A SYMPOSIUM

Latino/a Studies
in the Midwest

The Ohio State University
April 16-17, 2004
Friday April 16

9:00 am
OPENING AND WELCOME
Luz Calvo, Comparative Studies, OSU
Jacqueline Jones Royster, Interim Dean, College of Humanities, OSU

9:30 am
CONTEMPORARY LATINO/A CULTURAL STUDIES
Moderator: Ruby Tapia, Women’s Studies, OSU
Ramona Fernandez “Dark Angel: Chimeras “R” Us”
Theresa Delgadillo “Feminism and Religion in Two Chicano/a Borderlands Films”
Mary Beltrán “The Spitfire, the Airbrush Artist, the Trainer, and the Diva: Racializing and Class-ifying Moreno and Lopez as Star Bodies”

11:15 am
HISTORICIZING LATINOS/AS IN THE US
Moderator: Catrióna Rueda Esquibel, Women’s Studies, OSU
Maria Cotera “Jovita González and the Emergence of Borderlands Discourse”
Pablo Mitchell “Accounting for Intimacy: Prospects for a Latina/o History of Sexuality”
Adrian Burgos “Saying It Is So-sal Corked Bats, Loaded Language, and the Intellectual Disenfranchisement of Latinos in America’s Game

1:00 pm
Lunch Break

2:00 pm
LATINO/A FASCINATIONS:
TRANSCULTURAL DIALOGUES ACROSS THE AMERICAS
Moderator: Ileana Rodriguez, Distinguished Humanities Professor of Spanish
Ruth Behar “A Hotel Room for Ruth: Cuban Predicaments”
Frances R. Aparicio Transculturation and Latino Masculinity in Six Feet Under”
Suzanne Oboler “Rethinking Home, Belonging, and Latinismo: South Americans in the U.S.A.”
4:00 p.m.
REPORT FROM THE FIELD
Moderator: Ignacio Corona, Spanish and Portuguese, OSU
Arlene Torres, Director of the Latina/Latino Studies Program,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Maria Montoya, Director of Latina/o Studies, University of Michigan
Jorge Chapa, Director of Latino/a Studies, Indiana University
Gilberto Cardenas, Director of the Institute for Latino Studies,
University of Notre Dame

6:00 pm
Dinner Break

8:00 pm
PRIMERA COSECHA/FIRST HARVEST:
AN EVENING PERFORMING CULTURE
Produced and Directed by Angeles Romero
Hughes Hall Auditorium
1899 College

Saturday, April 17

9:30 am-noon
Future Collaborations
Multicultural Center, Ohio Union 4th floor
Facilitators: Ignacio Corona, Spanish and Portuguese, and
Keith Kilty, College of Social Work

Open to faculty, staff, and administrators working in Latino/Latina Studies throughout the region. Discussion of strategies for developing and institutionalizing Latino/a Studies in the Midwest, the history of organizing in the region, and new proposals for inter-university support, collaboration, recruitment, and retention. Brunch provided.

Symposium organized by the Latino/a Studies Committee in collaboration with Hispanic Student Services. Invaluable technical and logistical support provided by Graduate Research Assistant Shobana Subramanian.

Latino/a Studies Committee: Luz Calvo, Ignacio Corona, Catriona Rueda Esquibel, Keith Kilty, Ileana Rodriguez, Angeles Romero, and Ruby Tapia
ABOUT OUR PANELISTS:

**Ramona Fernandez** is an Assistant Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State University. Her teaching and research interests include cultural studies, gender and race, popular culture, women's studies, semiotics, science fiction, and cultural literacy. Her *Imagining Literacy: Rhizomes of Knowledge in American Culture and Literature* addresses the ideological assumptions that underlie prevailing models of cultural literacy. Her continuing work cuts across disciplines, asking questions about literature, popular culture, race, gender, and the reconstruction of the human body by science and science fiction. She is associate editor of the on-line journal *Rhizomes*.

**Theresa Delgadillo** is an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame, specializing in Latino/a literary and cultural studies. Her current research projects include a study of religion in contemporary Chicana/o narratives and an exploration of Afro-Latino/a diasporas in popular culture. Areas of interest in her research and teaching include postcolonial, feminist, and borderlands theories; cultural production in the Americas; and multiethnic literature of the Americas. She has published articles in *Modern Fiction Studies, Studies in American Indian Literatures*, and an online publication with the Julián Samora Research Institute.

**Mary C. Beltrán** is an assistant professor in Chicana/o Studies and Communication Arts at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research is focused on Latino/a and mixed-race representation in Hollywood film and television and the racial politics and evolution of beauty and body ideals in U.S. popular culture. She is currently working on a book-length project on the marketing of Latina stars in Hollywood and U.S. popular culture since the silent film era.
Maria Eugenia Cotera is an Assistant Professor of American Culture/Latino Studies and Women's Studies at the University of Michigan. She is associate producer, researcher, and writer for the film *Crystal City: A Twenty Year Reflection*, on the role of young women in the 1969 Texas student walkouts. Active in the recovery project of lost manuscripts, she published "Caballero: An Historical Novel" by Texas Folklorist Jovita Gonzalez in 1996, and edited and introduced Gonzalez's 1929 Masters Thesis, "Social Life in Cameron, Starr and Zapata Counties" (forthcoming Texas A & M Press). Cotera is completing her book manuscript, *Life in the Contact Zone*, on the life and work of anthropologists and folklorists Ella Cara Deloria, Jovita Gonzalez, and, Zora Neale Hurston.

Pablo Mitchell is an Assistant Professor of History at Oberlin College. His work on territorial New Mexico has been published in *Sex, Love, Race: Crossing Boundaries in North American History* (NYU, 2000). He is currently completing a manuscript titled *Coyote Nation: Sexuality, Race, and Conquest in Modernizing New Mexico, 1880-1920* (under contract, University of Chicago) that analyzes the link between bodily coherence and American citizenship in turn of the twentieth century America. He is a recipient of a 2003-2004 Sexuality Research Fellowship Program postdoctoral award from the Social Science Research Council.

Adrian Burgos, Jr. is an assistant professor of History at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He specializes in U.S. Latino history, African American Studies, sport history, and urban history. He is currently finalizing his book manuscript, *Playing America's Game(s): Baseball, Race, and Latinos, 1868-1959* (University of California Press), on Spanish-speaking Americas in U.S. professional baseball circuits. He is a co-editor of *Living Intersections: Negotiating Latinidad in a Transnational World*. 
Ruth Behar is a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan and affiliated with programs in Women's Studies, Latina/Latino Studies, and Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Awards include the MacArthur Foundation "genius" award (1988), a John Simon Guggenheim award (1995), a Creative Artist Grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (1998), the Distinguished Alumna Award from Wesleyan University (1997). In 1999, *Latina* magazine named Behar one of the "50 Latinas who made history." Her works include *Translated Woman: Crossing the Border with Esperanza's Story*, *The Vulnerable Observer: Anthropology That Breaks Your Heart*, *Bridges To Cuba*, and the film *Adio Kerida*.

Frances R. Aparicio directs the Latin American and Latino Studies Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is a specialist in US Latino/a literatures, cultural studies, feminism, and language identity. Her book *Listening to Salsa: Gender, Latin Popular Music, and Puerto Rican Cultures* (Wesleyan UP, 1998) was awarded the 1999 MLA Katherine Singer Kovacs Prize for best book in Hispanic literature and the International Association for the Study of Popular Music Book Award.

Jorge Chapa is Professor and founding Director of Latino Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. Chapa’s research has focused on alternatives to increase the successful participation of Latinos in higher education. To that end he, along with other professors and legislators, formulated the Top Ten Percent Plan. He has scores of publications reflecting his research focus on the low rates of Hispanic educational, occupational, and economic mobility, and on the development of policies to improve these trends.

María Montoya is director of Latina/o Studies at the University of Michigan. Dr. Montoya will be unable to join us this afternoon. Speaking in her place is Catherine Benamou, Assistant Professor of American Cultures, Film and Video, and Romance Languages and President of the Latino Faculty & Staff Association at the University of Michigan.

Gilberto Cardenas is Assistant Provost and Director of the Institute for Latino Studies and Professor of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame. He has held professional and administrative appointments at the University of Texas at Austin from 1975-1999. Dr. Cardenas is the author, editor, co-author or co-editor of eight books and monographs, including Las Mojados: The Wetback Story (with Julian Samora and Jorge Bustamante), an oft-cited and seminal text in Latino scholarship. He has also published over 30 articles in peer reviewed journals and as chapters in books.

Arlene Torres is the director of Latino/Latina Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her current research focuses on black identity formation in Latin America and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean. She is also working on the articulation of US models of "race" and ethnicity and Latin American and Caribbean models among Puerto Ricans, and the comparative study of Latina/o diaspora.
We wish to acknowledge the following units for their generous financial support:

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