

Christopher Lebron

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Race, Injustice, and the Burden of Hope

Abstract: All political societies rely on the idea of hope. Hope is the basic idea that though the future is uncertain, one holds on the possibility that things will eventually improve. Christopher Lebron argues that under many circumstances, hope is a rational and reasonable attitude for people to embrace. Yet, the persistence of racism and injustice in America make hope an especially burdened attitude for black Americans, and that, yet, blacks cannot afford to give up on hope.

Bio: Chris Lebron is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Johns Hopkins University. He specializes in political philosophy, social theory, the philosophy of race, and democratic ethics. His first book, *The Color of Our Shame: Race and Justice In Our Time* (OUP 2013) won the American Political Science Association Foundations of Political Theory First Book Prize. His second book *The Making of Black Lives Matter: A Brief History of An Idea* (OUP 2017) offers a brief intellectual history of the black lives matter social movement. Chris has also been an active public intellectual, writing numerous times for *The New York Times's* philosophy column, *The Stone*, *Boston Review*, *The Nation* and most recently, *The Atlantic*. His next major book project is an ambitious overlapping intellectual history of the work and times of James Baldwin, Malcolm X and Audre Lorde.

Thursday, October 11
4 – 6 pm

Chernoff Hall, Room 117

90 Bader Lane • Queen's University

Followed by light refreshments at the University Club

Free Admission • Everybody Welcome

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