Course Description: A prime mission of this class will be to introduce students to a diverse variety of contemporary types of art practice and encourage each participant to become comfortable with engaging artistic forms as well as assessing artistic and cultural value. Themes covered will include issues of race, class, gender, tribal sovereignty and formal artistic forms of expression. This course utilizes readings, artist DVDs, studio visits, and museum/gallery field trips. Professor Heap of Birds has attended the Royal College of Art in London, exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art-New York and lectures widely in Asia, Africa, Canada, and USA.