

Dahlem International Network Professorship for Gender Studies 2018

A feature of the Excellence Initiative at Freie Universität Berlin

Inaugural Lecture

PROF. MOIRA FRADINGER

Yale University, Department of Comparative Literature

Latin American Antigones: from motherhood to sisterhood

May 30, 2018, 6 pm

Topoi Building Dahlem, Hittorfstraße 18, 14195 Berlin



PROGRAM

18.00 Welcome and Introductions:

PROF. DR. MARGRETH LÜNENBORG, Scientific Director, Margherita von Brentano Center

PROF. DR. SUSANNE ZEPP, Institute of Romance Languages and Literatures

18.15 Lecture

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19.00 Reception

"Our Greece is preferable to a Greece that is not ours" wrote Cuban independence hero José Martí in his famous text *Our America* (1891). This phrase could be rewritten to describe the intense creativity with which Latin Americans have imagined Antigone since the times of independence: "*Our Antigona is preferable to an Antigone that is not ours*". Moira Fradinger approaches the incredible number of Latin American rewritings of the play as a corpus with its own specific internal dynamics, with surprising results: Since the 19th century, Antigone has been characterized as a mother, thus transforming motherhood into a political metaphor. Into the 21st century, however, rebel mothers gradually become rebel sisters or female collectives, thereby critiquing the violence historically directed not only against the community at large, but also against women in particular. The lecture will focus on examples from Argentina, Haiti, Brazil, Perú, Mexico, Uruguay, Colombia and Chile.

The event is open to the public

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