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Cuban Research Institute

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs



Criollos, Peninsulares, and the University of Havana's Commemoration of the Third Centenary of *Don Quixote* (1905)

Lecture by Ricardo Castells

Thursday, September 27, 2018 | 12:30 PM | FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Green Library (GL) 220

The third centenary of the publication of Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quixote* was celebrated throughout the Spanish-speaking world, but the Cuban commemoration was particularly problematic because of the social divisions that remained on the Island following the recent War of Independence of 1895-1898. On the one hand, the conservative *Diario de la Marina* newspaper used the centenary to celebrate the cultural relations between Spain and Cuba in an elaborate program held in what is now the Gran Teatro de la Habana Alicia Alonso. On the other, the University of Havana held its own commemoration one week later to honor Cervantes while simultaneously proclaiming the Island's cultural and literary independence from Spain. This talk analyzes how the speeches of four of the University's professors reflected an early optimism about the young Republic's boundless opportunities, even as they dealt with the Island's recent colonial history.

Dr. Ricardo Castells was born in Cuba but has lived in the United States since the age of six. He received his Ph.D. from Duke University with a specialization in Golden Age Spanish Literature, and has taught at FIU's Department of Modern Languages for 25 years.

This event is free and open to the public.

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



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