



HORROR VACUI

Calambur 5th Graduate
Student Conference

University of Minnesota
Department of Spanish & Portuguese Studies

March 30-31, 2018
Coffman Memorial Union

Bienvenidos Bem-vindos

The organizing committee of graduate students of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies at the University of Minnesota would like to welcome and thank you all for joining us this weekend on the Minneapolis campus for our 5th annual International Graduate Conference.

This year's conference, titled "Horror vacui", is meant to bring attention to and open a discussion of different types of cultural, aesthetic, linguistic, and political emptiness, as well as the fear and anguish they cause and the respective strategies available to address their suppression and occupation. Along these lines, we aim to interpret emptiness through timely topics including environmental crises, postcolonialism, identity politics, language contact, human rights, image and photographic studies, music and sound, among many others reaching widely across disciplines. The conference features several paper presentation sessions representing diverse areas dealing with topics in Spanish, Portuguese, and contact varieties, as well as a discussion panel, and a movie screening. We are also excited to welcome and benefit from the participation of two keynote speakers, well-known figures in the field of Hispanic studies: Prof. Yuri Herrera (Tulane University), and Prof. Manuel Díaz Campos (University of Indiana-Bloomington).

We hope you enjoy your time at the conference and at the University of Minnesota. We look forward to two days of inspiring presentations, discussions, networking, and collaboration!

Sincerely,

The Calambur Organizing Committee

Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies

University of Minnesota

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José Antonio Aguirre Pombo

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Olga Salazar Pozos

Natalia Defiel

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Vivian Franco Díaz

Alejandra Takahira

Tim Frye

Lauren Truman

Yoko Hama

Javier Zapata Clavería

Overview

All events take place in the President's Room, third floor, Coffman Memorial Union (unless otherwise noted). 300 Washington Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

Friday, March 30th, 2018

8:15 – 8:45	Registration & Breakfast
8:45 – 9:00	Welcome & Opening Remarks – Dr. Timothy Face, Department Chair
9:00 – 10:30	Paper session 1
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 12:15	Paper session 2 (Conference room 323)
	Paper session 3 (Conference room 326)
12:15 – 1:15	Lunch (for presenters)
1:15 – 2:15	Paper session 4
2:15 – 2:30	Break
2:30 – 4:00	Keynote Address – Dr. Yuri Herrera, Tulane University
4:00 – 4:15	Break
4:15 – 5:15	Discussion panel
5:15 – 6:00	Dinner Reception
6:00 – 7:30	Film Screening
	El botón de nácar (2015) by Patricio Guzmán

Saturday, March 31st, 2018

8:30 – 9:00	Registration & Breakfast
9:00 – 10:30	Paper session 5
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 12:45	Paper session 6
12:45 – 1:45	Lunch (for presenters)
1:45 – 3:15	Paper session 7
3:15 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 5:00	Keynote Address – Dr. Manuel Díaz Campos, University of Indiana-Bloomington
5:00 – 5:15	Closing Remarks – Dr. William Viestenz, Director of Graduate Studies
6:00	Dinner at the home of Carol Klee & Luis Ramos García
	2129 Folwell Avenue, Falcon Heights, MN
	(Presenters are welcome to carpool with UMN students from the conference location)

Keynote Speakers

Friday March 30, 2:30-4:00 (President's Room, Coffman Memorial Union)



Dr. Yuri Herrera

Tulane University

“La memoria contra el vacío. Historia del incendio de la mina El Bordo”

Yuri Herrera leerá un adelanto de su nuevo libro *El incendio de la mina El Bordo*, en el cual reconstruye la historia real de cómo docenas de mineros fueron encerrados en una mina en llamas en la ciudad de Pachuca, México, en 1920, y cómo la institución encargada de investigar construyó una verdad legal que exculpaba a los dueños de la mina.

* The poet Roy Guzmán will moderate the Q&A session.

Saturday March 31, 3:30-5:00 (President's Room, Coffman Memorial Union)



Dr. Manuel Díaz Campos

Indiana University-Bloomington

“The contributions of sociolinguistics and semantics to the study of social meaning in perception and production: An analysis of phonological variation in Puerto Rican Spanish”

The question of how social meaning fits within typologies of meaning has received recent attention. This work applies formal semantic tests to the analysis of sociolinguistic variables under the assumption that sociophonetic meaning is a type of conventional meaning. This paper builds on this research by examining the behavior of the social meanings of two variants of /r/ in Puerto Rican Spanish (PRS): the velar fricative, associated with rural, older, male speakers, and the trill, associated with speakers of other dialects of Spanish. We ask whether participants are

aware of the social meaning associated with these variants and, using semantic tests, whether they treat sociolinguistic meaning as “at issue” or as subsidiary to the main content of the utterance. Thus, we combine sociolinguistic and semantic tools in order to better understand the behavior of social information. In this presentation, we report the results of two experiments: (a) experiment one is concerned with the role of language attitudes in the evaluation of sociolinguistic variation (syllable-final /r/ and the /r/), and (b) experiment two examines the relationship between social evaluation and semantics of the /r/.

Keynote Speakers

For the first experiment, twenty-nine participants completed a perception task based on the matched guise technique. Additionally, thirty-two speakers of PRS completed two tasks using Likert scales (1-7). In the first, participants rated how surprised they were about the identity of speakers (jíbaro 'rural, autochthonous' vs extranjero 'foreigner') containing the relevant variants. In the second task, an acceptability rating of mini-dialogues was designed to test whether sociolinguistic meaning behaves as secondary information or not-at-issue content, using negation and the Hey Wait a Minute Test [HWMT] (Shannon 1976, von Stechow 2004). The results from the first experiment revealed that female participants give more negative scores than males, although male stimuli received more negative scores than female stimuli. Overall, vernacular variants received considerably worse scores than non-vernacular variants. As for the second experiment, a generalized estimated equations analysis of the data from task 1 revealed that participants are aware of the sociolinguistic meanings associated with the variants, especially so for the velar variant ($p < .000$); gender of the speaker is marginally significant. Task 2 showed that participants are sensitive to the distinction between main content and social meaning; they treat social meaning as secondary, not-at-issue information. When the analysis is split by sociolinguistic variant (trill versus velar fricative) there were no differences in the participants' answers for the main entailment condition; stimuli with both variants were equally acceptable. In contrast, the social meaning condition shows differences according to the variant; the velar variant shows higher acceptability ratings. These findings suggest that sociolinguistic meaning patterns like conventional meaning when there is a well-established value of the particular variant. Further research should examine the behavior of variants not clearly associated with a particular social meaning.

Film screening:

El botón de Nácar by Patricio Guzmán

Friday March 30, 6:00-7:30 (President's Room, Coffman Memorial Union)



Patricio Guzmán's *El botón de nácar* (2015) sews together two pearl buttons associated with the Chilean sea. Orundellico, a member of the Yámana people, was traded one in the 19th century in exchange for his passage towards a "civilized" experience England. Henceforth known as "Jemmy Button," he was never fully at home when he returned to Patagonia. The second button, discovered off the Chilean coast in the 21st century, was attached to a piece of rail used to sink a corpse during the dictatorship. The body itself has neither been found nor returned home. Guzmán's haunting and sensorial documentary traces nature's memory and voice throughout centuries of violence in Chile, a country

whose physiognomy is defined by the ocean. This natural body has served as a witness to all manner of things disappeared: cultures, customs, cosmovisions, and human beings themselves. The film addresses that which has been lost through testimonies of members of surviving native tribes, former political prisoners, and the messages of the ocean—a constant, ambivalent character privy to Chile's development.

Program

Paper Session 1

(Friday, 9:00-10:30, President's Room)

Moderator: Dr. Jaime Hanneken

El silencio neobarroco de Alejandra Pizarnik

Javier Zapata Clavería, University of Minnesota

La presentación tratará el análisis de los elementos neobarrocos en la obra de la poeta Alejandra Pizarnik y la idoneidad de su adhesión a dicho movimiento literario. Para ello se recurrirá a los paralelismos formales y temáticos que la obra de la escritora argentina comparte con Severo Sarduy, haciendo énfasis en el silencio como estrategia neobarroca definitiva para la disolución de los significados y, por tanto, del sujeto.

Blanco/negro, vacío/lleño: las palabras en tensión en Galáxias de Haroldo de Campos

Berta García Faet, Brown University

Haroldo de Campos publicó en 1984 uno de los libros más raros de la poesía latinoamericana post-vanguardias: *Galáxias*. Los elementos no-semánticos inventores de sentido del libro como objeto apuntan a una estructura que promueve una metáfora plástica sobre sí misma, que admite un contrapunto con la etapa post-"multiform" de Mark Rothko. El componente gráfico-visual del libro-objeto converge, además, con las tensiones semánticas: la voz lírica se debate entre "hablas" y "hados", entre amenazantes vacíos blancos que acechan al negro de la escritura.

The Capital of the Jungle, the Jungle of Capital: Baroque textures in A Caligrafia de Deus by Márcio Souza

Tim Frye, University of Minnesota

This paper analyzes the baroque and neobaroque elements that characterize *A caligrafia de Deus* (1993) and *A cidade ilhada* (2009) as constitutive of an alternative modernity during the industrialization of the Brazilian Amazon. Hatoum and Souza unpack modernity along the hydrological environs of Manaus, particularly its igarapés [streams].

Paper Session 2

(Friday, 10:45-12:15, Conference room 323)

Moderator: Dr. Carol Klee

Doblaje clítico de objeto directo en el español hablado de Castilla La-Mancha

Celia Bravo Díaz, University of Minnesota

La presente investigación analiza el fenómeno de la duplicación con pronombre clítico de objeto directo en la variedad de español de Castilla La-Mancha, y examina la relación entre el uso de los pronombres clíticos en las construcciones que presentan duplicación y la selección de clíticos de estos hablantes en estructuras no duplicadas.

Falta, falha, fala em Manuel António Pina: o vazio na poesia moderna portuguesa

Aline Erthal, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

Estes versos de Manuel António Pina condensam um dos mais frequentes procedimentos da modernidade portuguesa: reconhecer na falta (ou vazio), mais do que um tema, a potência da fala poética. Nesta comunicação, observaremos como a falta relaciona-se, em Pina, com o descompasso entre sujeito, mundo e escrita, e constitui, a um só tempo, escassez e excesso.

Desarrollando la lengua de la diáspora: la confrontación del inglés vernáculo negro con el español dominicano

Amariah Ritchie, Centre College

This study examines the way in which Dominicans in the United States construct black identity once in contact with the use of Black English Vernacular (BEV). This investigation focuses on how first-generation Dominicans use BEV to develop an inclusive identity by negotiating their ethnolinguistic variants, and preconceived notions about blackness within their families. As this presentation shows, BEV serves as an entryway for Dominicans to the black community within the US and reveals the existence of a larger diasporic language that transcends linguistic and racial categorizations.

Paper Session 3

(Friday, 10:45-12:15, Conference room 326)

Moderator: Dr. Ana Paula Ferreira

~~Hibridismo e multiterritorialidade: Migrantes nordestinos em Ituiutaba, MG~~

~~Daniel Féo Castro de Araújo, Universidade Federal de Uberlândia~~

~~Este trabalho tiene como objetivo reflexionar sobre la (re)territorialização de los migrantes nordestinos en el barrio Novo Tempo II, municipio de Ituiutaba, MG, teniendo como punto de partida el enraizamiento de nuevos trazos culturales en el área investigada. Más específicamente, se definió cómo objetivos específicos: la recolección de informaciones sobre los orígenes geográficos y culturales de los migrantes e identificar los indicadores que reflejan las relaciones mantenidas con su cultura de origen.~~ CANCELED

Adopt, Adapt and Digest: José de Lima Figueiredo Explores Japan's Assimilation of Foreign Cultural Influences

Olivia Holloway Salzano, Indiana University

Brazilian diplomat José de Lima Figueiredo's *No Japão foi assim* (1941) examines Japan's tendency to adopt what is useful from foreign cultures, adapt those elements to suit the Japanese value system and digest those influences. Adopting the pertinent and discarding the extraneous (an arguably anthropophagic process) was translatable to Brazilians dealing with the inward flow of diverse cultural influences with heavy immigrant flows into Brazil early in the twentieth century.

~~A letra aniquilada~~

~~Rodrigo Jorge Ribeiro Neves, Instituto de Estudos Brasileiros da Universidade de São Paulo (IEB-USP)~~

~~Esta comunicação pretende discutir a questão do vazio material de documentos por meio de duas situações no projeto de edição da correspondência de Mário de Andrade e Carlos Lacerda: a inexistência da maioria das cartas enviadas pelo escritor paulista, devido a um extravio envolvendo seu destinatário, e o não envio de duas cartas de Mário para o jornalista carioca, encontradas em seu arquivo, a fim de tentar resgatar a letra, signo gráfico e também carta (letter / l'etter), de seu aniquilamento.~~ CANCELED

Paper Session 4

(Friday, 1:15-2:15, President's Room)

Moderator: Dr. Sophia Beal

Fear's Most Beautiful Name: Forced Silence in Caetano Veloso's *Araçá Azul*

Sean McPherson, South Puget Sound Community College

Caetano Veloso's 1972 album *Araçá Azul* exists in part as a sound collage documenting Brazil at this moment in history. It is only natural, therefore, that the theme of forced silence should find its way onto the LP, since it was recorded in the midst of the most oppressive phase of the country's military dictatorship. Indeed, at two key moments in *Araçá Azul*, Caetano's lyrics speak of fear of censorship and an untimely death.

Struggles and Achievements: The Black Activism in Brazil

João Gabriel do Nascimento Nganga, Universidade Federal de Uberlândia / University of Minnesota

The objective of this work is to investigate and to problematize the presence and activism of Black filmmakers through cinema. I search to understand the forms of activism that Black filmmakers seek to shatter the representations and narratives full of stereotypes of the Black population in cinema, as well to counter the absent images and some symbols.

Discussion Panel

Filming the void. The cinema of Patricio Guzmán

(Friday, 4:15-5:15, President's Room)

Moderator: Dr. Ana Forcinito

Dr. Justin Butler, Macalester College

Valentina Salas, University of Minnesota

Félix Zamora Gómez, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Eva Palma, University of Minnesota

Paper Session 5

(Saturday, 9:00-10:30, President's Room)

Moderator: Dr. William Viestenz

Academic Expression: A Dual-language Analysis of Bilingual and L2 Spanish Writing

Tripp Strawbridge, University of Minnesota

This study explores the written syntactic complexity of bilingual and L2 Spanish university students in both Spanish and English.

Machado de Assis y el efecto búmeran en los cuentos "O lapso", "O alienista" y "Conto alexandrino"

Sabino Torres Núñez, Purdue University

El ensayo explora la mirada crítica y particularmente irónica de los diferentes narradores de las historias de Machado de Assis hacia el desempeño laboral de los profesionales extranjeros o formados en el extranjero que pululan en sus ficciones del Brasil del siglo XIX. Se detiene a resaltar una estructura común en la construcción de los distintos discursos con que el autor ha abordado dicho proceso, tomando como corpus de análisis los cuentos "O lapso", "Conto alexandrino" y "O alienista".

La construcción y destrucción de la identidad en *Morirse de Memoria* de Emiliano Monge

Olga Salazar Pozos, University of Minnesota

En cada una de sus novelas, Emiliano Monge explora un acercamiento filosófico distinto para construir el concepto de memoria de cada uno de sus protagonistas. Este trabajo trata sobre la construcción y destrucción del sujeto en su primera novela *Morirse de memoria*, partiendo del análisis de la estructura piramidal de la psique propuesto por Jung. Se analiza la novela partiendo de que el protagonista autodefine su identidad como equivalente a su memoria, y a su memoria como lo imaginado.

Paper Session 6

(Saturday, 10:45-12:45, President's Room)

Moderator: Dr. Ofelia Ferrán

Emergent Voices in Times of Repression: Humor as a Tool to Confront Repressive Rule

Natalia Defiel, University of Minnesota

Humor has played a key role drawing attention to social, political, and cultural issues and motivating change in all the levels of society. In my article, I explore how humor transcends its own limitations innovating its methodologies to critically engage itself in the fight for a better world. My article analyzes graphic humor published in humoristic magazines and graphic novels like *Humor Registrado* in Argentina, and *Paracuellos* by Carlos Gimenez in Spain during times of dictatorship.

Taking the Place of War: On the Creation of Historical Regime of Visuality in Franco, ese hombre and the Celebration of the "25 años de paz"

Félix Zamora Gómez, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

This presentation looks at the movie *Franco, ese hombre* to reflect on the construction of Spain's national visuality during the last decade of Francoism through the analysis of the movie's visual transposition between the absent images of the civil war and its substitution for the populated images of the New York world's fair of 1964.

Reunificación de una identidad castellana colectiva: la fuerza redentora de la violencia en Poema de Fernán González

Alex Korte, University of Minnesota

El poeta de PFG compuso su obra para glorificar una Castilla homogenizada. A la vez, la paradójica división de ethos entre Fernán y sus vasallos amenaza la utilidad de su mensaje. Este trabajo estudia la violencia narrativa en *Beowulf* y PFG como equipo retórico que resuelve esta división castellana.

Desaparece entre el estruendo: La sobremultiplicación de elecciones como mecanismo de control discursivo en casos de civiles detenidos-desaparecidos ligados a organismos de poder en México

Fanny Esquivel Jiménez, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey

El trabajo ahonda en el discurso oficial y de los medios mexicanos alrededor de dos casos de víctimas cuyas desapariciones están vinculadas directamente con organismos del poder oficial. Sobre todo, explora la progresiva degradación del hecho de desaparición. Esta degradación es el efecto de un desbordamiento de interpretaciones, lo cual degenera en una narrativa de la duda que sirve a los intereses del poder para crear una víctima, discurso y resolución vacíos.

Paper Session 7

(Saturday, 1:45-3:15, President's Room)

Moderator: Dr. Alicia Ocampo

La escritura subalterna de Marta Riquelme, ¿muerte tranquilizadora o transfiguración intervencionista?

Carolina Añón Suárez, University of Minnesota

Las cautivas literarias del siglo XIX, cristianas blancas raptadas por malones indígenas, inician un involuntario viaje hacia afuera de los muros imaginarios de la civilización. En sus cuerpos queda tatuado su exceso. ¿Puede esta figura femenina ficcional, articulada desde la ciudad letrada que la condena por su condición híbrida, encarnar una escritura subalterna? Retomando a Gayatri Spivak, esta presentación analiza una cautiva literaria olvidada: "Marta Riquelme" de Guillermo Enrique Hudson (1902).

When Fundamentalist Christianity Crosses Borders: Violence Against Female Afro-Brazilian Religious Practitioners

Stephanie Mojica, Harvard University

Conservative politics and evangelical Christianity are rising in Brazil, along with often-violent attacks against women practicing African traditional religions such as Candomblé and Umbanda. Academic literature and qualitative interviews show that the average Brazilian Protestant emulates American Christians. But if that's the case, then why are religious-related acts of violence, arson, and vandalism in Brazil against faiths such as Candomblé rather than Islam?

The Mirabal Sisters: How Las Mariposas brought about the end of the Trujillato

Kimberly Casso, Centre College

This presentation explores how The Mirabal sisters are viewed as political heroes in the Dominican Republic today. Through an analysis of historical and literary sources this essay argues that The Mirabal sisters' sacrifice and hard work contributed to the end of Trujillo's dictatorship. Trujillo built his empire based on the fear of the citizens and the ideology of deracialization in the Dominican Republic, which The Mirabal Sisters targeted and exposed to the detriment and eventual downfall of the regime.

Acknowledgements

The organizing committee extends its appreciation and gratitude to all our participants and especially to our keynote speakers: Professor Yuri Herrera, and Professor Manuel Díaz Campos.

We also want to say a huge THANK YOU to all our co-sponsors. This event could not have happened without their generosity and support:

- Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA)
- Center for Early Modern History
- Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies
- Coca-Cola Activity and Development Grants
- Council of Graduate Students (COGS)
- Consortium for the Study of the Premodern World
- Department of Art History
- Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- Department of French & Italian
- Department of Spanish & Portuguese Studies
- Global Programs and Strategy Alliance (GPS Alliance)
- Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Linguistics Association (HaLLA)
- History Department
- Hubbart School of Journalism & Mass Communication
- Human Rights Program
- Institute for Global Studies
- Institute of Linguistics
- Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change
- School of Music
- Spanish & Portuguese Research Group (SPRG)
- Student Unions & Activities

And a very special Thank You to the Department of Spanish & Portuguese Studies for supporting us in putting on this conference for the fifth year! In particular, we would like to thank Mary Ann Beattie, Mark Ambroe, Amanda McCartney, Timothy Face, William Viestenz, Carol Klee & Luís Ramos García, Kathy Lundquist, and our faculty moderators. We would also like to send a shout to Olga Salazar Pozos for designing the conference program, and all conference posters.



HORROR VACUI

CALAMBUR: V Conferencia Anual Graduada **Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies** **30-31 de marzo de 2018**

Oradores principales: Profesor Yuri Herrera (Tulane University) y
Profesor Manuel Díaz Campos (Indiana University-Bloomington)

El robo y la venta de los azulejos de la fachada del edificio Art Nouveau donde Fernando Pessoa residió entre 1915 y 1916 precipitó su degradación y posterior demolición. Desde 2007 Projeto SOS Azulejo pretende interrumpir una tendencia que mercantiliza, vacía y posteriormente distribuye, en forma de souvenir, el espacio lisboeta. La sustracción de azulejos y la voluntad de restituirlos son un ejemplo de las tensiones que articulan la angustia frente al vacío y sus secuelas. El antiguo mandato según el cual «la naturaleza aborrece el vacío» y obliga a combatirlo es impugnado con el descubrimiento de la posibilidad física del vacío. El vacío, como contramandato moderno, se ejerce como un derecho negativo. Un derecho de sustracción de vidas, lenguas, instituciones o culturas y su sustitución por otras.

Horror vacui invita a pensar en la predisposición occidental a suprimir y crear diferentes tipos de vacío. Un recorrido que va de la exuberancia expresiva del retablo barroco al énfasis estético por la sencillez en el diseño digital o de la ocupación total de un territorio a la ciberguerra en espacios simulados. Vacíos que, como el silencio en el ritmo poético o la música, rompen continuidades para inaugurar estrategias estéticas, o que muestran desafíos pedagógicos en los campos de la lingüística y de las ciencias sociales, como el vacío que habita la brecha entre la lengua y el contenido. Estas problemáticas, al igual que el precario entramado de azulejos de Lisboa, conviven como piezas integradas en extensas combinaciones de patrones.