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Contemporary Cuban Culture: Notes on Alternative Thinking, Lecture by Madeline Cámara Betancourt

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Cuban Research Institute

School of International and Public Affairs



Contemporary Cuban Culture: Notes on Alternative Thinking

Lecture by Madeline Cámara Betancourt

August 28, 2014 | 12:30 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Green Library 220

Contemporary Cuban artists and intellectuals have produced a coherent, extensive, and multiple corpus of texts about national identity from inside the Island as well as from abroad, creating the most fascinating mix. In this lecture, Madeline Cámara Betancourt considers several key cultural, political, and literary events as “crossroads” that have generated alternative thoughts in the quest for a Cuban identity after 1959. These events include the Cuban government’s censorship of the documentary film *PM* in 1961, the Padilla affair in 1971, and the so-called “Grey Years” of 1971–1976.

Madeline Cámara Betancourt is Professor of Latin American Literature in World Language at the University of South Florida. She earned her Ph.D. in Hispanic Languages and Literature at SUNY at Stony Brook. She has received, among other awards, a Rockefeller Resident Fellowship in the Humanities at Florida International University, as well as a Fulbright Border Program Award. She recently coedited the anthology *María Zambrano: Palabras para el mundo* (2011). She has authored, edited, and contributed to several books, including *Cuban Women Writers: Imagining a Matria* (2008); *La memoria hechizada* (2002); *La letra rebelde: Estudios de escritoras cubanas* (2002); and *Cuba: The Elusive Nation* (2000). Founder and editor of the literary journal *Letras Cubanas* in Havana (1986–1992), she still has a passion for literary criticism and journalism.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information and to RSVP, please call (305) 348–1991 or write cri@fiu.edu.

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