

The Legacy of Dominicanidad: A Symposium on the Work of Lorgia García Peña

Thursday, January 30, 2020
Thompson Room, Barker Center
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Live-streamed at warrencenter.fas.harvard.edu



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LOURDES TORRES
De Paul, and Editor
of *Latino Studies*

ROBIN D. G. KELLEY
UCLA

LAURA BRIGGS
UMass Amherst

CORNEL WEST
Harvard

GEORGE LIPSITZ
UCSB

GINETTA CANDELARIO
Smith, and Editor of *Meridians*

RAMONA HERNÁNDEZ
CUNY, Director of Dominican
Studies Institute at CUNY

SILVIO TORRES-SAILLANT
Syracuse

ELIZABETH MANLEY
Xavier University of Louisiana

KEISH KIM
Harvard, graduate student

CHRISTOFER RODELO
Harvard, graduate student

Schedule of panels to be posted
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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Laura Briggs is professor of Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is the author of a number of books, including *Reproducing Empire: Race, Sex, Science and U.S. Imperialism in Puerto Rico* and the forthcoming *Taking Children: A History of American Terror*. She is a member of the editorial committee of the prominent Ethnic Studies series, *American Crossroads*, at UC Press, and a long-time participant in the Tepoztlán Institute for Transnational History.

Ginetta Candelario teaches at Smith College where she is professor of sociology, as well as faculty affiliate of the Latin American and Latina/o Studies Program, the Study of Women and Gender Program, and the Community Engagement and Social Change Concentration. Candelario is the current editor of *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*. Candelario's first book was *Black behind the ears: Dominican Racial Identity from Museums to Beauty Shops*. Her research interests include Dominican history and society, with a focus on national identity formation and women's history; Blackness in the Americas; Latin American, Caribbean and Latina feminisms; Latina/o communities (particularly Cuban, Dominican and Puerto Rican); U.S. beauty culture; and museum studies. Candelario's current research is on Dominican feminist thought and activism, 1880–1961, which she is developing into a book-length study, tentatively titled "Voices Echoing Beyond the Seas: Dominican Feminisms, from Trans-atlantic to Transnational (1882–1942)." Candelario has been a Fulbright Scholar in the Dominican Republic twice, in 2003 and 2016. She has provided service to a variety of professional associations, including the National Latin@ Studies Association, the New England Consortium for Latina/o Studies (NECLS), the American Sociological Association, and the Latin American Studies Association (LASA).

Genevieve Clutario is a cultural historian who specializes in interdisciplinary and transnational feminist approaches to gender, race, and colonialism particularly in relation to Filipino diasporic histories. She is currently writing her first book, *Beauty Regimes: Modern Imperialism, the Philippines and the Gendered Labor of Appearance*. In this book, Clutario explores who and what do the work of empire, analyzing how colonial and nationalist projects used fashion, beauty regimens, and public spectacles to police Filipino women's bodies, while Filipino women used these same arenas to negotiate their own definitions of modernity, citizenship, and nation. She uses multi-sited and multi-lingual research that includes written, visual, and material evidence from the nineteenth century up until the early 1940s. Clutario's other major research and teaching interests include Asian/American histories in global perspectives; comparative histories of modern empire; transnational feminisms; and gender, race, and the politics of fashion and beauty.

Nicole M. Guidotti-Hernández is Professor of English at Emory University. She is an expert in Borderlands History after 1846, Transnational Feminist Methodologies, Latinx Studies, and Popular Culture and Immigration. She is author of *Unspeakable Violence: Remapping U.S. and Mexican National Imaginaries*, Duke University Press (2011) and *Archiving Mexican Masculinities* (forthcoming). Her articles such as have been published in journals such as *Women's Studies International Forum*, *ELN*, *Social Text*, *American Quarterly*, *The Latin Americanist*, and *Latino Studies*, where her article "Dora the Explorer, Constructing "Latinidades" and the Politics of Global Citizenship" is one of the most downloaded articles in the history of the journal. She is also the co-editor *Radical History Review* special issue number 123 entitled "Sexing Empire." She has written numerous articles for the feminist magazine *Ms.* and the feminist blog *The Feminist Wire*, covering such topics as immigration, reproductive rights, and the Dream act. She also sits on the national advisory council for the *Ms.* and is currently on the national advisory council for Freedom University in Athens, Georgia.

Ramona Hernandez is the Director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute and Professor of Sociology at the City College of New York. She is also in the Doctoral Faculty of the Sociology Department at the Graduate Center of CUNY. Her research interests include the mobility of workers from Latin America and the Caribbean, the socioeconomic conditions of Dominicans in the U.S., and the restructuring of the world economy and its effects on working-class people. She has published and lectured extensively on these issues. Among her publications is a groundbreaking book on the socioeconomic conditions of Dominicans in the U.S and winner of *Choice's* "Outstanding Academic Title": *The Mobility of Workers Under Advanced Capitalism: Dominican Migration to the United States* (Columbia University Press). She is also the editor for *Classic Knowledge in Dominican Studies* (Routledge), the first book series in Dominican Studies in the U.S. Dr. Hernandez is currently working on two books under contract: *Women and the Making of Dominican Society: Ideals and Activism* (The University Press of Florida) co-authored with Sandy Placido and Diogenes Cespedes and *Ellis Island Dominicans, 1892-1924: A Portrait of Money, Color, and Power* (Columbia University Press).

Walter Johnson grew up in Columbia, Missouri, and is a member of the Rock Bridge High School Hall of Fame (2006). His prize-winning books, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside in the Antebellum Slave Market* (1999) and *River of Dark Dreams: Slavery and Empire in the Mississippi Valley's Cotton Kingdom* (2013), were published by Harvard University Press. His autobiographical essay, "Guns in the Family," was included the 2019 edition of Best American Essays; it was originally published in the *Boston Review*, of which Johnson is a contributing editor. *The Broken Heart of America: St. Louis and the Violent History of the United States* will be published in the spring of 2020. Johnson is a founding member of the Commonwealth Project, which brings together academics, artists, and activists in an effort to imagine, foster, and support revolutionary social change, beginning in St. Louis.

Robin D. G. Kelley is Distinguished Professor of History & Gary B. Nash Endowed Chair in U.S. History at UCLA. His books include, *Thelonious Monk: The Life and Times of an American Original* (2009); *Africa Speaks, America Answers: Modern Jazz in Revolutionary Times* (2012); *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination* (2002); *Race Rebels: Culture Politics and the Black Working Class* (1994); *Yo' Mama's DisFunktional!: Fighting the Culture Wars in Urban America* (1997); and *Three Strikes: Miners, Musicians, Salesgirls, and the Fighting Spirit of Labor's Last Century*, written collaboratively with Dana Frank and Howard Zinn (Beacon 2001). The University of North Carolina Press recently issued a 25th anniversary edition of his first book, *Hammer and Hoe: Alabama Communists During the Great Depression* (2015). Kelley's essays have appeared in several anthologies and publications, including *The Boston Review*, *The Nation*, *Monthly Review*, *The Voice Literary Supplement*, *New York Times*, *Color Lines*, *Counterpunch*, *Black Renaissance/Renaissance Noir*, *Social Text*, *Metropolis*, *Signs*, *American Quarterly*, *Re-Thinking Marxism*, *Jacobin*, *New Labor Forum*, and *Souls*, to name a few.

Ju Yon Kim is a Professor of English at Harvard University. Her research and teaching interests include Asian American literature and performance; modern and contemporary American theater and drama; and cross-racial and intercultural performance. She is the author of *The Racial Mundane: Asian American Performance and the Embodied Everyday* (NYU Press, 2015), which received the 2016 Lois P. Rudnick Book Prize from the New England American Studies Association for best book in American studies published in 2015 by a New England area scholar. Her articles have appeared or are forthcoming in *Theatre Journal*, *Modern Drama*, *The Journal of Transnational American Studies*, *Modernism/modernity*, *Theatre Survey*, and the *Journal of Asian American Studies*. Kim's second book project is *Paper Performance: Suspicion and the Spaces of Asian American Theater*. She recently completed a three-year tenure as the book review editor of *Modern Drama*.

Keish Kim is a 4th year PhD candidate in American Studies. Her research interests include transnational feminist studies, women of color feminism, feminist disability studies, migration and diaspora studies, and queer studies. She is the co-founder of Georgia Undocumented Youth Alliance, Freedom University, and Protect Undocumented Students at Harvard. On the concern for ethnic studies, she has been working with the undergraduate Ethnic Studies Coalition, among other coalitions.

George Lipsitz is Professor of Black Studies and Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is the co-author with Barbara Tomlinson of *Insubordinate Spaces: Improvisation and Accompaniment for Social Justice*. His single authored books include *The Possessive Investment in Whiteness, How Racism Takes Place, A Life in the Struggle, Time Passages, and A Rainbow at Midnight*. Lipsitz serves as chair of the board of directors of the African American Policy Forum. He was awarded the American Studies Association's Angela Y. Davis Prize for Public Scholarship in 2013, and its Bode-Pearson Prize for Career Distinction in 2016.

Elizabeth Manley is a Kellogg Endowed Associate Professor of History at Xavier University of Louisiana. She is the author of *The Paradox of Paternalism: Women and Authoritarian Politics in the Dominican Republic* and co-author of *Cien Años de Feminismos Dominicanos* with Ginetta Candelario and April Mayes. She has published articles in *The Americas, The Journal of Women's History, Caribbean Studies, and Small Axe*, is a contributing editor ("Modern History Dominican Republic") for the Library of Congress' Handbook of Latin American Studies, and is the co-chair of the Haiti-Dominican Republic section of the Latin American Studies Association.

Christofer A. Rodelo is a Ph.D. candidate in American Studies at Harvard University, pursuing a secondary field in Latinx Studies. He holds an MA in English, also from Harvard, and a BA in American Studies and Ethnicity, Race, and Migration from Yale College. His work is situated at the intersection of performance studies, Latinx studies, and nineteenth-century literary and cultural studies. His dissertation, "Brown Acts: Race, Spectacle, and the Archive of Latinx Performance, 1848-1898," writes a genealogy of Latinx racial formation(s) through the examination of nineteenth-century theatrical, literary, and popular culture. He has publications in *Journal of Homosexuality, ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture, and TDR/The Drama Review*.

Lourdes Torres is Vincent de Paul Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies at DePaul University and editor of *Latino Studies*, the flagship journal in the field of Latino Studies. She teaches and publishes in the areas of sociolinguistics, Spanish in the US, Latina/o/x culture and queer Latinidades. She is the author of *Puerto Rican Discourse* and co-editor of *Tortilleras: Hispanic and Latina Lesbian Expression and Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*. Her recent essays have appeared in *Meridians, MELUS, Centro Journal, Journal of Lesbian Studies, and International Journal of Bilingualism*. Torres is currently working on a comparative analysis of Spanish language use in Latino communities in Chicago (Mexican, Puerto Rican and MexiRican). The work traces the evolution of Spanish dialects in a contact situation. She is also researching Latina lesbian political organizing in Chicago and nationally.

Silvio Torres-Saillant is Professor of English and Dean's Professor of the Humanities at Syracuse University, where he has held the posts of William P. Tolley Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Humanities, Chair of the Humanities Council, and Director of the Latino-Latin American Studies Program. As founding director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute, he helped develop the field of Dominican studies in the US. His publications include, *The Once and Future Muse: The Poetry and Poetics of Rhina P. Espaillat* (2018, co-authored with Nancy Kang); *An Intellectual History of the Caribbean* (2006); *The Dominican-Americans* (1998, co-authored with Ramona Hernández); *Caribbean Poetics: Toward an Aesthetic of West Indian Literature* (1997; 2013); *El tigueraje intelectual* (2002; 2011); *An Introduction to*

Dominican Blackness (1999; 2010); and *El retorno de las yolas: Ensayos sobre diáspora, democracia y dominicanidad* (1999; 2019). He has co-edited *Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage* (2002) with José Aranda; *The Challenges of Public Higher Education in the Hispanic Caribbean* (2004) with María J. Canino, and *Desde la Orilla: hacia una nacionalidad sin desalojos* (2004) with Ramona Hernández and Blas R. Jiménez. A member of the Editorial Board of the University of Houston's Recovering the US Hispanic Literary Heritage Project, he is Associate Editor of the academic journal *Latino Studies* and has served as editor of the New World Studies Series for the University of Virginia Press.

Cornel West is a prominent and provocative democratic intellectual. He has taught at Yale, Harvard, the University of Paris, Princeton, and Union Theological Seminary. He is presently Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard Divinity School, with a joint appointment in the Department of African and African-American Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harvard in three years and obtained his MA and PhD in philosophy at Princeton. He has written 20 books and has edited 13. He is best known for his classics *Race Matters* and *Democracy Matters*, and his memoir, *Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud*. He appears frequently on the *Bill Maher Show*, CNN, C-Span, and on Tavis Smiley's PBS TV Show. Cornel West has a passion to communicate to a vast variety of publics in order to keep alive the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.—a legacy of telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice.

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