalism's Savior? Roosevelt and the New Deal • *Lance Selfa*

How the South African Working Class Defeated Apartheid • *Patrick Bond*

Immigration Reform: Ideas from the Frontlines • *Enrique Morones, David Bacon and Justin Akers-Chacón*

Haiti and the Myth of Humanitarian Intervention • *John Green*

Empire and Obama: Power, Illusion, and America's Last Taboo • *John Pilger*

1:00pm - 2:00pm Lunch

Intro to the ISO: Everything You Need to Know to Join the ISO • *Leela Yellesetty*

2:00pm - 3:30pm

The Economic Crisis: How Bad Will It Get? • *Joel Geier*

The Seattle General Strike • *Darrin Hoop*

The Struggle for Palestine • *Jess Ghannam, Nora Barrows-Friedman and Ahmed Shawki*

What Should Public Education Look Like: Radical Pedagogy or Charter Schools & Teaching to the Test • *Adrienne Johnstone and Sarah Knopp*

Socialism: Do you mean Sweden? What is Social Democracy? • *Randy Childs*

4:00pm - 5:30pm

Social Unionism: Putting the Movement back in the Labor Movement • *Brian Cruz, David Rapkin, and Michael Yates*

30 Years Since the Nicaraguan Revolution • *Steve Leigh*

The Border Crossed Us: Immigration and the Nation State in the 21st Century • *Nativo Lopez and Roger Dyer*

Do We Need an Anti-War Movement Under Obama? • *Cindy Sheehan and Anthony Arnove*

Principles of Communism and the Communist Manifesto • *Kurt Krueger*

5:30pm - 7:00pm Dinner

Mark Steel's July 4th Dinner Stand Up Tribute to Tom Paine

7:00pm - 9:00pm

Oscar Grant, San Francisco 8 and the History of Political Repression in America • *Richard Brown, Dana Blanchard, and Jack Bryson*

Afghanistan: Obama's Vietnam? • *Christian Parenti*

Media as a Weapon: Speaking Truth to Power • *Alan Maass, Rose Aguilar, John Pilger, and Tim Harris*

The Real Lenin • *Paul D'Amato*

Sunday, July 5

9:30am - 11:00am

The Economic Crisis and the New Imperialism • *Lee Sustar*

How the German Revolution Was Lost and Paved the Way for Hitler • *Amanda Maystead*

Trotsky on the United Front • *Andrea Hektor*

Socialism: Utopian and Scientific • *Rachel Wilsey*

The Radical Roots of the Civil Rights Movement • *Brian Jones*

11:30am - 1:00pm

Rebelling Against Racism: The Black Power Revolt of the 1960s • *Keeanga-Yahmatta Taylor*

Will Socialism Eliminate Sexism? • *Jessie Muldoon*

What Would Socialism Look Like? • *Ragina Johnson*

From Degenerated Workers' State to a New Class Society: Theories of Stalin's Russia • *Elizabeth Terzakis*

One State, Two States: How Can Palestinian Liberation be Achieved? • *Sam Bernstein and Nick Kardahji*

1:30pm - 3:00pm

The Return of Socialism: Final Rally • *Sharon Smith and others*



Barbara Becnel



Clarence Thomas



Todd Chretien



Sharon Smith



Cindy Sheehan



Nativo Lopez



Sarah Knopp



Jeremy Scahill



Martin Sanchez