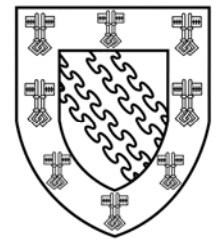


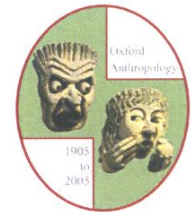
Exeter College  
in association with the



Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology  
University of Oxford



The Marett Memorial  
Lecture of 2008 will be  
delivered by



Professor Sherry Ortner  
(Univ of California)

INDIE PRODUCERS:  
CLASS AND THE PRODUCTION OF VALUE  
IN THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT FILM SCENE

The anthropology of media, including especially film, is a rapidly growing specialty in American anthropology. Thinking to follow in the footsteps of Hortense Powdermaker (*Hollywood the Dream Factory*, 1950), I set off to study contemporary Hollywood, a world of big studios and almost obscenely expensive films. I soon discovered a sort of anti-Hollywood, the world of independent filmmaking. While there has always been a small anti-Hollywood avant-garde in American filmmaking, it has never been able to garner sizable audiences. The present scene of independent film production, by contrast, has taken off and has begun to capture significant audiences and significant recognition in the press. This paper explores the takeoff of independent film, focusing especially on changes in the American class structure and on the class positionality of independent film producers.

Friday 25 April 2008

5.00 pm Saskatchewan Room, Exeter College  
followed by drinks at 6.00 pm