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**SLAS E-Newsletter, January 2015**

The eNewsletter is compiled and sent out to you by Christy Palmer. If you have an upcoming event or items that you would like included in the next eNewsletter, then please send the details to: [christy\\_palmer@mac.com](mailto:christy_palmer@mac.com)

**PLEASE NOTE:** not all 'Call for Papers', are listed in the section 'Call for Papers'. Many are within the conference and seminar notices in the 'Conference and Seminars' section of the eNewsletter. All deadlines have been **highlighted** or **emboldened** in red.

## MENU

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## NOTICE BOARD

**SLAS Harold Blakemore Prize**

**DEADLINE** 28 February 2015

This prize, named for Harold Blakemore (1930-1991), commemorates a scholar described as 'the British standard-bearer of Latin American studies for a quarter of a century' (in an obituary by David Fox), who played a key role in the foundation of SLAS in 1964 and throughout its early period. Since 1991, the prize has been awarded to the best essay submitted each year by a postgraduate student in Latin American Studies. Its monetary value is £600, and the winner is invited by the Editors to submit his or her essay to the Bulletin of Latin American Studies (subject to the usual Editorial procedures).

The **single annual deadline** for submissions for the Harold Blakemore Prize is 28 February each year. To enter the competition **TWO** printed copies of the essay will need to be submitted, which should:

- be double spaced

- be a maximum of 8000 words in length (including notes, but excluding bibliography)
- follow standard academic conventions

A panel of judges for the prize will be appointed by the SLAS Committee, and the winner will be announced at the SLAS Annual Conference. **Entries should not have been published, or be under consideration for publication, elsewhere.**

**Send two copies of the essay to: Dr Sarah Bowskill**, Spanish & Portuguese Studies, School of Modern Languages, 10 University Square, Queen's University Belfast, BT7 1NN.

For any queries, please e-mail: [s.bowskill@qub.ac.uk](mailto:s.bowskill@qub.ac.uk).

## **BLAR BOOK SERIES**

**Thinking of publishing your book on things Latin American?**

**Looking for a publishing outlet for your Latin America-focussed conference or seminar?**

As a member of SLAS, you will already know of the existence of the Book Series, organised by the editors of the Bulletin for Latin American Research, especially because, as part of your membership, you will have received one of the books each year, in addition to the regular Bulletin.

We have now run this Series for several years, successfully meeting our goal of producing one book a year. These have included multi-authored books, some with a single-country focus and others with a wider Latin America-wide focus, as well as single-authored books both on very specific or much broader themes. In other words, while we may have started the Series with a specific preference for the type of book we wanted to produce, in practice, and increasingly, we have extended that scope to consider any high-quality manuscript on subjects within the remit of Latin American studies, albeit usually within the discipline focus of the Bulletin.

To keep up the production and pattern, we are always looking for high-quality manuscripts or proposals for manuscripts that we can consider for publication. We treat these manuscripts as we would for any normal BLAR submission, i.e. the editors' initial opinions on the topic and on the quality of the text or the likely quality of the idea and of the proposed authors, followed (where appropriate) by discussions with the relevant editor and then, once – or if – there is a manuscript to consider, asking appropriate referees to review it, with possible resulting changes to the text.

We endeavour, in this way, to meet our target of a book a year; while this used to fit the cycle of the academic year (focussed on the annual conference), past delays in certain areas of the submission and publication processes have effectively shifted this cycle to a calendar year. This is still our aim, so we are currently looking for proposals and manuscripts for 2015 and 2016.

To this end, BLAR editors have already been scouring events, like the last two SLAS Conferences, looking out for panels which have seemed to hold out a realistic promise of multi-authored path-breaking research in new areas or which have seemed to cohere especially well, sufficiently to enable an edited collection of chapters to emerge and make a difference in the field in question. This will indeed continue to happen at the coming Conference in April 2015, so, if you are convening a panel, we may well come and talk to you about that. But that only applies to possible multi-authored manuscripts, and does not preclude single-authored manuscripts. So we are also keeping our eyes open for those too.

Meantime, however, there is nothing to stop you submitting to us either a manuscript which you already have in your possession or are about to produce (but without a selected publisher yet), or an idea for such a manuscript, on the basis of a past, imminent or even a possible future conference, seminar or workshop. Or simply one arising from a recent thesis. All that we ask is that it be of high quality, adhere to the 80,000-word limit, and be in an area of interest to SLAS members.

So please continue to send in what you have in mind, and let us consider it. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

**Tony Kapcia**(Nottingham)  
[a.kapcia@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:a.kapcia@nottingham.ac.uk)

***The Launch of the Report on the State of UK Based Research on Latin America and the Caribbean.***

**The Chancellor's Hall, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU**  
**22 January 2015 | 18.00 - 19.30**

**Baroness Gloria Hooper** CMG, DSG, FRSA, FRGS (Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary British-Latin America Group), presiding; The Report introduced by **Professor Antoni Kapcia** (University of Nottingham).

This report aims to contribute to wider knowledge and a national discussion about the importance to the UK of research on Latin America and the Caribbean, so encouraging and enabling funding bodies, academic decision-makers, higher education institutions and relevant subject associations to strengthen and develop such research, and to contribute to a renewed awareness of the importance to the UK of area studies.

**RSVP:** [olga.jimenez@sas.ac.uk](mailto:olga.jimenez@sas.ac.uk)

TOP

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

**The London Latin American Seminar Series: 2014/2015: "Crisis and Ideologies of Domination"**  
**LSE, GOLDSMITHS, UCL, and ILAS**

- *"The New Dispossession: Latin American Theories of Contemporary Imperialism"*  
 ILAS, Room 246, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU  
 15 January 2015 | 17.00 - 19.00

**Dr. Jeff Webber** (Queen Mary, University of London)

- *"Do you really think that....?" A Story of Doubt from the Ecuadorian Amazon*  
 Seligman Library (OLD 6.05) Old Building, LSE  
 23 January 2015 | 10.30 - 12.30

**Francesca Mezzenzana** (LSE/ Musée du Quai Branly, Paris)

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**"Researchers, are we responding to the challenges of Chilean Education?"**  
**3rd Annual Meeting of Researchers on Chilean Education**  
**Interdisciplinary Centre Of the Social Sciences (ICOSS), University of Sheffield, 219**  
**Portobello, Sheffield, S1 4DP**  
**15 - 16 January 2015**

Organised by the Network of Chilean Researcher on Education – RED ICE

Nowadays, the structure, access, quality and coverage of the Chilean Educational System is under question. Demonstrations by Chileans have focused the public opinion on these issues. However, little has been said about the measures that should be taken in order to deal with these conflicts. Researchers and postgraduate students in education -in Chile and abroad- have a relevant role in developing knowledge to inform and promote public policies. Given this context, several questions emerge which open the discussion about an essential issue for the Chilean society: **Which topics are researched regarding the Chilean educational system? Are there any suggestions to improve school's quality and take into account their diversity? What additional challenges researchers in education have identified?**

In order to answer and discuss these questions, the 3rd Annual Meeting of Researchers in Chilean Education will be held at Interdisciplinary Centre of the Social Sciences (ICOSS) of the University of Sheffield on January 15th and 16th, 2015. The meeting is organised by RED ICE with the support of Chile Global and the collaboration of the School of Education, University of Sheffield, and the White Rose Social Sciences Doctoral Training Centre (University of Leeds, University of Sheffield & University of York).

The aims of this third meeting are:

- **Identifying the new challenges in education within the current Chilean context.**
- **Assessing the relevance and impact of our research projects to approach these challenges.**
- **Bridging the gap between the research carried out abroad, the Chilean classrooms and the public policies.**
- **Providing concrete suggestions for the challenges faced by the Chilean education system through discussion and critical reflexion.**

During the meeting, there will be paper and poster sessions (in Spanish), in addition to keynotes and workshops with guest academics (in English). All people interested in Chilean education are welcome and registration is free.

For more information, please go to <http://investigadoreschilenoseduacion.wordpress.com/encuentros-de-la-red/3er-encuentro-2015/>

Alternatively, contact RED ICE at: [contacto.redice@gmail.com](mailto:contacto.redice@gmail.com)

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EVENTS

**Brazilian Diaries with Michael Palin and Alan Charlton**  
**The Beveridge Hall (Senate House, ground floor), Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU**  
**5 February 2015 | 18.00 - 19.30**

Speakers: **Michael Palin**, CBE, FRGS in conversation with **Alan Charlton** CMG CVO

Travel writer and documentary presenter Michael Palin (Brazil with Michael Palin) and Alan Charlton, Robin Humphreys Fellow at the Institute of Latin American Studies and former British Ambassador to Brazil (2008-2013) will discuss their experiences and impressions of Brazil, a country diverse geographically, culturally and economically, unique in South America and the world.

All welcome. RSVP: [olga.jimenez@sas.ac.uk](mailto:olga.jimenez@sas.ac.uk)

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**'The Great Depression in Latin America': Book Launch**  
**Edited by Paulo Drinot and Alan Knight**  
**UCL-Institute of the Americas, 51 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PN**  
**28 January 2015 | 17.30 - 19.30**

Paulo Drinot (UCL-IA) and Alan Knight (Oxford) - Although Latin America weathered the Great Depression better than the United States and Europe, the global economic collapse of the 1930s had a deep and lasting impact on the region. The contributors to this book examine the consequences of the Depression in terms of the role of the state, party-political competition, and the formation of working-class and other social and political movements. Going beyond economic history, they chart the repercussions and policy responses in different countries, while noting common cross-regional trends, in particular, a mounting critique of economic orthodoxy and greater state intervention in the economic, social and cultural spheres, both trends crucial to the region's subsequent development. The book also examines how regional transformations interacted with and differed from global processes. Taken together, these essays deepen our understanding of the Great Depression as a formative experience in Latin America and provide a timely comparative perspective on the recent global economic crisis.

Contributors: **Marcelo Bucheli, Carlos Contreras, Paulo Drinot, Jeffrey L. Gould, Roy Hora, Alan Knight, Gillian McGillivray, Luis Felipe Sáenz, Angela Vergara, Joel Wolfe, Doug Yarrington**. With comments by **Rory Miller** (Liverpool) and **Rosemary Thorp** (Oxford).

The Great Depression in Latin America is published by Duke University Press, 2014

**Attendance is free of charge but registration is required:** <http://great-depression-latinamerica.eventbrite.co.uk/>

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CALL FOR PAPERS

**Frontiers in Central American Research**  
**Institute of Latin American Studies, Senate House, University of London**  
**20 March 2015**

<https://frontierscentralamerica.wordpress.com/>

**DEADLINE** 30 January 2015

Central America does not figure prominently in many conference programmes, but there are many scholars from different humanities and social science disciplines working on the

region. This one-day workshop aims to bring together scholars of Central America to showcase their work and network with others working on the region. It is hoped that it will provide an overview of the research being conducted on Central America and identify emerging themes.

We therefore invite established scholars and PhD students from any humanities and social discipline to submit papers. These will then be organised around themes that will best promote dialogue. Potential topics include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Violence, Memory and Human Rights
- New Perspectives on the Conflicts of the 1980s
- Central America's International Relations
- Social Movements and Social Justice
- Geography and the Environment
- Gender, Race and Ethnicity in Central America
- Indigenous Cultures, Languages and Histories
- History and Archaeology
- Film, Literature and Visual Culture
- Democracy and Governance
- The 'Pink Tide' in Central America

Please send an abstract of about 200 words and a brief bio to **Hilary Francis** at: [hilary.francis@sas.ac.uk](mailto:hilary.francis@sas.ac.uk) by 30 January 2015

Organisers: **Hilary Francis, Ainhoa Montoya, Sophie Brockmann and Linda Newson** (ILAS)

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***Ten Years of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA): Progress, Problems, and Prospects***  
**Institute of Latin American Studies, University of London**  
**26 February 2015**

**DEADLINE** 21 January 2015

Keynote speaker: **Olivier Dabène** (Sciences Po, Paris) President of the Political Observatory of Latin America and the Caribbean (OPALC), and author of *The Politics of Regional Integration in Latin America* (Palgrave, 2009)

It is now a decade since the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA) emerged as a cooperative, people-centred, solidarity-based alternative to the US-backed Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). With the support of major social movements and the success of its emblematic "doctors for oil" exchange between founders Venezuela and Cuba, ALBA soon grew to include Bolivia, Nicaragua, Dominica, Ecuador, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, and St Lucia. Innovative initiatives proliferated, not least an alternative trade framework (the People's Trade Agreement, TCP), a virtual currency (SUCRE), an oil-backed soft-loan scheme (Petrocaribe), state multinationals ("Grandnationals"), an intraregional development bank (ALBA Bank), and numerous internationalised health "missions". Most unusually of all, many initiatives extended beyond ALBA's explicit membership and into the rest of Latin America and the Caribbean, with a pioneering attempt to involve everyday citizens in regional governance through ALBA's Council of Social Movements.

But much has changed since 2004, both in ALBA's member-states and in the region more broadly. The New Left trend is no longer New, but questions remain about the nature and durability of the Leftism(s) driving it, especially with change afoot in Venezuela and Cuba after Chávez and (Fidel) Castro. While ALBA emerged alongside other "post(neo)liberal" regional projects like the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the region's tangled institutional web has since become more conflictive with the signing of various bi- and multilateral agreements of a more traditionally neoliberal character. ALBA has also faced opposition within member-states, the wider region, and beyond, most notably proving unable to prevent Honduras' exit following the ouster of its left-leaning president. And even post-crisis the headwinds of globalisation persist, with a recent drop in commodity prices jeopardising the resources that have underwritten much of ALBA's progress to date.

By bringing together scholars of ALBA from various disciplines – with levels of analysis from the micro to the macro – this one-day conference will address not only ALBA's achievements and innovations, but also its difficulties and tensions, asking: what can be learnt from its achievements so far? What are its prospects for the future? And what are the implications both theoretical and practical for the region and beyond?

Contributions relating to any area of ALBA's diverse activity are invited, though broad thematic areas include:

- ALBA's achievements and impacts over the last decade (specific or general)
- Researching ALBA: methodological/analytical issues, trends in the literature
- Popular and social-movement participation in ALBA
- Governance innovations and tensions, including postures/involvement of individual member-states
- Social justice, social policy, and human development within ALBA
- ALBA's relationship to New Left "postneoliberal" development models
- Interactions with other regional and international institutions, and ALBA as an actor in the wider world
- Historical and philosophical antecedents and underpinnings
- The future of ALBA and its initiatives, including internal and external threats to sustainability

Abstracts (250 words) should be submitted by 6pm, Wednesday 21 January, 2015 (via [Google Forms](#) – or for full-panel submissions contact [asa.cusack@sas.ac.uk](mailto:asa.cusack@sas.ac.uk)). Subsequent to the event, speakers may be invited for inclusion in an edited collection published by ILAS.

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***The Poetics and Politics of Humour in Contemporary Art of the Americas***  
**ARARA, Art and Architecture of the Americas, No. 12, 2014**

**DEADLINE** 31 January, 2015

Special issue edited by **Marina Barys, Valeria Paz Moscoso** and **Iberia Pérez**

In my view the best humour brings about a change of situation, a transient but significant shift in the way we view reality.  
 -- **Simon Critchley**

Humour is reason gone mad.  
 -- **Groucho Marx**

Humour is what soup, chickens and symphony orchestras lack.  
 -- **Aragon cited by André Breton**

Humour features prominently in the history of contemporary art. From painting to photography, from conceptual to mixed media and performance art, humour has been a common strategy deployed by artists within a wide range of art practices. In spite of the extensive tradition of humorous manifestations in art and the recent upsurge of exhibitions and public discussions on this matter, the topic of humour has been largely overlooked in the study and criticism of artistic productions. The next edition of ARARA, No. 12, aims to contribute to the scholarship around this topic by exploring the relationship between aesthetics and humour in the Americas.

Humour is an exemplary practice because, although relative and context specific, it is a universal human activity. While Sigmund Freud's view of humour as a release of repressed desires and thoughts played a key role for the avant-garde (André Breton), many contemporary artists have explored a wide range of different possibilities. Some artists have researched the cognitive potential of humour and its relation to language through puns, word games and comical pairings of text and image. Others have used strategies of defamiliarisation to explore how humour shifts the way we perceive reality and ourselves. As proposed by Simon Critchley, the humanity of humour is being able to laugh at oneself, in finding oneself ridiculous.

In its ludic dimension, humour introduces an element of uncertainty and disruption which counterbalances the structure provided by ritual (law). Many artists have used the body as a tool to resist dominant culture, often employing the carnivalesque through strategies of the grotesque such as displacement, exaggeration, and the creation of hybrid symbols (Mikhail Bakhtin). The body has also been used in authoritarian regimes, such as dictatorships, to potentiate collective enjoyment against oppression and fear. In this sense, laughter, as a bodily expression of humour, follows an ethical project (Georges Bataille).

Artistic feminist practices have relied on wit, satire, irony and play to challenge and transgress patriarchal hegemony by questioning gender roles, unequal gender representations, and notions of femininity. Furthermore, feminist artists have used humour to question art history's male dominated discourse and as a form of institutional critique. Similar deployments of humour like the absurd, ridicule, parody, and sarcasm

have been used by artists against the formality and elitism of the art world, and to unsettle the acceptable limits of humour within institutional structures.

While humour may have a subversive potential, it can also be used as a form of coercion and/or to reproduce power structures. Is humour used to perpetuate the normative system or rather, to defy it? This issue of ARARA aims to explore this and other questions that interrogate how humour may function within contemporary art practices in the context of the Americas.

We welcome contributions in English or Spanish in the form of articles, reviews or interviews. Possible topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Humour as an alternative mode of perception and meaning
- The revolutionary potential of humour: humour as subversive and /or liberating strategy
- The role of humour in community building or social exclusion
- Humour to critique or unmask authoritarian, colonial, hegemonic, institutional contexts
- Humour in the (re)creation of subjectivity and identity politics \* Masking the humorous/humour as masquerade
- Black humour
- The performativity of humour
- The body politics of humour
- Gender and humour
- Carnavalesque and the festive
- The laughing grotesque
- Humour's therapeutic function
- Play and the ludic in humour
- The relation between ethics and humour

If you would like to contribute to the upcoming issue of ARARA please send a 300-word abstract to [arara@essex.ac.uk](mailto:arara@essex.ac.uk) no later than 31 January, 2015.

For further details, please consult the submission guidelines in our webpage:

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/arthistory/research/arara.aspx>

***Atlantic Communities: Translation, Mobility, Hospitality***  
**University of Vigo (Spain)**  
**17 - 18 September 2015**

**DEADLINE** 31 January 2015

Co-organized by: University of Vigo / University of Porto / Queen's University Belfast  
 Confirmed Keynote Speakers: **Michael Cronin** (Dublin City University) & **Charles Forsdick** (University of Liverpool)

The Atlantic Ocean has historically played a major role in the relationship between the "Old World" and the "New World" both perceived as a geographical and cultural divide between continents but also functioning as a space of transit, mobility and hospitality. Accordingly, the history and culture of the diverse countries and continents that border the Atlantic tends to be studied either in terms of regional influence within the framework of a geopolitics, or as a series of exchanges and encounters between the different people and territories on or near the Atlantic shores.

This international conference seeks to bring together scholars from across the social sciences and the humanities in order both to extend the focus of these approaches and to suggest new ways of thinking about what binds and what separates the communities and individuals that inhabit the complex social and cultural spaces on both sides of the Atlantic.

We invite proposals for twenty-minute papers that address these broad concerns. A suggested, though not prescriptive, list of questions that potential contributors may wish to interrogate and/or illustrate includes:

- The Atlantic as an itinerary rather than a bounded site.
- The movement of people and ideas.
- Enforced migration and its consequences.
- Trans/Atlantic journeys and translational processes.
- Cultural exchange and encounter: contact, transfer and transformation.
- Representations in transit: the Atlantic in writing, images and sounds.
- "The rumble of tongues": linguistic exchanges around/across the Atlantic.
- The tracing of an Atlantic identity: Atlantic communities and national/political organization.

300-word abstracts to be sent to the organizers at: [atlantico@uvigo.es](mailto:atlantico@uvigo.es) by 31 January 2015.

These will be peer reviewed and acceptance will be notified by 28 February 2015.

Further details may be obtained from the organizers, **Teresa Caneda**, **Rui Carvalho Homem** and **David Johnston**, by emailing: [atlantico@uvigo.es](mailto:atlantico@uvigo.es)

***New historical perspectives on nature and knowledge in Latin America***  
**Institute of Latin American Studies, Senate House, University of London, London, WC1E 7HU**  
**May 22, 2015**

**DEADLINE** 1 February 2015

Organisers: **Sophie Brockmann** (ILAS) and Michela Coletta (ILAS / University of Warwick)

This one-day workshop will bring together different historical perspectives on the study of nature in Latin America from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries. It will approach the topic of historical understandings of landscapes, environment, natural resources, natural disasters, flora and fauna from interdisciplinary historical perspectives. Papers will contribute to our understanding of how scholars and communities in Latin America have historically engaged with the nature and the landscapes surrounding them, and the relationship of such engagement to broader intellectual, social, political and economic currents.

Topics such as science and society, natural history, representations of landscapes and management of natural resources have become increasingly prominent in historical studies of Latin America. Many of these histories raise fundamental questions about the social and cultural construction of nature. This workshop seeks to identify new research frontiers by surveying key issues for a range of periods and different geographical sub-regions, and to provide a nuanced view of the manifold ways in which individuals, institutions and governments have studied, understood and represented nature.

This workshop will form part of a broader series of events at the Institute of Latin American Studies around the topic of the history of knowledge in Latin America. We hope that the workshop, by bringing together emerging as well as established scholars, will identify mutual research interests and lay the groundwork for future collaborations and conferences.

Deadline for abstracts: February 1, 2015

Please send paper proposals (200-250 words) and a short bio (up to 100 words) to [sophie.brockmann@sas.ac.uk](mailto:sophie.brockmann@sas.ac.uk)

**Cultural Narratives of Crisis and Renewal\***  
**Newcastle University**  
**24-26 June 2015**

**DEADLINE** 11 March 2015

This conference hosted by the School of Modern Languages and the Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies invites papers examining the cultural production and cultural practices in the context of societal crisis, on both sides of the Atlantic. Our aim is to establish a dialogue about the narratives on moments of crisis and images of renewal in Latin American and Iberian cultural production.

Keynote speaker: **Prof. Jean Franco** (Columbia University)

We welcome papers on the following topics or others relevant to the conference main theme:

- Cultural production responding to societal crises in Latin America and Spain (comics, film, graffiti, literature, music, photography, telenovela, theatre)
- The 'neoliberal turn' in Latin America in the 1970s.
- The experience of crisis in transatlantic relations.
- Financial uncertainty and the rise of amateurism.
- Collectives, associations and spaces for cultural production.
- Alternative cultures (and social or economic practices) in periods of crises.
- Cultural renewal.
- Ethnogenesis and cultural production, linguistic revitalization.



**NB:** The conference will host an exhibition by visual artist Javier de Isusi and will screen the documentary *De mar a mar* based on the life and work of exiled Republican intellectual and playwright José Ricardo Morales. In association with the *Vamos Festival*, work by lettering artist Elliot Tupac will be displayed.

Please send your proposals by 11 March 2015 to [conferencenewcastle@gmail.com](mailto:conferencenewcastle@gmail.com)  
Include title, affiliation and 150-200 word abstract.

\* Cultural Narratives of Crisis and Renewal (CRIC) is a four-year collaborative research project sponsored by the European Union Marie Curie RISE fund. The overarching aim of the project is to investigate the role of cultural production as a vehicle to elucidate experiences of crisis.

Participating institutions: Newcastle University; University of Amsterdam; Universitat de València; Universitat de Lleida; Universidad Austral de Chile; Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú; Universidad Nacional de Córdoba; Universidad Nacional Tres de Febrero. The project is coordinated by Drs Jorge Catalá Carrasco and Patricia Oliart.

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**Beyond Speech: Silence and the Unspeakable across Cultures**  
**University of Manchester**  
**8 May 2015**

**DEADLINE** 16 March 2015

Proposals are invited for twenty-minute papers to be delivered in English for the international and interdisciplinary conference *Beyond Speech: Silence and the Unspeakable across Cultures*, to be held at the University of Manchester on the 8th May 2015.

The conference aims to explore the ways in which silence, the ineffable, and the unspeakable are represented, interpreted, and subverted across a broad range of cultures and cultural media.

Contemporary theory has problematised traditional notions of meaning and signification. Rather than approaching texts with the aim of deciphering a single message from a supposedly coherent self, scholars are increasingly drawing our attention to how texts "mean" in various other ways. This international, interdisciplinary conference aims to explore this direction in cultural studies by discussing how cultural texts are capable of expressing the ineffable, of hinting at concepts and ideas that are beyond speech and therefore outside straight-forward meaning-making. This creates a paradoxical tension, as texts attempt to represent concepts that can be considered as beyond representation. It equally gives rise to methodologies that foreground the materiality of art, as opposed to its signifying role.

- How have cultural texts and artefacts sought to bridge the void of representation that lies beyond speech?
- How can concepts and meanings located beyond standard modes of representation be expressed and considered?
- In what ways do attempts to frame such concepts affect cultural power structures?

**Examples of potential topics include, but are by no means limited to:**

- bodies and corporeality
- affect
- sound and soundscapes
- theories of non-representation
- noise and the unintelligible
- post-subjectivity
- mysticism
- the sublime
- materiality
- 'lost in translation'
- the unspeakable
- silence and silencing
- the abject and the grotesque
- pain, violence, and trauma
- oppression and censorship
- sexual and gender identities
- the unknown and unknowable
- language and its limits
- commemoration and memorials

We are particularly interested in media from cultures and subcultures beyond, or marginal to the English-speaking world, but will consider all proposals.

Please submit abstracts of 250 words as Word or PDF email attachments to [beyondspeech15@gmail.com](mailto:beyondspeech15@gmail.com) by March 16th 2015.

For further information, please see our website at <http://beyondspeech2015.wordpress.com> or email [beyondspeech15@gmail.com](mailto:beyondspeech15@gmail.com).

TOP

BOOKS

***The Politics of Autonomy in Latin America: the art of Organising hope***

**By Ana Cecilia Dinerstein**

**Forewords by Gustavo Esteva, Unitierra, Mexico, and Werner Bonefeld, University of York, UK**

**Palgrave Macmillan**

**ISBN 9780230272088**

<http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/the-politics-of-autonomy-in-latin-america-ana-cecilia-dinerstein/?K=9780230272088>

Dinerstein offers a much-needed critical review of the concept and practice of autonomy. Defining autonomy as either revolutionary or ineffective vis-à-vis the state does not fully grasp the commitment of Latin American movements to the creation of alternative practices and horizons beyond capitalism, patriarchy and coloniality. By establishing an elective affinity between autonomy and Bloch's principle of hope, Dinerstein defines autonomy as 'the art of organizing hope', that is, the art of shaping a reality which is not yet but can be anticipated by the movements' collective actions. Drawing from the experience of four prominent indigenous and non-indigenous urban and rural movements, Dinerstein suggests that the politics of autonomy is a struggle that simultaneously negates, creates, deals with contradictions and, above all, produces an excess beyond demarcation that cannot be translated into the grammar of power. Reading Marx's method in key of hope, the book offers a prefigurative critique of political economy and emphasises the prefigurative features of indigenous and non indigenous autonomies at a time when utopia can no longer be objected.

*"Terrific and necessary.... The art of organising Hope. That is what we so desperately need, that is why the book is so important."*

-- **John Holloway** (Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico).

*"Dinerstein's book is a major intervention which places the hopes, contradictions and possibilities of social movements centre-stage, while recognizing the specificity of Latin American and indigenous experiences. Clear and powerful, this work is badly needed."*

-- **Laurence Cox** (National University of Ireland Maynooth, Ireland).

*"The book is terrific. It is teeming with radical scholarship"*

-- **Mike Neary** (University of Lincoln, UK).

*"This book demonstrates how the philosophy of Ernst Bloch cannot be said to exist in a purely abstract vacuum, as is often contended in western philosophical debate."*

-- **Peter Thompson** (University of Sheffield, UK).

**Ana C. Dinerstein** is Associate Professor in the Department of Social and Policy Sciences at the University of Bath, UK ([A.C.Dinerstein@bath.ac.uk](mailto:A.C.Dinerstein@bath.ac.uk)).

TOP

INTERNSHIPS / SCHOLARSHIPS / STUDENTSHIPS / FUNDING / GRANTS / AWARDS

**87 x PhD scholarships  
University of Birmingham**

**DEADLINE** 14 January 2015

Through the [Midlands 3Cities Doctoral Training Partnership](#), the University of Birmingham is proud to accept applications for the 87 PhD studentships to be awarded across six

institutions in 2015/16.

This doctoral scheme provides studentships to enable you to undertake and complete a doctoral degree. Studentships will normally be for up to three years for full-time study, or up to six years for part-time study.

The Department of Hispanic Studies in the University of Birmingham invites applications to undertake PhDs from well-qualified candidates. Staff members' expertise include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Contemporary Hispanic women's narrative;**  
crime and detective fictions; cultural responses to violence; women's studies in Spain.
- **Hispanic Caribbean and Latin American literature;**  
gender and post-colonial studies. The invention of America in the Spanish culture of the exile of 1939, women's personal narratives; 19th and 20th-century Spanish literature, modern Spanish poetry.
- **20th-century Hispanic narrative;**  
the avantgarde novel of the 1920s; the social novel of the 1930s; Spanish Republican Exile, María Zambrano.
- **Portuguese literature in English translation;**  
the anthology in Portugal; the Uruguayan short story; advertising language; translation studies..
- **Modern Hispanic poetry and narrative;**  
intellectual history, the interaction between literature and history, exile and censorship in Hispanic culture.
- **Textual editing;**  
medieval chronicles; comparative philology; Hispanic linguistics.
- **Golden Age literature and culture;**  
drama and theatre in early modern Europe.
- **Cultural Memory, Contemporary Spanish narrative and film;**  
Gender and Spatiality.
- Catalan Studies.

To apply now, please visit our [Application Page](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/calgs/scholarships/ahrc-application-midlands3cities.aspx) at the following website:  
<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/calgs/scholarships/ahrc-application-midlands3cities.aspx>.

Initial inquiries can also be made at [ahrc@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:ahrc@contacts.bham.ac.uk), or by contacting individual staff members.

### **PhD Studentships in Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies (AHRC : NWCDTP) University of Manchester**

**DEADLINES 23 January 2015** (Manchester applications for those intending to apply to AHRC). **17.00 GMT, 13 February 2015** (AHRC Funding Application)

Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies (SPLAS) at the University of Manchester invites applications for PhD study and AHRC funding for projects in Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies. The 'Modern Languages' and 'Cultural Studies' Pathways of the AHRC North West Consortium Doctoral Training Partnership Centre are open to applications for PhD (+3) studentships in Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies at Manchester.

More information on how to apply to AHRC is available at:  
<http://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/fees/postgraduate-research-funding/>

### **PhD Funding Awards (School & PDS) University of Manchester**

**DEADLINES 23 January 2015** (Manchester PhD Applications for School and PDS awards). **17.00 GMT, 13 February 2015** (AHRC Funding Application)

Manchester also invites candidates in Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies, both UK/EU and Overseas, to apply for our School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (SALC) Award Scheme and our President's Doctoral Scholar (PDS) Award schemes. Details of these are available at: <http://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/fees/postgraduate-research-funding/>

Further enquiries for all of these awards may be directed to **Professor Hilary Owen** on [hilary.owen@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:hilary.owen@manchester.ac.uk)

Applicants should consult our SPLAS academic research specialisms at Manchester before applying for the above schemes:

<http://www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/subjects/splas/people/>

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**Santander D.Phil Studentship in Spanish/Spanish American Literary and/or Linguistic Studies**  
**Faculty of Medieval & Modern Languages, University of Oxford**

**DEADLINE** 13 March 2015

£20,000 p.a. for 3 years

The Faculty of Medieval & Modern Languages at the University of Oxford invite applications for the Santander D.Phil studentship in Spanish or Spanish American Literary and/or Linguistic Studies, for candidates wishing to commence doctoral studies in October 2015.

Members of the sub-faculty of Spanish at Oxford offer supervision on a wide range of research areas in peninsular and Latin American literary/linguistic studies. For more information about the work we do, please visit our website: [http://www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk/spanish\\_staff](http://www.mod-langs.ox.ac.uk/spanish_staff)

The Santander D.Phil studentship will offer the successful candidate £20,000 per annum for three years. The Santander studentship award can be held in conjunction with other sources of funding.

Applicants for the studentship should normally be residents of the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Germany, Ghana, Korea, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Uruguay, UK, UAE, USA, Qatar or Venezuela.

Those interested in being considered for the Santander studentship should apply by either of the University of Oxford's main deadlines for submission of graduate applications: Friday, **23 January 2015** or Friday, **13 March 2015**. Candidates are encouraged to apply by the January deadline.

For more information on how to apply for the scheme, please visit the University of Oxford graduate funding page: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/graduate-scholarships/university-wide-scholarships/santander-dphil-scholarship-spanish-studies>

Please contact **María del Pilar Blanco** ([maria.blanco@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:maria.blanco@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk)) with any informal queries about the Spanish sub-faculty. You may also contact Stephen Lay ([stephen.lay@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:stephen.lay@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk)) with questions about the application process.

TOP

JOBS

**Lecturer / Senior Lecturer / Reader In Art History**  
**School of Philosophy & Art History, University of Essex**  
**Ref: ACR501**

**DEADLINE** 31 January 2015

The School of Philosophy and Art History at the University of Essex is pleased to invite applications for a post with the rank of Lecturer (with eligibility for permanency), Senior Lecturer, or Reader. We are well represented in 20th and 21st century art and visual culture, and particularly seek someone with expertise in the history of art, architecture, and/or visual culture between the dates of 1300 and 1850.

You will be expected to carry out a vigorous programme of independent research, to contribute broadly to teaching and supervision activities within the School, and to participate in the usual range of administrative duties. Essential qualifications for the post include: a PhD (or one awaiting examination) in Art History or a related discipline, or equivalent professional experience; evidence of research excellence; experience of teaching in a higher education environment or the demonstrable potential for excellence in teaching.

Essex Art History is part of the School of Philosophy and Art History, a community of academics who share a common project of researching and teaching art and ideas. We were ranked in the top ten in the last UK Research Assessment Exercise, and eleventh nationally in the Complete University Guide 2015. We offer a wide range of courses for undergraduates, taught postgraduates and doctoral research students in an environment that emphasises collaboration and collegiality for both research and teaching. The University is home to the largest public collection of Latin American art in Europe ([www.escala.org.uk](http://www.escala.org.uk)) and a campus gallery called Art Exchange. We also have strong links with regional visual arts organisations including Firstsite ([www.firstsite.uk.net](http://www.firstsite.uk.net)) in Colchester.

Essex Art History features a dynamic group of art historians who investigate the production and reception of images and built environments, across cultures and media from the early modern period to the present. While we adopt a diverse range of approaches in our writing and teaching, our work demonstrates a commitment to three key ideas:

**1. The social and political implications of art, architecture, and visual culture.**

All forms of visual culture – from paintings to building interiors, from medical imagery to tattoos – emerge from and contribute to the mediation of social and political forces. Scholars at Essex investigate the role of art and visual culture in the assertion, negotiation, and contestation of power in relation to a variety of topics, including the planning of tyrants' cities in the Italian Renaissance; the entanglement of the historical avant-garde with the politics of Fascism; and the production of objects by contemporary activists in pursuit of social change. Throughout our work, we emphasise issues of autonomy, agency, dissent, and the contestation of the public realm.

**2. Space, place, and locale.**

Art historians at Essex are strongly concerned with the conceptualisation, production, experience, and representation of spaces and places. We investigate topics that include the ideologies that drive urban change; architectural metaphors in software design; the fusion of real and imaginary places in religious paintings; the design of exhibition spaces and the implications of curatorial practice; and the varied locales and landscapes of the county of Essex itself.

**3. Art produced beyond its historic institutions.**

We are committed to bringing the approaches of art history into contact with other disciplines and discourses in order to interrogate objects of our shared visual and material culture, including body art, medical illustrations, wax casts, activist placards, and Fascist floor mosaics. Our trans disciplinary approach facilitates critical engagement with an array of works of art and visual culture that stand both within and beyond the traditional canons of art history.

Please use the link below for a full job description, person specification and further information relating to this post. Please read this information carefully before applying for this post as it contains details of documents that must be attached to your application. Applications should be made on-line, but if you would like advice or help in making an application, or need information in a different format, please telephone (01206 874588/873521).

**Further information**

- [JOB PACK](#) [PDF]
- [APPLY](#)

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**Tutorial Fellowship and Associate Professorship or Professorship of Spanish Wadham College, St Hugh's College and the University of Oxford**

**DEADLINE** 9 February 2015 (13.00 GMT)

Wadham College, St Hugh's College and the University of Oxford propose to make a joint appointment in Spanish American Literature, with effect from 1 September 2015, or as soon as possible thereafter. The postholder will be a Tutorial Fellow of Wadham College, a Lecturer at St Hugh's College, and an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages in the University.

For the colleges, the successful candidate will be expected to teach a range of papers in Spanish literature and language to undergraduates reading for degrees involving Spanish, and will be responsible for overseeing the academic programmes of those students and for monitoring their progress. For the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, the postholder will be expected to teach across the range of papers in the

first-year (Prelims) course and in appropriate areas of the Final Honours School course (years two and four). Core teaching will centre on Final Honours School Paper VIII (Modern Spanish American Literature: 1811 to the present day) and Paper XI (Modern Prescribed Authors), as well as relevant options of Paper XII (Special Subjects). Among the duties of the new postholder will be to assist in the recruitment of graduate students in the relevant area(s) of speciality, to contribute to the development of new Masters degree options in Spanish American Literature and Culture, and to supervise and examine graduate students. Candidates with a research specialism in colonial Spanish American Literature will also be considered for this post.

Applicants for this post should have a record of high quality research and publication that would contribute to and enhance the national and international profiles of the College and the Faculty; the ability to provide excellent teaching for both undergraduate and graduate students, a doctoral degree in a relevant field; native or near-native command of both Spanish and English; excellent interpersonal and organisational skills and the ability to contribute to the administration of the College and the University.

The combined College and University salary on a scale from £44,620 - £59,914 p.a.. Additional College allowances, including a housing allowance of £8,415 per annum, are available as set out in the further particulars.

Further particulars and an application form may be obtained from <http://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/about-wadham/jobs>, or from the Warden's Executive Assistant, Wadham College, Oxford, email [wardens.secretary@wadham.ox.ac.uk](mailto:wardens.secretary@wadham.ox.ac.uk), to whom applications should be submitted by 1.00 pm GMT on Monday 9 February 2015. Candidates should ask three referees to write directly to the Warden's Executive Assistant by the same date and should supply each referee with a copy of the Further Particulars. Referees may submit their references by email.

Applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.

Wadham College, St Hugh's College and the University of Oxford are Equal Opportunities Employers.

**TOP**

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**Last Updated:** 29.07.18 | **Website Editor & Technical Admin:** Christy Palmer [christy\\_palmer@mac.com](mailto:christy_palmer@mac.com)