

## If you missed out this is what went down at the “Queer Hemisphere: América Cuir Conference”



Sayak Valencia explores the politics of survival and the alliances of the trans/border/messtizx/sissy/lesbian/dressed/slut-fag/cripple. The word “cuir” represents a defamiliarization—or *ostranenie*—of “queer,” which challenges automatic reading and registers, through its unfamiliarity, a geopolitical inflection southward and from the peripheries. Countering colonial epistemology and Anglo-American historiography, *cuir* invokes a space of decolonialized enunciation, at once playful and critical.



## Allen Magaña



In 2006, the brutal murder of Gisberta Salce Júnior shocked all of Portuguese society. As it was reported, Gisberta, a Brazilian migrant trans woman with HIV+ status who also engaged in sex work, was assassinated on February 22, 2006, in Porto, Portugal, by a group of 14 teenagers, between the ages of 12 and 16, who tortured her for 3 days and finally threw her still alive into a well where she drowned (Filho, 2016). Later, the media claimed that during the trial the boys said they committed these acts “for fun” and had no intention of murdering her. The merciless brutality of this act, and the many identity categories that would later be conferred upon the victim, forced a fierce public debate. The murder of Gisberta served as a new turning point for the LGBTIQ community of Portugal and gave the opportunity for critical reflection on LGBTIQ rights discourses of the time. I explore consumption of Brazilian culture in Portuguese society to examine what implications can be gleaned for queer “modernity” in Portugal, and whether this can be read as an equitable exchange in a “Trans-Atlantic” sense, and if there may be any potential danger of recreating a colonial style relation.

## Anna Wald



### “Thinking Hemispherically in Muñozian Terms”

José Esteban Muñoz’s work continues to be utilized and expanded upon in fields such as disability studies, performance studies and queer theory. How can we understand Muñoz as a queer hemispheric theorist? If we consider Hemispheric Studies to encompass (and surpass) American, Caribbean and Latin American Studies, what do we lose to the loss of field specialization, and what do we gain by thinking hemispherically? As a Cuban-born American scholar, we see that often Muñoz’s work is subsumed under Latin American and Performance Studies rather than from a Caribbean Studies position. I am interested in looking at the intersection of queer of color critique and queer hemispheric discourse as it continues to build off Muñoz’s definitions of disidentifications and queer futurity. By looking at four different articles that pay direct homage to Muñozian theories in the period shortly after his death, I will examine the discourse surrounding queer of color critique, and queer hemispheric critique.





Jordan Victorian



## "Approaching Sex and *Love Under Cuban Skies*: The Erotics of Tourism-Related Sex and Blackness"

The Caribbean forms an alluring picture in the American cultural imaginary, their popular images tied to the tourism industry and the promise of "getaways." But the escapist pleasures of the area Caribbean include not just beaches and landscapes, but Caribbean people, bodies, and sexuality. In this paper I focus on on site of such pleasures: tourism-related sex on the island of Cuba. To do so, I turn to the Doc Zone documentary *Love Under Cuban Skies* (2016) along with scholarship on tourism-related sex in Cuba and the Caribbean. These sources highlight how Cubans engage in sexual and romantic behavior with Cuban tourists for many reasons and to various ends. How might these (quasi-)sex tourism encounters complicate US-centric notions of sexuality, particularly considering transactional sex? How does tourism involve transnational circulation of discourse, scholarship, and even pleasure? Pursuing a queer hemispheric analytic, I examine analysis and representation of tourism-related sexual/affective labor in Cuba-including the various racial and gender dynamics, affective and material processes, and motivations that underlie tourist encounters.

João Gabriel Rabello Sodré



## "Fragile Alliances: Challenges to Queer Spaces in Brazil."

This paper analyzed the shift from a progressive Brazilian context to a more conservative one. Emerging from a dictatorship in the 1980s, Brazil adopted a progressive constitution in 1988, as well as progressive measures in the following 25 years, such as the recognition of gay marriage and the rendering of free services to trans populations (surgical and non-surgical) through its public health system. However, in the past years, conservative movements have become more visible and those collectives have been targeting queer spaces and debates. In 2017, protests fostered by the right-leaning Free Brazil Movement (MBL), were formed against three events: the Queermuseu arts exhibition in Porto Alegre, a performance at São Paulo's Museum of Modern Art and a conference where Judith Butler was one of the guest speakers, also in the city of São Paulo. In all three occasions, demonstrators demanded the shut down of the events or threatened the artists and intellectuals involved, claiming that such events would threaten children and morals. Through this paper, I attempted to track the origins of this conservative trend.

## Amoni Thompson



How can we explore the possibility of a Black girl pleasure dynamic that is not systematically tied to the state? In this present moment, Black girlhood scholars are having serious discourse around sexuality and agency as it relates to Black girlhood and whether the two can coexist. Using a hip-hop feminist analytic, my paper thinks through the ways Stallings' conceptualization of a Black Ratchet Imagination expand the contemporary discourse concerning Black girlhood, sexuality, and the possibility of a radical imaginary that Black girl pleasure practices might invoke.

## Leila Zonouzi



### **"Queering the Nation: Diaspora and It's Destabilizing Potential"**

In it, I argued that diaspora as a concept queers the nation and destabilizes what the nation-state project projects. I provided grounds for that by examining diaspora and nation-state through dichotomies of homogeneity vs. heterogeneity, fixity vs. mobility, purity vs. hybrid and mix, and original vs. copy. I used examples of the Iranian Diaspora to talk through these dichotomies and express how I think this diaspora is queering the Iranian nation-state.

## Allison Pierce



### **"Zona de Resistancia: Colonialism, Agency, and the Photograph."**

"Inside a former boxing museum in a large 18<sup>th</sup> century building in Mexico City sits Casa Xochiquetzal, a shelter founded by former sex worker Carmen Muñoz for elderly current and former sex workers who would otherwise be sleeping on the streets. In *The Women of Casa X*, Malcolm Venville published photographic portraits of the residents, all current or former sex workers between the ages of fifty and ninety, almost all nude against a blue-gray backdrop. In this paper, I illustrate how Venville's project engages in a colonial photographic tradition in which the camera becomes a tool of dehumanization and the bodies of sex workers are essentialized and they are imagined as having no agency. In the face of this colonizing gaze, however, the women of Casa Xochiquetzal gaze back, navigate and reject the boundaries placed upon them, and reconfigure the relationship between viewer and subject through their poses."

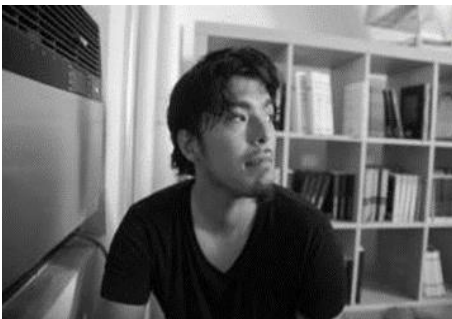
**Pedro Craveiro**



## **Reframing women's rights and queer erotica in Angélica Freitas and Rafael Mantovani**

In Brazil, the rate of femicide is 4,8 to 100,000 women - the fifth largest in the world, according to data from the World Health Organization (WHO). Apart from this serious social problem, Brazil is facing one of the most tremendous rates in terms of crime against LGBTQ+ community. These numbers are given by the Gay Group of Bahia, that annually publishes the Report of *LGBT Murders* in Brazil. The questions raised in the paper are: what is being done in order to address these statistics? How does Brazilian Literature respond to these issues? Is it possible to raise social awareness through Literature? Focusing on two different poetic œuvres: Angélica Freitas' *Um útero é do tamanho de um punho* (A womb is the size of a fist), and Rafael Mantovani's *Cão* (Dog). *Um útero é do tamanho de um punho* (2012) is now getting the attention it deserves. The book deals with women's rights issues, such as abortion, female body or female rape, using the voice of a man to deconstruct sexist arguments and voices. On the other hand, *Cão*(2012) expresses a *queer erotica* and challenges hegemonic poetic styles and attempts to go beyond the editorial circles manipulated by the straight male writers in Brazil. Through these two pieces, it might be able to see some of the answers poetry offers to the readers, and which strategies are being used in order to resist and subvert an extremely religious heteropatriarchal society.

**George Ygarza**



## **Resistance in Rituals and Existence: Criollo Sexual Fragility, Land, and Andean Third Genders**

This paper takes off from places of contention and spaces of denial by broadening the analysis of the postcolonial biopolitics of Criollo fragility through critical and radical interventions brought about at the intersections of decolonial, queer, indigenous and feminist theory. Exploring and analyzing the reactionary biopolitics of the institutionalized logics of the settler colonial criollo state against certain bodies, such as the body of particular subjects, collectivities, and spatialities, their imposed queered tropes - that incorporates their performativities and alterpolitics - expose the fragility of the criollo state's sexualities.

# LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES



Lorena Wolffer will discuss her experiences producing *Citizen Affects/Afectxs ciudadanxs*. This participatory cultural interventions project is focused on the affects that cross, regulate, and define women, queer, and non-normative individuals in our interaction with others and with the power structures that surround and legislate us.





## UPCOMING UCSB EVENTS

### Violence, Memory, and History Conference Registration

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

This conference, to be held at the University of California, Santa Barbara on May 18th, 2018, aims to bring together graduate students of any discipline working on Latin America in southern California and beyond. It will have as its theme Violence, Memory, and History, broadly defined, but we will also consider papers on other subjects.

In recent decades, studies on memory have come to center stage across disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. Scholars have come to recognize memory as a key arena in struggles of power. Narratives of the past —and often of violent pasts— have long been disputed and rewritten by different groups in Latin America in pursuit of particular ends. Scholars are increasingly aware of their importance and, as a result, a concern for the study of memory has come to the fore in different disciplines, including history, anthropology, art history, linguistics, sociology, and other fields.

A prize will be awarded for the best paper presented at the conference. Limited funds will be available to help cover the travel expenses of participants (that is, those presenting papers).

To submit your abstract, or to register to attend the conference, please visit <http://bit.ly/lais2018>.

**Abstracts are due no later than March 15th, 2018.**

Those accepted will be notified by April 1st and will be asked to submit drafts of their papers by May 5th.

UC SANTA BARBARA  
**VIOLENCE, MEMORY, AND HISTORY**  
FIRST LATIN AMERICAN AND IBERIAN STUDIES  
GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE  
MAY 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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LATIN AMERICAN & IBERIAN  
STUDIES

UCSB

Department of History





**MARCH 15, 3:30-5:30 @ THE MCC**

## **PUERTO EL TRIUNFO**

**Screening of film and Q&A with the director, Jeffrey Gould**

During the 1970s, El Salvador boasted a vast shrimp industry, and nearly all of the 3700 tons that it exported each year made its way to the United States. As shrimp was transitioning away from luxury status, few Americans were likely to give much thought to how the shrimp reached their plates. Fewer still would ever have heard of the story of Puerto el Triunfo – Port Triumph in English– and the drama of the shrimp industry’s rise and fall. Yet now, with consciousness of food at an all-time high, and concerns about fair trade and sustainability much on the public mind, it is time to tell this remarkable story. Puerto el Triunfo is a microcosm that throws into sharp relief some of the most powerful forces shaping Central America, and more broadly, the obstacles facing organized labor world- wide.



Jeffrey Gould is a professor at Indiana University. His work deals with Central American social movements, ethnic conflicts and violence. He has co-directed and co-produced “Scars of Memory: El Salvador, 1932,” and also directed and produced “La Palabra en el Bosque.”

Check out [puertotriunfofilm.com](http://puertotriunfofilm.com) to see a trailer of “Puerto el triunfo”

Trailer and film available in Spanish and English

Don't miss the Q&A with the director after the film screening

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## OFF CAMPUS UCSB EVENTS



**PARALLEL STORIES**  
**A Narco History: How the United States and Mexico Jointly Created the “Mexican Drug War”**  
DISCUSSION WITH THE AUTHORS | SUNDAY | MARCH 18 | 2:30 PM

This chronicle of interconnected events blurs borders and cultures, and has been called by critics as “a splendid introduction to a tragic, complex and fascinating binational drama.” Written together by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Mike Wallace and acclaimed novelist Carmen Boullosa—one American and the other Mexican—*A Narco History* reviews the interlocking 20th-century histories that produced this 21st-century calamity, and proposes how to end it. In a time when border discussions and the stories behind the drug trade inundate both pop culture and the daily news, this conversation and reading provides a portrait of corruption, loss, and shared blame; a portrait not unlike that in David Alfaro Siqueiros’ mural *Portrait of Mexico Today*, that graces SBMA’s front steps. Q & A and book signing to follow.

*Parallel Stories* is a literary and performing arts series that pairs art and artists with award-winning authors and performers of regional, national, and international acclaim. This series functions as a multidisciplinary lens through which to view the Museum’s collection and special exhibitions.

Free for SBMA Members  
\$10 Non-Members  
\$6 Senior Non-Members  
Reserve or purchase tickets at the Museum Visitor Services desks, or online at [tickets.sbma.net](http://tickets.sbma.net).

1130 State Street  
Mary Craig Auditorium  
[www.sbma.net](http://www.sbma.net)



Images left to right: *A Narco History* cover (detail), Mike Wallace and Carmen Boullosa.



### MISSION MURALS LECTURE & BOOK SIGNING



Photographer Richard Evans presents his new book *The Mission*, which highlights the stunning murals that make this historic San Francisco neighborhood undeniably unique. Evans’ photographs are accompanied by quotes, poems, and essays by local writers, poets, and activists, highlighting the role of Mexican and Central American residents in building and defending this vibrant community.

MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>. 2-3:30 pm