



# “If You Should Lose Me’: The Archive, the Critic, the Record Shop & the Blues Woman”

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This talk examines the problem of iconic blues women who’ve been “lost” to history, Geeshie Wiley and Elvie Thomas, as well as the critics who’ve loved and chased after them. By placing the politics of queer archival studies and black performance theory in conversation with canonical blues historiographies, the talk will explore the aesthetics and cultural resonances of Wiley and Thomas’s rare recordings. It aims as well to trace a black feminist counter-history of record collecting and listening publics in order to tell a different story of blues lives that mattered.

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Ways of Seeing: Movements,  
Migrations, Diasporas

Tuesday, March 20th

7 pm

Tishman Auditorium  
Bennington College