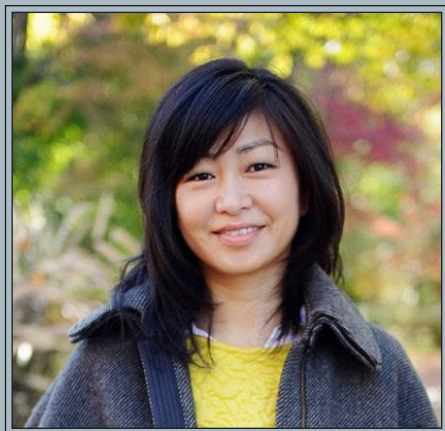


The Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society (CRRES)
presents

Envisioning Freedom

Cinema and the Building of Modern Black Life

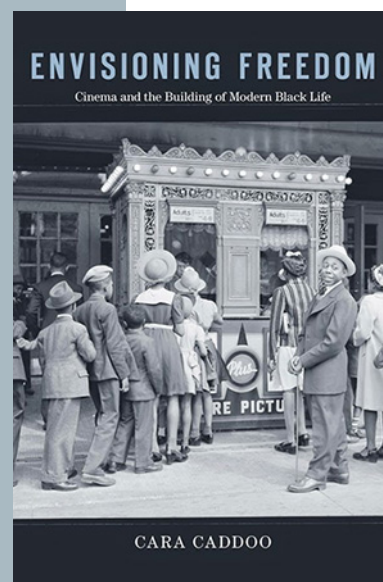


Cara Caddoo

Department of American Studies
Indiana University

Thursday, February 26, 2015
Persimmon Room, Indiana Memorial Union
4:00-5:30pm

Viewing turn-of-the-century African American history through the lens of cinema, my book *Envisioning Freedom* examines the forgotten history of early black film exhibition during the era of mass migration and Jim Crow. As pioneers of cinema from the 1890s to the 1920s, itinerant black film exhibitors traveled across the same railways that structured turn-of-the century migration. They presented films in churches, lodges, and schools, which raised money and created shared social experiences for black urban communities. By embracing the new medium of moving pictures, black Americans forged a collective—if fraught—culture of freedom.



Cara Caddoo, Assistant Professor of American Studies at Indiana University, is the author of *Envisioning Freedom: Cinema and the Building of Modern Black Life* (Harvard UP, 2014). She has recently been awarded an NEH Faculty Fellowship that will allow her to focus on her project “The History of Early African American Cinema.”