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# Uncovering Transatlantic Decimas at the Diaz-Ayala Music Collection

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# **Cuban Research Institute**

## Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs



# Uncovering Transatlantic *Décimas* at the Díaz-Ayala Music Collection

Lecture by Noraliz Ruiz Caraballo

Wednesday, April 27, 2016 | 12:30 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Deuxième Maison (DM) 353

The décima, a Spanish poetic form and folksong which is often improvised, remains as a living tradition that manifests itself across Ibero-America. The performers of this musical and poetic form, known as *trovadores* in Puerto Rico or *repentistas* in Cuba and the Canary Islands, perform their verses in the characteristic musical style that emerged in each region.

This presentation examines various recordings housed at the Díaz-Ayala collection to explore the historical and cultural connections established in the performance of *décimas* in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Canary Islands. Noraliz Ruiz Caraballo will illustrate this presentation with examples from the vast Díaz-Ayala music collection that highlight the cultural correspondence and distinct musical identities present in the *décima* traditions of Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Canary Islands.

Noraliz Ruiz Caraballo holds a Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology-Musicology from Kent State University. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, Hunter College, CUNY. Her research focuses on the Puerto Rican *cuatro* tradition, particularly in the continuity and change of the instrument's performance practice. Ms. Ruiz Carabalo makes music with the Puerto Rican indie tropitronic band Balún, and the children's group Acopladitos. She is a recipient of the 2016 Díaz-Ayala Library Travel Grants at FIU.

This event is free and open to the public. It is cosponsored by the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center and the FIU Libraries. For more information and to confirm your attendance, please call (305) 348–1991 or write cri@fiu.edu.

