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Víctor Patricio de Landaluze in His Nineteenth-Century Cuban Context , Lecture by E. Carmen Ramos

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Cuban Research Institute

School of International and Public Affairs



Víctor Patricio de Landaluze in His Nineteenth-Century Cuban Context

Lecture by E. Carmen Ramos

April 3, 2014 | 12:30 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | GL 220

In the historiography of Cuban art, Víctor Patricio de Landaluze (1828–1889), the Spanish painter, caricaturist, and illustrator, holds a revered yet paradoxical place. Ironically, his scenes of Cuban daily life, where Creole elites, *guajiros*, and free and enslaved Afro-Cubans interact in urban and rural spaces, have earned him the title “the most Cuban painter of his time.” This claim is mostly made about his *costumbrismo* since his political caricatures are clearly peninsular indictments of nineteenth-century Cuban reform and independence movements.

In this informal presentation, E. Carmen Ramos will reconsider Landaluze’s career by historically reinserting the full spectrum of his production—painting, caricature, and illustration—into its tumultuous nineteenth-century context. Dr. Ramos will explore the relationships between Landaluze’s imagery and the politics of race, slavery, and colonialism, showing how the artist’s work undermined Cuba’s nascent cultural and political proto-nationalism.

E. Carmen Ramos is currently curator for Latino art at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. She recently organized *Our America: The Latino Presence in American Art*, a major traveling exhibition that presents selections from the Museum’s pioneering collection of Latino art. She received her B.A. in art history and psychology from New York University and her M.A. and Ph.D. in art history from the University of Chicago. Dr. Ramos has written several exhibition catalogues and has also published in *American Art*, *African Arts*, and the *New West Indian Guide*.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information and to RSVP, call (305) 348-1991 or email cri@fiu.edu.

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