Abstract: Professor Newman will be talking about the fact that over the last 10 years Karl Marx has emerged as a pop-icon across genres and across the globe; Marx’s image can be found on t-shirts, coffee mugs, memes, garden gnomes sold on Etsy, and on piggy banks. Newman will explain why Marx has emerged as a Apop-icon, and she will be taking a closer look at a handful of international artists, who, unbeknownst to each other, have been using Marx’s image and Marx’s Das Kapital in their work.

Presenter bio: Kathy M. Newman is Associate Professor of Literary and Cultural Studies at Carnegie Mellon where she writes about the history of mass culture in the US with an emphasis on representation and social change. She is currently finishing a book on 1950s labor films, titled, How the Fifties Worked: Mass Culture and the Decade the Unions Made. This spring Newman is also curating an art show that critically examines Marx and capitalism in the lead up to the 200th birthday of Karl Marx in May 2018. You can read more about it at http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/humanities-center/

The Art of Das Kapital: Why Contemporary Artists Are Turning to Marx

Presented by:
Kathy Newman
Berger Gallery (CH 207)
March 1, 2008, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.