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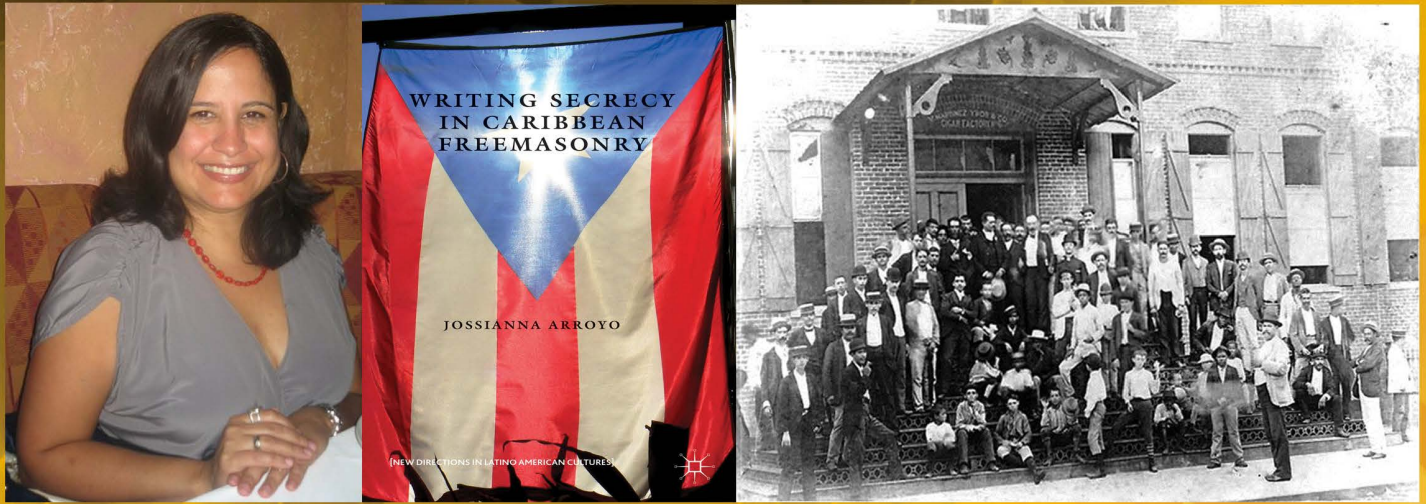
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Writing Secrecy in Caribbean Freemasonry

Book Presentation by Author Jossianna Arroyo Martínez

September 12, 2014 | 6:30 PM | Books & Books, 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables

Writing Secrecy in Caribbean Freemasonry analyzes the Masonic, literary, and political writings of Andrés Cassard, Ramón E. Betances, José Martí, Arturo Schomburg, and Rafael Serra, Spanish Caribbean intellectuals who lived in the decades of anticolonial struggle in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Hispaniola (1860–1898). In the Caribbean, Masonic notions of liberal freedom coincided with the legacies of empire and colonial slavery, creating languages of secrecy, dissent, and radical affective politics that influenced radical Caribbean political cultures in the turn of the 19th century. By analyzing the lives, writings, and activism of these exiled Masonic intellectuals, this book provides insights into the Pan-Caribbean formations of nation and diaspora and sheds light on the role of print-culture, Masonic ritual and languages, racial ideologies, and community in the Caribbean and the United States.

Jossianna Arroyo is Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Literatures and Cultures in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of African and African Diaspora Studies at the University of Texas, Austin. She specializes in African Diasporic literatures and cultures, queer studies, and postcolonial theory. She is the author of *Travestismos culturales: Literatura y etnografía en Cuba y Brasil* (Pittsburgh, 2003); and has published several articles on Brazilian and Spanish Caribbean literatures and cultures. She has received fellowships and awards from the Ford Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, and the University of Puerto Rico.

The 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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