



**Conference date and venue:**

**23 November 2018** | Metropolitan University Prague, Prokopova 100/16, 130 00 Praha 3, Czech Republic.

The theme of modernity in Latin America abounds in historical paradoxes, as Jorge Larraín reminds us: Latin America was born at the beginning of European modernity without being allowed to become modern by the colonial powers. With the process of independence, many Latin Americans embraced enthusiastically the Enlightenment ideas. It was, however, more in their formal and cultural discourse than in practice. When political and economic modernity began finally to be implemented in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, cultural doubts started to emerge as to whether Latin America could adequately modernize, or whether it was at all desirable to modernize by following European and North American patterns.

The aim of this interdisciplinary conference is to analyse the discourses on modernity and anti-modernity in Ibero-American cultural and political space, that is in Hispanic America, as well as Brazil, Spain and Portugal, in their complex cultural and political implications from the 19<sup>th</sup> century until this day. To this end, we shall examine first how the discourse of modernity has been constructed. What has been a specific Hispanic America's, Brazilian or Iberian trajectory to modernity? Can we speak of Latin America's distinctive version of modernity, one shaped by its peripheral position and colonial and postcolonial experience?

The discourse on modernity has also given rise to a discourse of anti-modernity. It was not the failures of modern regimes, Steven B. Smith pointed out, but the very success of Enlightenment ideas – individual rights, democracy, freedom and universal suffrage – that made modernity a continual site of discontent. In Latin America, ideas of modernity enjoyed prominence in periods of expansion, yet in times of crises, they came to be conceived as external and in opposition to the alleged essence of region's culture and its identity. Some do not hesitate to consider the conflict and oscillation between modernity and identity in Latin America – never entirely resolved – as ultimately the major feature of Latin American cultures.

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**KREAS**



The Ibero-American Centre (IAC) at Metropolitan University Prague in cooperation with Luso-Brazilian Studies Department and KREAS project at the Charles University in Prague are pleased to invite to the conference „Multiple Modernities in Latin America“.

### Programme of the conference:

- 9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome address** Kateřina Březinová, Metropolitan University Prague, Šárka Grauová, Charles University in Prague
- 9:15 – 9:45 KEYNOTE ADDRESS Nicola Miller, University College London:
- FIVE FACES OF MODERNITY IN LATIN AMERICA**
- 10:00 – 12.00 **MODERNITY IN HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL DISCOURSE**
- Aldo Marchesi, Universidad de la República, Uruguay:  
BATTLES FOR THE FUTURE: Development, Nation and Revolution in the Latin American Cold War  
Lukáš Perutka, Charles University in Prague, Palacký University in Olomouc:  
MODERNIZATION OF MEXICO THROUGH DIPLOMACY DURING THE TIMES OF PORFIRIO DÍAZ.  
Laurin Blecha, University in Vienna:  
FROM ANARCHY TO MODERNITY. Elaboration of Nicaraguan Historiography during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
Ana Amigo, Complutense University in Madrid:  
LOOKING FOR A MODERN IDENTITY: Urban Leisure in 19<sup>th</sup> century Havana.
- 12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break
- 13:00 – 13:30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Martina Kaller-Dittrich, University of Vienna:
- “POR MI RAZA HABLARÁ EL ESPÍRITU”: Imagined Mexico or profound culture? Is another modernity possible?**
- 13:45 – 15:15 **MODERNITY IN CULTURAL AND AESTHETIC DISCOURSE**
- Lacqueline Loss, University of Connecticut:  
FROM AESTHETICS TO ETHICS: Politics of the Cuban *Fino*.  
Ana Paula Cavalcanti Simioni, University of São Paulo:  
DISPUTED *PRIMITIVISMOS*: Production and Reception of Anita Malfati and Tarsila do Amaral's Artwork in 1920's Paris.  
Monika Brenišinová, Charles University in Prague:  
THE HISTORY OF COLONIAL ART IN THE MIRROR OF MODERNITY: The Case of Mexico.
- 15:45 – 17:45 **MODERNITY IN LITERATURE**
- Abel Barros Baptista, Universidade Nova of Lisboa:  
THE RETROSPECTIVE FOUNDATION OF SÃO PAULO MODERNISM.  
Cilaine Alves Cunha, São Paulo University:  
FIGURATIONS OF MODERNITY IN MACHADO DE ASSIS  
Agnieszka Flisek, Warsaw University:  
APPROXIMATIONS TO THE EXPERIENCE OF MODERN TIME IN *iÉcue-Yamba-Ó!* (1933) BY ALEJO CARPENTIER.  
Ana Carolina Torquato, Federal University of Paraná, Potsdam University:  
ANIMAL STUDIES IN BRAZILIAN AND MOZAMBICAN LITERATURE.
- 17:45 – 18:00 Closure

Please register at [registration.mup.cz](http://registration.mup.cz)

The registration is free of charge.

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