During her difficult childhood, Esther Newton recalls that she “became an anti-girl, a girl refusenik, caught between genders,” and that her “child body was a strong and capable instrument stuffed into the word ‘girl.’” Later, in early adulthood, as she was on her way to becoming a trailblazing figure in gay and lesbian studies, she “had already chosen higher education over the strongest passion in my life, my love for women, because the two seemed incompatible.”

In My Butch Career Newton tells the compelling, disarming, and at times sexy story of her struggle to write, teach, and find love, all while coming to terms with her identity during a particularly intense time of homophobic persecution in the twentieth century.

Co-sponsored by WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES and the CENTER FOR LGBTQ STUDIES (CLAGS)

ESTHER NEWTON is a founder of and leading scholar in LGBTQ studies. She has taught at Purchase College of the State University of New York, the University of Paris VII, Paris, France and the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor). She was active in Second Wave Feminism, Gay Liberation and the Lesbian/Feminist movements.

Unless otherwise noted, colloquia take place 4:15 to 6 pm in rm. C415A (concourse level) at the Graduate Center, CUNY. Refreshments follow in the Brockway Room (6402). For more information visit: gc.cuny.edu/anthropology