Recovering Black Performance in Early Modern Iberia

A COLLOQUIUM FUNDED BY A COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

29 / 30 APRIL 2022
Recovering Black Performance in Early Modern Iberia

A SPECIAL COLLOQUIUM

This international colloquium recovers the voices and creations of Black performers whose talents nourished Iberia’s Golden Age of theater, which unfolded from circa 1490 to circa 1800. The cultural contributions of Blacks in Portugal, Spain, and colonial Latin America—long concealed in the margins—will be front and center in four sessions of research papers, a roundtable on teaching, and a performance of music of the Hispanic baroque by La Boz Galana.

The colloquium is free for all attendees who preregister. All visitors need to comply with Yale University’s visitor policies in effect on the dates of the colloquium (covid19.yale.edu/).

Host
Yale University: Iberian Connections / Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Funded by
National Endowment for the Humanities, Collaborative Research Grant

Meeting place
Humanities Quadrangle, Rm. 276 / 320 York Street, New Haven, Connecticut

Partner Institutions /cosponsors:
University of California, Davis
University of Georgia
Bulletin of the Comediantes

Respondents
Esteban Crespo Jaramillo, Yale University
Brais Lamela Gómez, Yale University
Yelsy Hernández Zamora, Yale University

Registration and information
editor@comediantes.org

Web
www.comediantes.org
Conference Program

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Opening remarks 2:00–2:30

Jesús Velasco, Yale University
Nicholas Jones, University of California, Davis
Elizabeth Wright, University of Georgia / Bulletin of the Comediantes

Teaching and Studying Black Performance: Roundtable 2:45–4:15

Manuel Olmedo Gobante, University of Arkansas
Cornesha Tweede, University of Oregon
Seth Kimmel, Columbia University
Julia Hernández, Washington and Lee University
Nicholas Jones, University of California, Davis, MODERATOR

Performing Colonial Identities 4:30–6:30

Sebastián León, Universidad de Barcelona / Digital Música Poética | “¡A ver la comedia nueva / que la negra representa!”: Villancicos de negro en la Bogotá virreinal.
Silvia Ruiz-Tresgallo, Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro | La caracterización cómica del afrodescendiente en el teatro de la Villa Imperial de Potosí: Gracioso del convento de Santa Teresa.
Nicole D. Legnani, Princeton University | Accounting for Black Insurgencies in Los empeños de una casa by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.
Mariana Soutto Mayor, University of São Paulo, | Black and mestizo performers in Portuguese-American Festivities (18th Century).
Christina H. Lee, Princeton University, MODERATOR

A echar la copla primera: Recital of early music and poetry by La Boz Galana 7:00

Camila Parías, SOPRANO
Sebastián León, BARITONE
Brian Kay, BAROQUE GUITAR
Theaters of (Black) Devotion 9:00–10:30


Erin Kathleen Rowe, Johns Hopkins University | Playing the Black Saint: Race, Sanctity, and Audience in Seventeenth-Century Comedias de santos.

Manuel Delgado, Bucknell University | Comedia, hagiografía, y magia en El negro del mejor amo de Mira de Amescua.


John Slater, Colorado State University, MODERATOR

Envisioning Black Rule 10:45–12:15

Diana Berruezo-Sánchez, Universitat de Barcelona / University of Oxford | “El negro mejor que hay en la corte”: Un negro esgrimidor y poeta en el inédito Entremés segundo del negro.

Víctor Sierra Matute, New York University | Early Modern Whitewashing: from La Academia de los Nocturnos to El negro del cuerpo blanco.

Julio Vélez-Sainz, Universidad Complutense de Madrid | Silencio de reyes negros: La Comedia Trofea de Torres Naharro y la cartografía de la colonización africana.

Alani Hicks-Bartlett, Brown University | Idealized Governance and “La Verdad de la Estampa”: The Performance of Race, Exemplarity, and Maternal Imagination in Virtudes vencen señales.

Elizabeth Wright, University of Georgia, MODERATOR

Sex and Black Citizenship (Auditorium) 2:00–3:30


John Slater, Colorado State University | Lope’s Taste for Bondage: “Fingidos hierros” and the Eroticism of Feigned Slavery.

Baltasar Fra-Molinero, Bates College | Queering El valiente negro en Flandes.

Esteban Crespo Jaramillo, Yale University, MODERATOR

Dinner 7:00