Twelve-month awards on the Annual Theme, Labour

From the labour of childbirth to the travail of making a living, human beings are labouring animals who derive meaning and experience meaninglessness in work. Historically, human creativity has long flourished both through and against labour-saving technologies. In a globalizing and climate-changing world, rising nationalist movements call for the fortification of borders that would stop seasonal flows of labour, while women call for pay equity and harassment-free workplaces to allow for the freedom to work in peace. In a world of increasingly precarious labour, thanks in part to automation, what does the future of work portend for both people and the planet? What forms of resistance are possible when workers face both the irrelevance of their labour and its exploitation?

Seth Bernard, FAS Classics
“At the Origins of Roman Labour: The Making of a Slave Society in Italy, 500-200 BCE”

Urvashi Chakravarty, UTSC English
“’From Fairest Creatures’: Race, Reproduction and Slavery in the Early Modern British Atlantic World”

Emily Nacol, UTM Political Science
“Reimagining Labour: The Politics of Risk and Blame in Early Modern Britain”

Eric Jennings, FAS History
“Vanilla Labourers: 1841-2000”

Six-month awards

Dmitry Anastakis, FAS History and Rotman School of Management
“Neoliberalism and its Discontents: A Canadian History”

Beth Coleman, UTM Institute for Communications, Culture, Information & Technology
“Thinking the Limits: AI Unbound”

Robert McGill, FAS English
“Simple Creatures: Minimalist Living and Constrained Writing”

Srilata Raman, FAS Study of Religion
“Dalit Vedanta”

James Retallack, FAS History
“August Bebel: Labour, Class, and Social Democracy in a Global Age, 1840-1913”

Naomi Seidman, FAS Study of Religion and Diaspora & Transnational Studies
“Performing Orthodox Jewish Girlhood”