



African American Studies & Research Center and Latino &
Latin American Studies

Present:

27th Annual Symposium on African American
Culture & Philosophy

*“Afro-Latin America:
Rethinking Identity, Politics &
Culture.”*

December 1—3, 2011

Purdue University

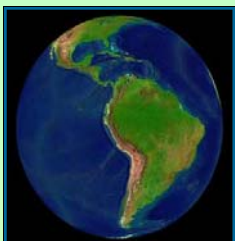
Stewart Center Room 322

West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

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*“Afro-Latin America:
Rethinking Identity, Politics & Culture
December 1—3, 2011*

Thursday

**1:00—2:30
Concurrent panels**

Broad Strokes: Introductions to Transnational Juxtapositions

Dawn Duke, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
A Regional Approach to the Writings of Afro-Latin American Women:
Cuba/Brazil, Haiti/the Dominican Republic, Panama/Costa Rica

Elizabeth Canela, Purdue University, West Lafayette IN
New Portrayals of Black Identity in the Dominican Republic and Haiti and Their Consequences
for Collective International Activism

Arthur Banton, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
A Chameleon of Color: Zoe Saldana and the redefining of roles for women of color through Afro-Latina
hybridity.

Immigration, Settlement, & the Dynamics of Trans-generational Identity in the United States

Monika Gosin, Duke University, Durham NC
The Blackness of Invisibility: Afro-Cuban Immigrants Negotiating Race in the United States

Elías Ortega-Aponte, Drew University, Madison NJ
Converging Paths: Ideology, History, and the Recovery of Afro-Latino/a Identity in the Young Lords

David Irwin, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul MN
“Evolving Radical Thought: Politics, Culture, and Black Transnational Space in the Twentieth Century”

The Convergence of African Diasporic Communities in the United States: Ideas and Practices

Anthony Conley, Ivy Tech Community College, Indianapolis, IN
Booker T. Washington and U.S. Imperialism, 1898-1902

Heather Abdelnur, Augusta State University, Augusta GA
Broken Glass to Beheading: Women and Crime in Spanish Louisiana

César Ayala-Casás, University of California, Los Angeles
The Case of Felícita “La Prieta” Méndez, Precursor to Brown versus Topeka, Kansas:
The Black Puerto Rican Who Challenged School Segregation against Latinos and Latinas in California





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Thursday

2:45-4:15

Concurrent Panels

Racinations & Taxonomies in Early Colonial Mexico, Central America, Jamaica, and Brazil

Valérie Benoist, Grinnell College, Grinnell IA
The Life of a Black Nun in Colonial Mexico: Juana Esperanza de San Alberto

Ann-Marie Adams, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
The African Presence in Colonial Mexico: Links to Mestizos in Central America and Spanish Jamaica

**Eclectic Bigotry in South Atlantic Societies:
Racism, Hybridity, and Their Complexities over Time**

Hélène Rompré, Université de Montréal, Montreal Canada
The Child in the Slave: Hidden Histories of Mulatto Children in Colonial Ecuador, 1790-1820

Alison Frauhar, St. Xavier University, Chicago IL
Performing the Nation: Staging the *Mulata Cubana*

Layla Brown, Duke University, Durham NC
Afro-Venezuelans: A Test Case for the Promise of the Bolivarian Revolution

History & the Arts: Audiovisual Economies of Blackness in South America and the Caribbean

David Jamison, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Carving New Lives in Suriname: Design Motifs in the Maroon Arts

Kimberly Cleveland, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
"Pedro Figari: Painting African Influences in Nineteenth-Century Montevideo."

Alicia Nance, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge
Afro-Caribbean Women and Empowerment in Calypso





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**December 1, 2011
7:00 PM
Stewart Center 307
Title of talk**

**Keynote Speaker
Dr. Kim Butler
Rutgers University**



Dr. Kim Butler is a historian specializing in African Diaspora studies with a focus on Brazil and Latin America/Caribbean. Her first book, *Freedoms Given, Freedoms Won: Afro-Brazilians in Post-Abolition São Paulo and Salvador*, won the American Historical Association's Wesley-Logan Prize and the Association of Black Women Historians' Letitia Woods Brown Prize. Dr. Butler received her PhD from Johns Hopkins University and is currently an Associate Professor of History and Chair of the Africana Studies Department at Rutgers University.



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**Continental Breakfast
8:00 am**



**Friday 8:30- 10:00
Concurrent Panels**

**History, Literature, and Gendered Essentialism as Praxis :
Afro-Latin American Women in Late Modernity**

Michele Reid –Vázquez, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
Guerrilleras Negras: Slave Women and Free Women of Color in Cuba’s Conspiración de La Escalera

Elías Ortega-Aponte, Drew University, Madison NJ
Mayra Santos-Febres and the Literary Performance of Blackness in the Spanish Caribbean

Kimberly Simmons, University of South Carolina,
Stirring the Sancocho and Seeing Africa:
The Roles of Women in the Changing Significance of Blackness in the Dominican



**Late Colonialities and Early Republicanisms: Pluralities of Blackness in the Age of
Abolition**

T.J. Obi, Baruch College-CUNY, New York
Esgrima de Machete: An African-based Martial Art in Spanish South America

Mekala Audain, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Blackness in San Antonio: Fugitive Slaves & Free Blacks before, during, and after the Texas Revolution

Erika Edwards, Florida International University, Miami
From Human Property to Free Individuals: The Gradual Abolition of Slavery in Córdoba

**Enlightenment, Reform, and Trans-continental Revolution:
Background to the Aponte Rebellion of 1812**

Gloria García Rodríguez, Instituto de Historia Cubana, Havana, Cuba
A Subaltern Lens: Laws and Liberation from the Viewpoints of Slaves, 1775-1812

Bárbara Danzic, Archivo Nacional de Cuba, Havana
*Gendering the Palenque: Rebel Slave Women in Liberationist Strongholds
("Una mirada de género a la historia de los rebeldes")*

Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University of New York, Binghamton
*Decoding the Transition from Bohío to Barracón: The Growth and Development of Plantation Landscapes
as Social Space and Disciplinary Discourse, 1759-1868*

Isabel Hernández-Campos, Museo de la Ruta del Esclavo, Matanzas, Cuba
The Politics of Memory in Cuba: Slavery, Museum Cultures, and National Memory





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Break 10:00 – 10:15

**Friday 10:15 – 11:45
Concurrent Panels**

9. “A Luta Continua” :

Ongoing Struggles for Racial Democracy in the Americas

Chair: Charles Peterson, the College of Wooster, Wooster OH

Jessica Graham, Notre Dame University, Notre Dame IN
Brazilian Anticommunism and the Question of Racial Democracy in the 1930s

Melissa Valle, Columbia University, New York NY
La Lucha Negra: A Network Analysis of Afro-Colombian Social Movement Organizations

Devyn Spence Benson, Williams College, Williamstown MA
“Everybody went to Miami . . . He went to New York:”
Race, Revolution, and the Afro-Cuban Diaspora, 1959-1963

**Music, Letters, and Religion as Performance, Protest, and Protection in
Colombia, and Cuba**

Chair: Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University, East Lansing

Michael Quintero, Bowdoin College, Brunswick ME
Between Cosmopolitanism and Alterity: The Cultural Politics of Black Music in Western Colombia

Matthew Pettway, Bates College, Lewiston ME
Scorning the Negation of Blackness in Burlesque Bodies:
A Portrait of Afro-Cuban Masculinities in Gabriel de la Concepción Valdés

Sonya Johnson, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI
Spirits in the Formation of Religious Tradition in Cuba

The Impact of the Aponte Rebellion in Cuba and Elsewhere in the Spanish Caribbean

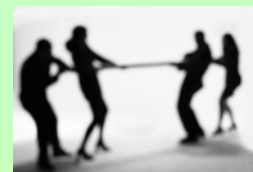
Chair: Matt Childs, University of Texas, Austin TX

María del Carmen Barcia, Universidad de la Habana
From Black Catholic Brotherhoods to Neo-African Ethics Systems
(Del cabildo de nación africana a la casa de santo afrocubano)

Aisha Finch, University of California, Los Angeles
“Infrared Insurgencies: The Political Cultures of Cuban Slaves, 1843-44”

Joseph C. Dorsey, Purdue University, West Lafayette IN
Freed People in Chains: Rebellious Activism among Liberated Africans in Cuba and Puerto Rico,
1835-1864

Jacqueline Kent, University of Miami, Miami FL
Well Dressed after the French Mode:
Free People of Color and Public Performance in Nineteenth-Century Cuba





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Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall
"The Many Meanings of Race over Time and Place."



12:00 – 2:00
Plenary Luncheon
PMU West Faculty Lounge



Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall is Professor Emerita of history at Rutgers University where she taught Latin American And Caribbean History. Dr. Hall received numerous awards for Africans in Colonial Louisiana: the Development of Afro-Creole Culture in the Eighteenth Century including the John Hope Franklin Prize, the Elliott Rudwick Prize, the Willie Lee Rose Prize, and the Theodore Saloutos Memorial Book Award. She is also the author of *Social Control in Slave Plantation Societies: A Comparison of St. Domingue and Cuba* (1971); *Africans in Colonial Louisiana: The Development of Afro-Creole Culture in the Eighteenth Century* (1992); *Africans in the Americas: Continuities of Ethnicities and Regions* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001), and editor of *Love, War, and the 96th Engineers (colored): The New Guinea Diaries of Captain Hyman Samuelson During World War II* (1995). Dr. Hall is a Guggenheim Fellow and an elder of the African Heritage Studies Society.

Friday 2:15—3:45
Concurrent Panels

Blackness in Motion:
The Changing Politics of Racial Belonging in
Brazil, Panama, the Caribbean, and the United States

Ariana Curtis, American University, Washington DC
 Zoning Panamanian Blackness

Arvenita Washington-Cherry, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Challenging Social Constructs for Black and Latino/a Belonging and Authenticity in a Prince George's County Public Middle School

Calenthia Dowdy, American University, Washington DC
 Circulations of Blackness: Hip-Hop and Brazil's Black Movement

The Politics of Race, Representation, and the Public Sphere in Contemporary Brazil

Kia Lily Caldwell, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
 Race and the Politics of Health in Contemporary Brazil

Reighan Gillam, Cornell University, Ithaca NY
 Resistance Televised: TV da Gente and Racial Politics in Brazil

Lúcio Oliveira, University of California, Los Angeles
 Living in the Racial Domain of Whites





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La Guerrita de Doce:

The Impact of the Race War of 1912 in Cuba and Elsewhere in the Spanish Caribbean

Takkara Brunson, University of Rochester, Rochester NY
The *Partido Independiente de Color* through the Lens of Gender

Frank Guridy, University of Texas, Austin
“Hijos de Macee: Afro-Cubans & Diaspora-raling in the Age of Empire”

Melina Pappademos, University Connecticut, West Hartford
Rethinking Black Racial Politics in Cuba after the *Partido Independiente de Color*

Tomás Fernández Robaina, Biblioteca Nacional José Martí, Havana, Cuba
On the Problematic of Race in Cuba: What Yesterday’s Ideas Teach Us Today
(Ideas del ayer sobre la problemática racial en Cuba que nos enseñan que hacer hoy)

Discussant: Alfred López, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

**Friday 4:00—5:30
Concurrent Panels**

Brazilian Confrontations with Race, Policy-making, and Globalization

Tianna Paschel, University of California, Berkeley
Airing Dirty Laundry: The Impact of the Durban World Conference
on Brazil’s Shift from Colorblindness to Affirmative Action

Félix Omidire, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
Afro-Brazilian Identity and the Ideals of *Americanidade*

Gladys Mitchell, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Black-linked Fate, Prejudice, and Support for Brazilian Racial Policies

**Hip-Hop and Black Youth in Latin American Cities:
Discourses and Practices vis-à-vis Race, Class, and Gender in Brazil and Argentina**

Ana Lúcia Silva Souza, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil
Literacies of Re-existence: Cultures and Identities in the Hip-Hop Movement

Janaína Damaceno Gomes, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil
African and Latin American Diasporas in the Black Argentinian Movement

Jaqueline Lima, Universidade Estadual de São Paulo, Brazil
Perforated Passages from Quilombos to Other Peripheries: The New History of Hip-Hop Beats

Kassandra da Silva Muniz, Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto, Brazil
Youth and Masculinity in Brazilian Hip-Hop





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Roundtable

Agency in the African Diaspora: Refractions across the Americas

Moderator: Leonard Harris, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

Discussion Leader and Abstract:

Fannie Theresa Rushing, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL

In the post-emancipation period throughout the Americas, the expansion of agro-industrial capital forced the migration of thousands of people of African descent creating a second African Diaspora in which the Caribbean replaced the Atlantic as a carrier of cultures, ideas and resistance. It was a period that saw an increase in terror and violence unleashed against communities of African descent with new state projects for exploiting their labor and new, violent mechanisms of social control designed to inhibit their movements and instill terror within their communities. In response to the call for African Americans to enlist in World War I in order to “make the world safe for democracy”, the African American social activist, A. Philip Randolph, responded rather than fighting in a racist, class war for “democracy”, “Negros, should not enlist in a war for which the prize was the acquisition of colonies in Asia and Africa. Instead, they should fight “to make Georgia safe for the Negro”. This presentation explores the ways in which in the post-emancipation period peoples of African descent in moving through the Diaspora came into contact, sometimes in conflict or concert, with peoples of African descent from the former, Spanish, French and English colonies, and became aware of the necessity for continuing their fight against attempts to marginalize or obliterate their presence and create spaces safe for Blackness.

Respondent #1: William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo

Respondent #2: Agustín Lao-Montes, University of Massachusetts, Amherst



**RECEPTION
MEMORIAL UNION,
WEST FACULTY LOUNGE**



5:45 —6:45 p.m.

Social Hour

**Black Culture Center
Presents
Cultural Arts Festival
Friday, December 2, 2011
Loeb Playhouse, Stewart Center
7:00 pm**

The festival is a culmination of the BCC’s semester-long exploration of Afro-Latin culture and the Diaspora featuring the BCC Performing Arts Ensembles.

Admission:

General Public \$7; Purdue Students \$5.



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**Continental Breakfast
8:00 am**



**Saturday 8:30—10:00
Concurrent Panels**

Cimarrones: Making the Invisible Visible from Venezuela to the United States

Iyelli Ichile Hanks, Howard University, Washington DC
Cimarrones at Howard University: A Pan-Africanist Student Organization at an HBCU

Quito Swan, Howard University, Washington DC
Expanding the Cumbe: *Cimarrones* and the Afro-Venezuelan Experience

Symone Wilson, Howard University, Washington DC
Marronage Today: The Descendants of Venezuelan Maroons

Benjamin Woods, Howard University, Washington DC
Education for Liberation: Black Pedagogy at the University of Barlovento
and the University of Central Venezuela

¿Qué Quiere Decir Negro?

Ethnographic Explorations of Blackness in Latin America

Giles Harrison-Conwill, Duke University, Durham NC
The Work of Blackness: Race, National, and Musical Performance in Venezuela

Judith Anderson, University of Florida
Whom Are You Calling Negro? Peronism and Blackness in Argentina

Eshe Lewis, University of Florida
The Role of Afro-Peruvian Youth in Social Organizations

The Complexities of Race in Latin America and the Caribbean

Lisa Penn Alvarado, University of Illinois, Chicago IL
Blackness Complexities: Bindley Cyrus and the American West Indian Association, 1940-1970

Ibrahim Sundiata, Brandeis University, Waltham MA
Unmaking and Making Race: Puerto Rico and Brazil in the North American Lens

Manuella Meyer, University of Richmond, Richmond VA
Race and Healthcare in Late Modern Brazil
Republican Politics and the Management of Insanity in Rio de Janeiro, 1889-1930



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**10:00–10:15
Break**



**Saturday 10:15—11:45
Concurrent Panels**

Race and Social Movements in Latin America and the Caribbean

Meredith Main, University of Florida, Gainesville
Navigating the Challenges of Afro-Ecuadorian Activism in Quito

Amanda Concha-Holmes, University of Florida, Gainesville
Decolonizing Image-ing: An Afro-Cuban Cabildo and Grassroots Social Movements

William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo
Methods to Dismantle Racialized Exploitation and State Violence through Transnational Networks: Four Latin American Cases

Performing Race Through the Written Word

José de Paiva dos Santos, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Rethinking Brazil's Foundation: Maria Firmina dos Reis and Conceição Evaristo

Cristian Castro, University of California, Davis
Dark Ink: The Black Press in São Paulo and Chicago, 1900-1950

Dana Linda, University of California, Los Angeles
White Noise, Black Masks: Recapturing Race in Hispanic Caribbean Prison Narratives



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SYMPOSIUM CO-SPONSORS

College of Liberal Arts § The Graduate School § Black Culture Center
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JOSEPH C. DORSEY, FACULTY SCHOLAR, PURDUE UNIVERSITY, WEST LAFAYETTE, IN
AISHA FINCH, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
FANNIE THERESA RUSHING, BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY, LISLE, IL

28TH AASRC ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES & RESEARCH CENTER'S
28TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM WILL BE HELD
November 15—17, 2012

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