Graduate Student Comix Symposium at the University of California, Santa Barbara

DRAWING DIVERSITY
Identity, Organizing, and Imagining in Comics and Graphic Narratives
January 24th, 2019

Keynote Address:

FREDERICK LUIS ALDAMA
Distinguished University Professor & Director of LASER
Author of Your Brain on Latino Comics and editor of Graphic Borders
Ohio State University

This comics symposium seeks to highlight the research and ideas of graduate comix scholars who research questions of power, representation, and identity in comics. Our symposium hopes to engage the politics and poetics of representing the intersections of race, nationhood, gender, and sexuality, among other social locations, through the comics form. Some central questions we will explore include:

- What are the ethics and politics of visual representation amid the violent realities of white supremacy, heteropatriarchy, imperialism and (neo)colonialism?
- How can comics represent historical traumas both past and present?
- Can the visual/verbal incite new modes of identification, empathy, and ethics in narrative?
- What possibilities for activism (or artivism) exist within comics, popular culture, and literary studies across cultures and geographies?
- How does graphic narrative (mis)represent individuals and communities?
- What is the place of graphic narrative in a diverse classroom?

We welcome scholarship on any graphic format from any linguistic, cultural and national context addressing research or pedagogy. We invite participation in any of the following:

- Individual Paper (15-20min)
- Panel proposal (3-4 papers)
- Comics Workshop (1-2 leaders) addressing any aspect of illustration and narrative

Please send an abstract (200 words) and a short bio (100 words), indicating your preferred format to Maite Urcaregui murcaregui@ucsb.edu and Lale Stefkova stefkova@ucsb.edu.

Deadline: December 15th, 2019

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