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Cuba: A Cultural History

Alan West-Duran

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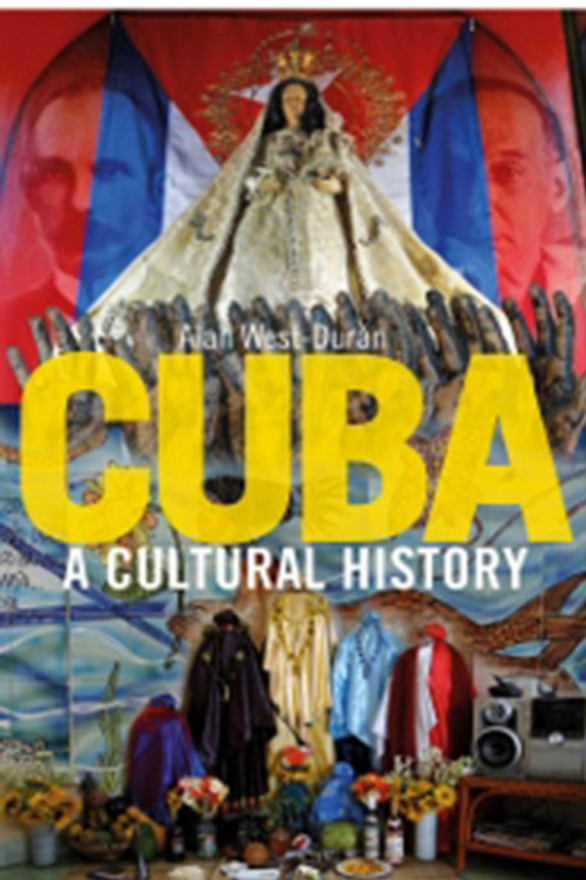
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The Green School at Books & Books

Cuban Research Institute



Cuba: A Cultural History Book Presentation by Author Alan West-Durán

Thursday, March 15, 2018 | 8:00 PM | Books & Books | 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables

This book is neither simply a timeline narrative of Cuban history nor a traditional history of Cuban culture. Instead, it invites the reader to enter Cuban history from the perspective of the island's uniquely creative cultural forms. As it does so, it traces that restless island as it ebbs and flows with the power, beauty, and longings of its culture and history. The book examines canonical figures like Martí, Ortiz, and Lezama as well as others not so canonical (rappers, performance artists, painters). The text freely roams through literature, film, music, Afro-Cuban religions, painting, and performance, providing insights into Cuban identity, nationalism, political discourse, *choteo*, and utopian longings in a new era of globalization.

Dr. Alan West-Durán is a poet, translator, critic, and essayist. He is the author of two books of poems, as well as a book of essays, *Tropics of History: Cuba Imagined* (1997). He also edited *African Caribbeans: A Reference Guide* (2003) and *Latino and Latina Writers* (2004), which includes over sixty full-length essays on Latino/a authors of the U.S. He is the editor-in-chief of the 2011 two-volume reference work titled *Cuba: People, Culture, History*. Dr. West-Durán is a contributor to the website "Panoramas" and is editor of the webzine "Cuban Counterpoints." He is an Associate Professor of Latin American Studies in the Department of Cultures, Societies, and Global Studies at Northeastern University. He was head of the Latino/a, Latin American, and Caribbean Studies program from 2006–2012.

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