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# Cuban Hip-Hop in Miami: A Conversation Moderated by Nora Gámez Torres

Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University

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# Cuban Research Institute

School of International and Public Affairs



## Cuban Hip-Hop in Miami: A Conversation

Moderated by Nora Gámez Torres

April 17, 2014 | 7:30 PM | Modesto Maidique Campus | Graham Center 150

According to CRI Visiting Scholar Nora Gámez Torres, Cuban hip-hop has been read as a response of black youth to social change and crisis in the last two decades, and as a space to play out new black identities. The hip-hop movement has contested the dominant vision of the Cuban nation as *mestiza*, a symbolic construction that has been successfully mobilized to erase race from the public agenda. As hip-hop's racial politics became a concern to the State and a site for hegemonic control and assimilation, the resistant edge of hip-hop as a cultural form has shifted from racial politics to a politics of confrontation.

For the first time, key members of this music scene have converged in Miami. Join us for a conversation with Aldo Baquero (Los Aldeanos), Raudel Collazo (Escuadrón Patriota), David Escalona (Omni Zona Franca), and Silvio Rodríguez (Silvito "El Libre"). We will be discussing the future of Cuban hip-hop, its racial politics, and the impact that the cultural exchange policy has had on these rappers and their music. In addition, we will enjoy the live performances of these artists.

The event, to be conducted in Spanish, is free and open to the public. Cosponsored by the Cuban-American Student Organization (CASO) and the Cuban Soul Foundation. To RSVP and for more information, call (305) 348-1991 or write [cri@fiu.edu](mailto:cri@fiu.edu).

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