



LLILAS

TERESA LOZANO LONG INSTITUTE OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
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LLILAS

LLILAS-CMAS
COLLABORATION



THE 2012 LOZANO LONG CONFERENCE

Central Americans and the Latino/a Landscape

New Configurations of Latina/o America



PHOTO BY MURIEL HASBUN, www.casatext.com

FEATURED EVENTS

Archive and Memory • Photo Exhibit & Opening Reception
Photographs by **MURIEL HASBUN** • Wed., Feb. 22

PERFORMANCE • **CHINGO BLING** • Fri., Feb. 24

KEYNOTE ADDRESS • **NORMA TORRES** • Sat., Feb. 25

FEATURED SPEAKERS • Domingo Hernández Ixcoy • Cecilia Menjivar
• Claudia Milian • Horacio N. Roque Ramírez • Kirsten Silva Gruesz
• Father Alejandro Solalinde • Héctor Tobar

LOZANO LONG
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

EVA LONGORIA

Sat., Feb. 25



WEDNESDAY–SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22–25, 2012

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Co-organized by the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies and the Center for Mexican American Studies;
also sponsored by the Depts. of English, Spanish and Portuguese, American Studies, Geography and the Environment, and Sociology;
the Center for Asian American Studies (CAAS); Office of Graduate Studies; ILASSA; and the Benson Latin American Collection; University of Texas at Austin.

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THE 2012 LOZANO LONG CONFERENCE

**Central Americans
and the Latino/a Landscape**
New Configurations of Latina/o America

WEDNESDAY–SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 22–25, 2012

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About the 2012 Lozano Long Conference

Focusing on U.S. Central American populations whose role has been critical in the reconfiguration of Latino/a Studies in the first decade of the twenty-first century, this scholarly conversation and cultural interchange is of paramount importance, considering the continuous growth, visibility, and significance of Central Americans in the U.S. and Latino/a landscape. The purpose of this conference is to suggest that Latina/o America needs to be understood as a geographically displaced phenomenon with complex connections of commodities, people, and cultural production.

THE 2012 LOZANO LONG CONFERENCE

Central Americans and the Latino/a Landscape New Configurations of Latina/o America

Wednesday, February 22

5:00–7:00 P.M. **Photo Exhibit** *Muriel Hasbun: Archive and Memory*
LLILAS, SRH UNIT 1, 3RD FLOOR

7:00–7:30 P.M. **Opening Ceremony**
LLILAS and CMAS Directors, and Conference Co-organizers
BENSON LATIN AMERICAN COLLECTION
2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, SRH UNIT 1

7:30–8:00 P.M. **Performance/Reading**
Maya Chinchilla

8:00–9:00 P.M. **Reception**
BENSON RARE BOOKS ROOM

Thursday, February 23

9:30–10:45 A.M.

PANEL 1: COMMUNITY, FAMILY, AND NATION

SRH 1.313

CHAIR: **Virginia Garrard-Burnett** University of Texas at Austin

Sonja Wolf Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)
Organized Crime at Mexico's Southern Border: Street Gangs, Maras, and Drug-Trafficking Organizations

Steven Osuna University of California, Santa Barbara
Latina/o Encounters: Salvadoran and Mexican Intra-Latina/o Struggles in Los Angeles and Salvadoran-Mexican Subjectivities

Karen Tejada University of Hartford
Transplanting the Organizing Seed: Seasoned Activists and the Transnational Social Field

PANEL 2: HETEROGENEITIES AND CULTURE

SRH 1.320

CHAIR: **James Cox** University of Texas at Austin

Karina Oliva California State University, Los Angeles
Telling Ghost Stories, Exploring a Central American Representation in a Chicana/Latina Narrative

Ariana Vigil University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Central American Literature, Journalism, and Discursive Intervention into Latina/o America

Emilio del Valle Escalante University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
The Discursive Economy of Maya Culturales in Guatemala

PANEL 3: LOCAL COMMUNITIES, ECONOMIC PRESSURES

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

CHAIR: **John McKiernan-González** University of Texas at Austin

Eduardo Contreras Hunter College, City University of New York
The Newcomers: Central Americans in Postwar San Francisco

THURSDAY, CONT.

Suyapa Portillo California State University, Northridge
Gender, Sexuality, and the Solidarity Movement

David Pedersen University of California, San Diego
Salvadoran Migrant Entrepreneurship and Remittance-Led Development as Discursive Moralization of the Present

10:45–11:00 A.M. COFFEE BREAK

11:00–12:15 P.M.

Latino Identity, a U.S. City, and the American Novel

Héctor Tobar *Los Angeles Times*

DISCUSSANT: **John Morán González** University of Texas at Austin

CHAIR: **Oscar Casares** University of Texas at Austin

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

12:15–2:00 P.M. LUNCH BREAK

2:00–3:15 P.M.

PANEL 4: NEW CHALLENGES OF IMMIGRATION

SRH 1.320

CHAIR: **Javier Auyero** University of Texas at Austin

Tatiana Reinoza University of Texas at Austin
¡Somos Nosotros! Victor Cartagena's Call to the Salvadoran Diaspora

Leisy Abrego University of California, Los Angeles
Temporary Protected Status: Learning about Immigration Laws and Well-Being from Salvadoran Transnational Families

PANEL 5: MIGRATIONS AND CULTURAL IDENTITIES

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

CHAIR: **Shannon Speed** University of Texas at Austin

Elsa Hernández Méndez Universidad Rafael Landívar, Guatemala
La migración de hoy en el pueblo Mam de Guatemala: Causas, luchas, y retos

THURSDAY, CONT.

Giovanni Batz University of Texas at Austin
Displaced Memories: Recovering and Maintaining Maya Identity and Culture in Los Angeles

Alicia Ivonne Estrada California State University, Northridge
Contacto Ancestral: Maya Voices on Southern California Airwaves

PANEL 6: CULTURAL REPRESENTATIONS

SRH 1.313

CHAIR: **José Limón** University of Notre Dame

Oriel María Siu University of California, Los Angeles
La muerte incompleta en La diáspora de Horacio Castellanos Moya

Nanci Buiza Emory University
Pupusas on TV! The Complexities of Cultural Memory

Verónica Ríos University of Texas at Austin
Pensando la migración afrocentroamericana hacia los Estados Unidos a partir de la novela Limón Reggae (2007) de la costarricense Anacristina Rossi

3:15–3:30 P.M. COFFEE BREAK

3:30–4:45 P.M.

Migración y los efectos en la cultura del Pueblo Maya

Domingo Hernández Ixcoy Asociación Maya Uk'ux'bè

DISCUSSANT: **Virginia Garrard-Burnett** University of Texas at Austin

CHAIR: **Arturo Arias** University of Texas at Austin

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

4:45–5:00 P.M. COFFEE BREAK

5:00–6:15 P.M.

El migroma humano: El significado de la migración

Father Alejandro Solalinde Pastoral de Movilidad Humana Pacifico Sur del Episcopado Mexicano

DISCUSSANT: **Néstor Rodríguez** University of Texas at Austin

CHAIR: **Héctor Domínguez-Ruvalcaba** University of Texas at Austin

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

Friday, February 24

9:30–10:45 A.M.

Historicizing the Invisible Central American

Kirsten Silva Gruesz University of California, Santa Cruz

DISCUSSANT: **Nicole Guidotti-Hernández** University of Texas at Austin

CHAIR: **John Morán González** University of Texas at Austin

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

10:45–11:00 A.M. COFFEE BREAK

11:00–12:15 P.M.

U.S. Central Americans and the Latino/a Economy of Brownness

Claudia Milian Duke University

DISCUSSANT: **Arturo Arias** University of Texas at Austin

CHAIR: **Lorraine Leu** University of Texas at Austin

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

12:15–2:00 P.M. LUNCH BREAK

2:00–3:15 P.M.

PANEL 7: IMMIGRANT IMAGINARIES

SRH 1.320

CHAIR: **Cary Cordova** University of Texas at Austin

Yajaira Padilla University of Kansas

Silvio Sirias's Meet Me under the Ceiba: Central American Queerness and Inclusion in a U.S. Latino Context

Maritza Cárdenas University of Arizona

Are Central American–Americans Latina/o Subjects?

Ana Patricia Rodríguez University of Maryland, College Park

Poetic Reparations: Violence, Impunity, and Immigration in the Central American Diaspora

FRIDAY, CONT.

PANEL 8: TRANSNATIONAL ACTIVISMS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES

SRH 1.313

CHAIR: **Charles Hale** University of Texas at Austin

Charles Brockett Sewanee: The University of the South
Implications of U.S. Public Opinion for Latino/a Immigrants

Héctor Perla Jr. University of California, Santa Cruz
Monseñor Romero's Resurrection: Transnational Salvadoran Organizing and Counterpublic Mobilization

Norma Stoltz-Chinchilla California State University, Long Beach
Families Separated by Borders: Salvadoran and Guatemalan Mothers and the Children They Leave Behind

PANEL 9: SOCIAL RECONFIGURATIONS

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

CHAIR: **Gloria González-Lopez** University of Texas at Austin

Allison Ramírez University of Texas at Austin
The New Disappeared: Migration Narratives in El Salvador, Policy Responses, and Avenues for Activism

Marco Mojica University of California, Santa Cruz
Nicaraguans in Miami

Thomas Boerman Consultant
The Use of Expert Witnesses in Central American and Mexican Gang and Gender-Based Asylum Claims

3:15–3:30 P.M. COFFEE BREAK

FRIDAY, CONT.

3:30–4:45 P.M.

The Power of the Law: Central Americans' Legality in Everyday Life
Cecilia Menjívar Arizona State University

DISCUSSANT: **Gloria González-López** University of Texas at Austin
CHAIR: **Néstor Rodríguez** University of Texas at Austin
BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

5:00–6:30 P.M.

Chingo Bling Lecture and performance
STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER 1.402

Saturday, February 25

9:30–10:45 A.M.

PANEL 10: REPRESENTING CITIZENSHIP

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

CHAIR: **Ben V. Olgún** University of Texas at San Antonio

Arely Zimmerman University of Southern California
Locating Central Americans in Theories of Latino Citizenship

Cristina Metz University of Texas at Austin
Border Crossing, the Next Generation: Immigrants and Hyphenated Youths in El Norte and Wassup Rocker

Ester Hernández California State University, Los Angeles
Political Subjects: The Salvadoran Civil War Conflict through Film

SATURDAY, CONT.

PANEL 11: ETHNOGRAPHIES OF DISPLACEMENT

SRH 1.320

CHAIR: **Rebecca Torres** University of Texas at Austin

Edward Shore University of Texas at Austin

Tomorrow Triumphant: Mam Mayan War Refugees and Guerrillas in Chiapas, 1980–1996

Lindsay Carte University of Texas at Austin

Everyday Restrictions, Low-Level Bureaucrats, and Central American Immigrant Belonging on the Mexico-Guatemala Border

Milton R. Machuca Pitzer College

In Search of Central Americans in the U.S.: Contextualizing the Ethnographic Record

PANEL 12: THE SPACES FOR MEMORY

SRH 1.313

CHAIR: **Gabriela Polit** University of Texas at Austin

Jennifer Cárcamo University of California, Los Angeles

Contesting Theories of Belonging, Membership, and Political Participation among First and Second Generation Salvadoran Youth in the U.S. and Its Implications for the Salvadoran Nation-State

José Hernández University of Texas–Pan American

Voices in the Salvadoran Diaspora: The Psychological Impact of Contact

Robb Hernández University of Texas at Austin

Longitudinal Design: Curating the Central American Landscapes of Washington, D.C.

10:45–11:00 A.M. COFFEE BREAK

SATURDAY, CONT.

11:00–12:15 P.M.

Entre Centromariconadas y Sexilios: The Labors of Letters and of Queer Political Asylum

Horacio N. Roque Ramírez University of California, Santa Barbara

DISCUSSANT: **Héctor Domínguez-Ruvalcaba** University of Texas at Austin

CHAIR: **Naomi Lindstrom** University of Texas at Austin

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

12:15–2:00 P.M. LUNCH BREAK

2:00–3:15 P.M.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Norma Torres California State Assembly

BENSON 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

3:15–3:30 P.M. COFFEE BREAK

4:30–5:30 P.M.

LOZANO LONG KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Eva Longoria Actor, Activist, and Philanthropist

STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER 1.402

LOZANO LONG CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

LOZANO LONG KEYNOTE SPEAKER EVA LONGORIA

Eva Longoria is founder of Eva's Heroes and the national spokesperson for Padres Contra el Cáncer. She is also executive producer and host for the National Council of La Raza ALMA Awards and executive producer of the documentary *The Harvest*, which focuses on the 500,000 child migrant farm workers in the United States. Longoria is a board member of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the nation's leading Latino legal civil rights organization, and works closely with the United Farm Workers and the Dolores Huerta Foundation. She was named "Philanthropist of the Year" by the *Hollywood Reporter*, was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at *Variety's* 2011 Power of Women luncheon, and was selected by President Barack Obama for the National Museum of the American Latino Commission. In 2009 Longoria enrolled in a master's program in Chicano studies and political science and is completing coursework in preparation for a thesis on Latina education.



SPEAKER AND PERFORMER CHINGO BLING

Chingo Bling was born Pedro Herrera III in Houston to Mexican American immigrants who came to the United States with aspirations of achieving the American dream for themselves and their children. His father set the example by working several jobs to ensure that his family had all they needed. Upon graduation from high school, Chingo enrolled in Trinity University in San Antonio, majoring in business administration and marketing. It was there at a fraternity party that Chingo made his first foray into the music business as a DJ. Today Chingo Bling is a well-known underground rapper and producer. As one of Texas's premier underground rappers/entrepreneurs, Chingo Bling has achieved a level of independent success that only a few in his generation have accomplished.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER NORMA TORRES

Norma J. Torres is a second-term member of the California State Assembly, where she serves as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development, as well as on the Select Committee of 911 Services. She is passionate about her position and has written legislation to



accelerate the building of affordable housing, to help get the unemployed working again, and to improve living conditions in mobile home parks. Having previously served as a member of Pomona's City Council and Mayor of the city of Pomona, Norma has a proven track record of fighting crime and working with families. Her past experience as a bilingual dispatcher for 911 has shaped the person she is today and has instilled in her a sense of always putting the public first. She currently lives in Pomona with her husband, Louis, and two of their sons and continues her work as chair in the 2011–2012 legislative sessions.

ARTIST MURIEL HASBUN

Muriel Hasbun's photo-based work explores the relationship between the past and present and lives at the intersection of personal memory and collective history. Through the gathering and close scrutiny of a dispersed family archive, she has stitched together fragments into elusive narratives and reconstructed a world lost to exile, assimilation, and genocide. Her work has been internationally exhibited in such venues as: the Smithsonian American Art Museum, *Light Work* (2011); the MAC-Dallas and the Michael Mazzeo Gallery (2010); the American University Museum (2008); NYU's Hemispheric Institute's "Encuentro" at the Centro Cultural Recoleta in Buenos Aires (2007); the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego (2007); Houston's FotoFest (2006), the Corcoran Gallery of Art (2004); the 50th Venice Biennale (2003); the Centro de la Imagen in Mexico City (1999); and the Musée de l'Arles Antique at the 29ème Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie d'Arles (1998). Muriel Hasbun is Chair of Photography and Associate Professor at the Corcoran College of Art + Design.



POET MAYA CHINCHILLA

Maya Chinchilla is a Central American/Guatemalan poet, performer, video artist, and scholar. She founded and coedited the journal *La Revista* at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and has published her work in numerous journals and anthologies. Her most recent video project, *Solidarity Baby*, is the poetic journey of a child of the Central American solidarity movement who uses her poetry and images from her memory to build bridges between her family history and present-day immigrant rights struggles. It was made with support from the San Francisco Film Arts STAND Award and QWOC-MAP. Maya is coeditor of a collection of U.S. Central



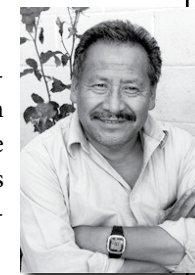
American poetry and is currently working on a book of poetic nonfiction. She teaches at San Francisco State University.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

The conference includes seven scholars, journalists, and activists who have been centrally involved in debates about Central Americans in the U.S. and/or the transformation of Latino studies in the last decade.

DOMINGO HERNÁNDEZ IXCOY DIRECTOR OF ASOCIACION MAYA UK'UX'B'E

Domingo Hernández Ixcoy is a Maya activist director of Asociación Maya Uk'ux'b'e, a research center on Maya culture in Guatemala. Hernández Ixcoy is one of the founders of the Committee for Peasant Unity (CUC) in Guatemala and was the leader of the occupation of the Brazilian Embassy in Guatemala in 1982.



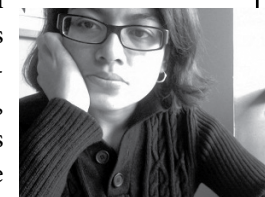
CECILIA MENJÍVAR ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Cecilia Menjívar is Cowden Distinguished Professor of Sociology in the School of Social and Family Dynamics at Arizona State University. Her main areas of research focus on the social processes of Central American migration to the United States, and on violence, the state, and gender in Latin America. Her book publications include *Fragmented Ties: Salvadoran Immigrant Networks in America* (2000) and *Enduring Violence: Ladina Women's Lives in Guatemala* (2011). In addition, she has published numerous articles and book chapters. She has received several awards for her research, including the Julian Samora Distinguished Career Award from the American Sociological Association Latino Section.



CLAUDIA MILIAN DUKE UNIVERSITY

Claudia Milian is Professor of African and African American Studies at Duke University. She teaches courses on U.S. Latino cultural production, comparative African American and U.S. Latino epistemologies, Central American literature, and critical race studies in the Americas. Her research focuses on mestizaje and creolization, transnational identities and cultural



representations in new world postcolonial studies emphasizing migration, the malaise of alienation, and citizenship. Currently, she is writing a book on rediscovering the way double consciousness, color lines, and the borderlands are deployed by Africana, Chicano, and Latino subjects. Additionally, she is developing a new theoretical grammar exploring ethnic relations.

HORACIO N. ROQUE RAMÍREZ
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Salvadoran immigrant Horacio N. Roque Ramírez earned his PhD in comparative ethnic studies from UC Berkeley with a graduate designated emphasis on “Women, Gender, and Sexuality.” His work employs oral history, ethnographic, and community archival practices to document and analyze LGBT/queer Latina and Latino history and memory in the U.S., and globalizing sexualities in the Americas with a focus on Central America. He is coeditor of *Bodies of Evidence: The Practice of Queer Oral History* and the forthcoming book *Queer Latino San Francisco: An Oral History, 1960s–1990s*. He is Associate Professor of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UC Santa Barbara, where he teaches the courses Central Americans in the U.S., Salvadoran Diasporas, and LGBT/Queer Identities, Communities, and Theories. Part of his current work focuses on the politics of political asylum based on sexuality, gender identity, and sexual violence in Central America.



KIRSTEN SILVA GRUESZ
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Kirsten Silva Gruesz is Professor of Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she teaches the transnational literatures of the Americas and directs the Latino Literary Cultures Project/Proyecto culturas literarias latinas, a research, teaching, and community-building initiative. She is the author of *Ambassadors of Culture: The Transamerican Origins of Latino Writing* (Princeton, 2002), as well as essays on topics such as the history of

Spanish-language print culture in the U.S., the politics of translation, the debate over the first “Latino” novel, and the Central American population in New Orleans. She is currently completing a book about shifting attitudes toward Spanish-language learning from the seventeenth century to the present, titled *Bad Lengua: A Cultural History of Spanish in the US*.



FATHER ALEJANDRO SOLALINDE
DEFENDER OF CENTRAL AMERICAN IMMIGRANTS IN MEXICO



Father Alejandro Solalinde is a Catholic priest and immigrant rights activist in Ciudad Ixtepec. He coordinates the Pastoral de Moviliad Humana Pacifico Sur del Episcopado Mexicano and Hermanos en el Camino, care centers for immigrants in southwest Mexico. The centers provide food, lodging, medical care, and legal assistance for people migrating from Central

America. Father Solalinde also provides information to various newspapers and local authorities regarding criminal acts committed against the migrants. As a result of his dedicated and persistent activism, he has received threats against his life from both gangs and local officials.

HÉCTOR TOBAR
AWARD-WINNING JOURNALIST, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Héctor Tobar is a journalist for the *Los Angeles Times* and author of *The Tattooed Soldier*, *Translation Nation: Defining a New American Identity in the Spanish-Speaking United States*, and most recently the novel *The Barbarian Nurseries*. Son of Guatemalan immigrants, Tobar was born and raised in Los Angeles. His origins are revealed in his writing explorations of relations and perceptions between Latin America and the United States. He received a Pulitzer Prize for his reporting of the Los Angeles riots and was the *Los Angeles Times* bureau chief in both Mexico City and Buenos Aires.



THE 2012 LOZANO LONG CONFERENCE

FACULTY ORGANIZERS

Arturo Arias Spanish and Portuguese

John Morán González English

FACULTY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Donna DeCesare Journalism

Héctor Domínguez-Ruvalcaba Spanish and Portuguese

Virginia Garrard-Burnett History

Gloria González-López Sociology

Néstor P. Rodríguez Sociology

Rebecca M. Torres Geography and the Environment

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

Paloma Díaz

PUBLICATIONS EDITING AND DESIGN

Virginia Hagerty and Teresa Wingfield

Many thanks to the large group of collaborators and volunteers who helped to make this event possible.

For more information about this conference, please contact
<LLILAS.publicprograms@austin.utexas.edu>.