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Diversión: Play and Popular Culture in Cuban America

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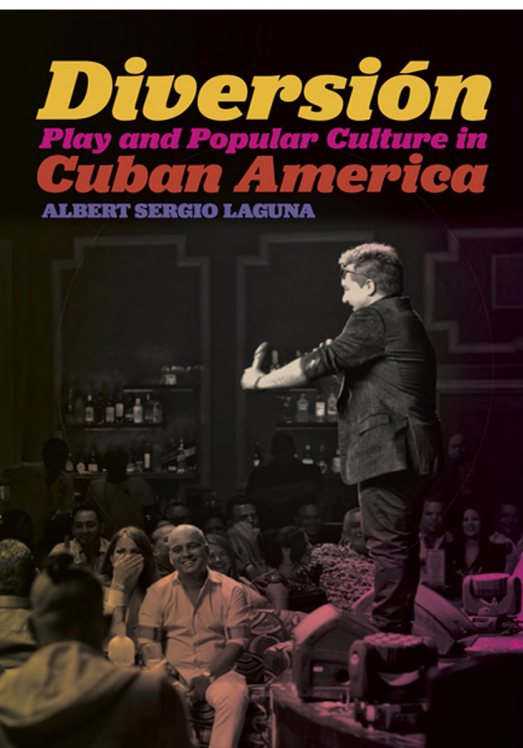
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Cuban Research Institute



Diversión: Play and Popular Culture in Cuban America **Book Presentation by Author Albert Sergio Laguna**

Friday, September 8, 2017 | 8:00 PM | Books & Books | 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables

After the rapprochement between the US and Cuba, this book updates the conversation about Cuban America by showing how this community has changed over the past 25 years. No longer a conservative Republican voting bloc, the majority of Cubans today want more engagement with the island instead of less. Albert Sergio Laguna investigates the generational shifts and tensions in a Cuban America where the majority is now made up of immigrants who arrived since the 1990s and those born in the US. To probe these changes, Laguna examines the aesthetic and social logics of a wide range of popular culture forms originating in Miami and Cuba from the 1970s through the 2010s.

By unpacking this archive, Laguna explores our complex, often fraught attachments to popular culture and the way it can challenge and reproduce typical cultural ideologies—especially in relation to politics and race. In the wake of the largest migration wave to the US in Cuban history, *Diversión* and its focus on play are crucial reading for those who seek to understand not only the Cuban diaspora, but cultural and economic life on the island.

Dr. Albert Sergio Laguna is Assistant Professor of Ethnicity, Race & Migration and American Studies at Yale University. His research and teaching interests include transnational Latino/a literatures and cultures, humor theory, performance studies, and the Cuban diaspora. His work has appeared in *Latino Studies*, *The Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, *Diario de Cuba*, *The Huffington Post*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Washington Post*, and on CNN.com. His article, “Aquí Está Alvarez Guedes: Cuban Choteo and the Politics of Play,” won the 2012 Article Award from the Latina/o Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association. An article on radio in Cuban Miami received Honorable Mention for the Jack Rosenbalm Prize from the American Humor Studies Association.

This event is free and open to the public.

To confirm your attendance and for more information, please call (305) 348-1991 or write cri@fiu.edu