

AILASA'S 2023 ECR and HDR Research Symposium



**‘Where Are We Heading?’
The state and future of
Iberian and Latin American
research in Australia and
New Zealand**

Partners organisations:

NZCLAS – [New Zealand Centre for Latin American Studies](#)

SURCLA – [Sydney University Research Community for Latin America](#)

Date: April 26th (Wednesday)

Time: 5:00pm – 7:45pm (AEST UTC+10, Australian Eastern Standard Time)

Format: Online, via Zoom (see links below).

Program Version: 23 April 2023

Conference Program:

Time (AEST)	Session A Chair: Robert Mason Zoom link click here Zoom ID: 889 2463 6995 Password: 123456	Session B Chair: Laura Rodriguez Castro Zoom link click here Zoom ID: 817 0813 3039 Password: 123456	Session C Chair: Salvador Cantellano Zoom link click here Zoom ID: 842 5270 7924 Password: AILASA
5:00pm	Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome, by AILASA President Associate Professor Robert Mason	---	---
5:10pm	Keynote speaker: Associate Professor Walescka Pino-Ojeda <i>The Crisis of Iberian and Latin American Studies in New Zealand amid the Growing Role of Culture in Socio-political Global Processes</i>	---	---
5:35pm	Panel 1a Introduction and Presentations Decolonial Perspectives	Panel 1b Introduction and Presentations Latin American Diaspora	Panel 1c Introduction and Presentations Literary and Visual angles
5:40pm	<i>Paula do Prado</i> The importance of Charrúa self-identification: more than blood	<i>Victor Del Rio</i> An overview of the LATAM migration settlement process in Australia from 2011 to 2023.	<i>Fernando Bayer</i> Second Time Around: A critical re-evaluation of Julio Cortázar's short stories in translation
5:55pm	<i>Jeannette Müller</i>	<i>Rafael Azeredo</i>	<i>Thomas Nulley-Valdés</i>

	Mapuche Discourses Towards Reclaiming Wallmapu in today's Chile	Living one visa at a time: Migration temporariness and the experiences of Brazilians in Australia	"We don't talk about Bruno:" Encanto between Macondo & McOndo
6:10pm	<i>Nathalia Dothling Reis</i> The end of world(s): the Quilombola community of Degredo living with the Samarco dam disaster in Brazil	<i>Lorely Aponte</i> Latinos and the New Wave of Streaming Media	<i>Salvador Cantellano</i> Towards a Cinema Del Pueblo: Collaborations at the intersection of documentary film practice and decoloniality
6:25pm	Panel 1a Q&A	Panel 1b Q&A	Panel 1c Q&A
6:35pm	<i>Break</i>		
6:45pm	Panel 2a Introduction and Presentations Gender Rights and Issues	Panel 2b Introduction and Presentations Political Transformations	Panel 2c Introduction and Presentations Transnational Dialogues
6:50pm	<i>Andrea Mederos</i> Protection and Recognition of the Rights of the TGDNB Community in Australia and Argentina	<i>Juliana Yepes Huertas</i> The influence of the students' movements in the presidential elections of the current Colombia government	<i>Azariah Elikah Quintana Alfante</i> As Many As There Are Islands: Towards Multicentrality in Hispano-Philippine Studies
7:05pm	<i>Lindsey Stevenson-Graf</i> A decolonial feminist perspective on the Influence of the Inter-American Human Rights System's Gender-Based Decisions at the Local Community Level	<i>Juan Carlos Barreno</i> Episodes of an Endless War, by Almudena Grandes, as shaper of Collective Memory about Franco's dictatorship.	<i>Federico Gonzalez Barrera</i> Intersection of European-South Australian Law regarding the treatment towards victims of cyber-sexual violence

7:20pm	<i>Alejandra L. Gutiérrez Hernández</i> Contemporary Representation of Femicide and its Victims: Melodrama in Mexican Digital Media	Panel 2b Q&A	<i>Oier Quincoces</i> Hacerse Hombre: la identidad masculina y su representación en algunas autobiografías españolas
7:35pm	Panel 2a Q&A	Panel 2b Q&A (cont.)	Panel 2b Q&A
7:45pm	Closing by chair	Closing by chair	Closing by chair

Accepted authors, bios, and papers:

[by order of author's first name]

Alejandra L. Gutiérrez Hernández

Affiliation: Macquarie University

Bio: I am a PhD student at Macquarie University (MCCALL Department) where I research neoliberal feminism in social media in Mexico, with the iRTP scholarship. I received the 2021 iMQRES-MRES scholarship to do the Master of Research (Y2) under the supervision of Dr Intan Paramaditha. After the MRes, I was awarded the University Medal for Media and Communications on the nomination of the Faculty of Arts.

Paper title: Contemporary Representation of Femicide and its Victims: Melodrama in Mexican Digital Media

Paper abstract: Researchers have criticized the sensationalist representation of killings of women in the news in Mexico. However, studies have not examined digital texts that suggest strategies have shifted towards avoidance of explicit violence. My MRes thesis addresses this gap by analysing three animated videos that describe the killings and victims through melodrama as a mode of communication.

Andrea Mederos

Affiliation: Universidad de Buenos Aires

Bio: My name is Andrea Mederos. I have been a professor and researcher in Roman Law for more than 20 years at Universidad de Buenos Aires and Universidad Abierta Iberoamericana, in Argentina. I have written 15 academic publications and participated in over 30 international conferences. I am currently completing a doctorate in Argentine Gender Identity Law, at Universidad de Buenos Aires, even though I moved to Sydney 4 years ago.

Paper title: Protection and Recognition of the Rights of the TGDNB Community in Australia and Argentina

Paper abstract: In my Ph.D. thesis, I analyze the requirements to achieve gender change since ancient Rome and Greece to the present day, considering all the countries that currently allow it. Argentina recognized equal marriage in the year 2010, and in 2012 it allowed gender change with no other requirements besides self-perception. According to this law, the process is free and expedited, and the state guarantees the right to identity, while hormone treatments and surgeries, including facial feminization, are also costless. My work focuses on the fact that Argentina has been a pioneer in not imposing complex conditions to carry out gender change. This is due to the influence of two principles of Roman Law, which govern Human Rights: aequitas and the pro hominen principle. When I began to analyze the situation in Australia, I noticed that there is a significant time difference, in relation to Argentina, in the recognition of the rights of the TGDNB[1] community, which I will explain in my presentation. In gender issues, Latin America continues to be at the forefront in

many aspects, and that is one of the contributions that Latin Americans can make to this land that shelters us.

Azariah Elikah Quintana Alfante

Affiliation: The University of Auckland

Bio: Dr Azariah Alfante is a Professional Teaching Fellow in Spanish at the University of Auckland. Her research focuses on Spanish and Hispano-Philippine cultural histories. Her first monograph, *Making Modern Spain*, is forthcoming with Bucknell UP/Rutgers UP in late 2023.

Paper title: As Many As There Are Islands: Towards Multicentrality in Hispano-Philippine Studies

Paper abstract: My current research deals with nineteenth-century Spain and early twentieth-century Philippines. In a potential publication, I aim to bring the latter centre stage, given its peripheral status in Hispanic Studies. Resil B. Mojares notes that the “local” marginalises regional histories in favour of a grand “national” narrative centred on the capital. Hence, Filomeno Aguilar states that multicentral approaches are necessary to Hispano-Philippine scholarship. My focus is Cebu. Cebu’s significance lies in its history as the first Spanish settlement, city, and capital of the Philippines, established in 1565. In my project, I will analyse the intersections between religion and education in Spanish-language periodicals and short fiction connected to Cebu. I examine articles in the first secular, Spanish-language newspaper in Cebu, *El Nuevo Día*, founded in 1900 by lawyers and politicians Jaime de Veyra, Rafael Palma, and future president Sergio Osmeña. This short-lived and heavily censored paper adopted a nationalist stance and highlighted America’s growing influence on the Philippine nation. I also turn to the work of the Spanish-Philippine writer, Adelina Gurrea Monasterio, who comments on religion and education in her folktales *Cuentos de Juana* through an indigenous, non-institutional lens. I will be presenting my findings at an international conference in mid-June.

Federico Gonzalez Barrera

Affiliation: University of Madrid

Bio: PhD candidate at Carlos III University of Madrid (Spain). Visiting PhD Researcher at the Adelaide Law School. Lawyer registered in the Madrid Bar Association. Bachelor in Law by the University of Granada, Spain (Valedictorian recognition).

Paper title: Intersection of European-South Australian Law regarding the treatment towards victims of cyber-sexual violence

Paper abstract: The aim of this presentation is to highlight the main results of my PhD that deals with the treatment of adult victims of cyber-sexual violence from the Australian, European and Spanish perspective. In order to achieve this objective, the methodology and 'state of the art' will be presented. Furthermore, main obstacles faced in these crimes as well as proposals for improvement will be highlighted.

Fernando Bayer

Affiliation: University of Sydney

Bio: Fernando Bayer is a secondary school teacher undertaking his PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Sydney. His research interests include literary translation, Latin American history and politics, as well as the way in which Latin American society and culture are represented in English-speaking countries.

Paper title: Second Time Around: A critical re-evaluation of Julio Cortázar's short stories in translation

Paper abstract: This presentation outlines the research question, focus and methodology of the research project "Second Time Around: A critical re-evaluation of Julio Cortázar's short stories in translation." The thesis seeks to address and reconsider the critical appraisals of Julio Cortázar's short stories in English-language criticism, particularly those published after 1973 and the controversy surrounding the mixed reception of *Libro de Manuel*. The premise that guides this research project has been informed by developments in Latin American studies surrounding the rediscovery of similarly philosophically inclined authors from the period such as Clarice Lispector, critical re-evaluations of many of Cortázar's later works in Spanish-language criticism and multiple recent attempts to revive translations of Cortázar's work that suggest an awareness of a disproportionate decline in the treatment of his work. Using a hybrid methodology comprised of cultural studies approaches such as ethnographic and archival research, as well as literary frameworks such as close-reading and reception theory, this thesis aims to situate the various phenomena that have impacted upon the continued study of Cortázar's short stories in English-language scholarship.

Jeannette Müller

Affiliation: University of Auckland

Bio: Jeannette is a tenured adjunct teacher of English in the Language Center at Universidad Austral de Chile in Valdivia, Chile, where she also completed a MA in Contemporary Spanish-American Literature. She is interested in intercultural topics related to education, literature, and indigenous peoples through a decolonized perspective. Currently, she is a Ph.D. candidate in the Latin American Studies programme at the University of Auckland in New Zealand, where she lives with her 13-year-old son.

Paper title: Mapuche Discourses Towards Reclaiming Wallmapu in today's Chile

Paper abstract: The legitimate struggle of indigenous peoples to sustain and revitalise their culture, language, and memory is recognised in the 2007 United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP). Examples in Latin America are the innovative Constitutions of Ecuador and Bolivia that recognise First Nations' status and rights through the legal concept of plurinationalism. Other indigenous communities in the region have also been demanding recognition following a self-

determination agenda. In today's Chile, such is the case of the Mapuche, "people of the land": Mapu: land; che: people. For the Mapuche, as for many other indigenous nations, subverting the condition of ethnocultural subordination has meant challenging the central principles that gave shape, and have sustained the modern nation-state's constructs. To analyse this resistance and the strategies implemented to subvert the multiple ideological and institutional devices deployed by the colonial rationale, this presentation will focus on some Mapuche artistic-imaginative and intellectual-analytical discourses that are responding to and distancing themselves from the ontological and epistemological design that sustains the modern, capitalist and patriarchal Chilean nation-state in order to advance in their processes of self-determination and sovereignty.

Juan Carlos Barreno

Affiliation: University of New England, Australia

Bio: Juan Carlos, an Australian Citizen, obtained a Master of Science from the University of Hohenheim, Germany, in 1993, with a full scholarship of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. In 2021 he completed a Master of Applied Linguistics at the University of New England, Australia. He has worked as a language and literature teacher (French and Spanish) for vocational institutions in Australia and overseas. His main interests are history, languages and literature. He has published two poetry books in Spanish: *Universo verde y estrellas perfumadas* (2014), and *Entre tierras y memorias* (2022). He is currently researching the relationship between literature and collective memory.

Paper title: Episodes of an Endless War, by Almudena Grandes, as shaper of Collective Memory about Franco's dictatorship

Paper abstract: My PhD-thesis examines how the five novels Episodes of an Endless War by late Spanish writer Almudena Grandes (published between 2010-2020) may impact on the collective memory (CM) of Franco's dictatorship (1939-1975), which was a period of terror, tyranny, murder and media censorship for Spain. In the 1920's French sociologist Maurice Halbwachs posited that memories do not only emerge from individually lived experiences but can also be collectively constructed/reconstructed. According to Lachmann (2008), literature excels all the arts in mnemonic properties, but, most importantly, it also reflects a culture's knowledge and remembrance efforts. Underpinned by main CM-theories and narratological analysis, my research project investigates Grandes' novels as "shapers of memory" (Kohut 2003). Grandes depicts several aspects of life in Spain during Franco's regime and revives little-known historical events and characters that played a role in Spain's destiny but have remained obscure. Thus, this thesis analyses whether this body of literature can contribute to CM-reconstruction, invites reflection about the epistemic value of historical novels, and promotes Grandes's oeuvre in the English-speaking world.

Juliana Yepes Huertas

Affiliation: University of Auckland

Bio: Juliana Yepes Huertas is a first-year PhD candidate in Latin American Studies at the Faculty of Arts at The University of Auckland. Her research focuses on the history of the student movements in Colombia and the origin of the student protests initiated in Colombia in 2011. She is a Graphic Designer (Los Libertadores University, Colombia) and holds a Master's in Education (The National University of Colombia). Her main research interests are the historical development of social and youth movements and protests in Colombia and Latin America, visual communication and popular and visual culture.

Paper title: The influence of the students' movements in the presidential elections of the current Colombia government

Paper abstract: The youth movements initiated in Colombia in 2011 have demanded reformism in the political and social contexts of the country. Colombia has endured 60 years of internal armed conflict and social problems due to lack of adequate political representation and acute social inequalities. This discontent with institutional politics has prompted the creation of different social movements, among them the students' movements, which have deeply influenced government proposals in the last two decades. A central question guiding this research is: Have this students' movement influenced the recent election of leftist president Gustavo Petro Urrego to the presidency? This presentation introduces a tentative hypothesis in order to understand the relationship between the students' movement work plan and the current government central policies. To this end, this presentation will focus on two aspects: young people's increase participation in Colombia's last election and the similarities that exist between the government's work plan and the demands voiced by the students since 2011.

Lindsey Stevenson-Graf

Affiliation: Griffith University

Bio: Lindsey is currently undertaking a PhD focusing on the Inter-American Human Rights System and working as an academic at Griffith University. She has a JD and a master's degree in Latin American Studies from George Washington University and is admitted as a lawyer in the United States and Australia.

Paper title: A decolonial feminist perspective on the Influence of the Inter-American Human Rights System's Gender-Based Decisions at the Local Community Level

Paper abstract: The Inter-American Human Rights System (IAHRS) includes what is considered to be a highly progressive international legal framework to protect gender rights. A strength of the IAHRS is its companion framework concerning violence against women, which has been used by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights over the past 20 years to develop advanced norms and jurisprudence on violence against women

Lorely Aponte

Affiliation: University of Technology Sydney

Bio: Lorely Aponte Ortiz is a PhD student at the School of International Studies and Education, University of Technology Sydney

Paper title: Latinos and the New Wave of Streaming Media

Paper abstract: On-screen representations of Latinos and Latin Americans produced in the United States have been generally based on longstanding stereotypes. These tropes have continued to persist in popular culture and can be observed in the prevailing anti-Latino rhetoric that permeates mainstream political discourse in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Such discourse, which reached its peak during the Trump administration (2016–2020), has contributed to conflicting attitudes towards and understandings of Latinos and Latin Americans in contemporary US society. This research analyses the effect this discourse has had on the portrayal of Latino narratives in US-produced TV shows such as *Jane the Virgin* (2014–2019); *Queen of the South* (2016–2021); *One Day at A Time* (2017–2020); *On My Block* (2018–2021); *Gentefied* (2020–present); and *Vida* (2018–2020). The study aims to determine whether these shows attempt to subvert stereotypes and challenge recurring tropes in response to social, political, and cultural events. The analysis draws on contemporary research on Latino representation in film and TV and examines how these shows construct Latino narratives. The study hopes to shed light on the broader implications of current historical and political contexts on the representation and perception of Latinos and Latin Americans in popular culture.

Nathalia Dothling Reis

Affiliation: University of Queensland

Bio: PhD candidate in Anthropology at the School of Social Sciences, UQ, working in the field of environmental anthropology. I'm interested in the interface between extractive industries and Brazilian quilombola communities, especially in the context of the Samarco dam disaster.

Paper title: The end of world(s): the Quilombola community of Degredo living with the Samarco dam disaster in Brazil

Paper abstract: Anthropocene scholars (Crutzen and Stoermer 2000) state that human being activity is so strong that created a geological era and Western institutions are saying that the world is ending due to environmental crises and climate change. Nevertheless, I am suggesting that possibly there are many worlds and different types of Anthopos affecting the planet and being affected by colonialism. In this sense, I question whose world is ending and who is responsible to forge the end of the world (or worlds). The Samarco or Mariana dam disaster occurred in Brazil in 2015 and is considered the largest environmental disaster in the country. It affected peoples from 230 municipalities including the Quilombola community of Degredo in the state of Espírito Santo. Quilombolas are more than 6,000 black traditional communities present in all regions of Brazil. Their world has been menaced since colonisation and they have been resisting with Afro ancestral practices. In this sense, I suggest that the ecological crisis started with colonisation and is intertwined with colonial legacies such as racism. What I propose to this work

is look at the practices that Quilombolas have been undertaking to face this local environmental crisis and the historical attempts against their world.

Oier Quincoces

Affiliation: University of the Basque Country

Bio: Oier Quincoces got a degree in Spanish Philology from the University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU in 2018 and he completed a Master's Degree in Literary Studies at the Complutense University of Madrid in 2019. Since 2020 he is working on his PhD, which focuses on the relationship between masculinity and contemporary Spanish autobiography. At this moment he is doing a research stay at Melbourne University with Professor Alfredo Martínez-Expósito.

Paper title: Hacerse Hombre: la identidad masculina y su representación en algunas autobiografías españolas

Paper abstract: Esta presentación tiene como objetivo abordar las relaciones entre escritura autobiográfica y estudios de género, atendiendo al vínculo que existe entre algunas autobiografías escritas por hombres y el modelo de masculinidad que en ellas se presenta. Tras un breve estado de la cuestión sobre algunas aportaciones de la teoría de la literatura y de los estudios de género al tema que nos ocupa, se prestará atención a los tres autores que integran el corpus de mi trabajo y a sus respectivas obras: Juan Goytisolo (1931-2017), Terenci Moix (1942-2003) y Luis Antonio de Villena (1951-). Dichos autores, en mayor o menor medida, tuvieron que “hacerse hombres” a la sombra del franquismo y del nacionalcatolicismo, que rechazaron y persiguieron toda sexualidad que se saliese de la norma. Esa es, precisamente, una de las claves de las que parte esta investigación, por lo que se propone un repaso de las diferentes formas de combatir esa represión y de representarse que tuvo cada autor.

Paula do Prado

Affiliation: University of Sydney

Bio: Paula do Prado is an artist-researcher working with various forms of tejido/weaving. Her practice surfaces the intersections of her African Bantu-Kongo, Iberian and Charrúan ancestral heritage. Her art practice is indivisible from her cultural and spiritual practice, her family and community relationships and ancestral tree kin she is called to work with led by Lajau (Ombú). She holds a BFA, First Class Honours (Textiles) and an MFA (Research) from the University of New South Wales Art & Design. She will show a new collaborative work for the 5th Tamworth Textile Triennial 2023. She is currently a PhD candidate at Sydney College of the Arts and a member of The Sydney Indigenous Research Network at The University of Sydney.

Paper title: The importance of Charrúa self-identification: more than blood

Paper abstract: Despite a pervasive state sanctioned narrative of extinction when it comes to Uruguay's Indigenous population, there are a growing number of Uruguayans who are reclaiming their Indigenous identity to proudly state “Soy Charrúa, Charrúa soy!” As part of the Charrúa movement spearheaded by organisations such as the Consejo de la Nación Charrúa (Co.na.cha), Derecho Indígena Uruguay and multiple clan groups, a campaign has been launched on

social media on Indigenous self-identification in preparation for the upcoming April census. The 2023 Uruguayan census will ask respondents if they know of at least one grandparent who was Indigenous. The campaign, with a view toward the future of Indigenous rights, encourages Uruguayans to ask questions, to interrogate their oral histories, familial and genealogical archives. In Uruguay's last national census of 2011, 4.9% of the population self-declared Indigenous ancestry but contemporary genealogical studies indicate that somewhere between 31-37% of Uruguayans are of Indigenous descent. My current PhD research explores my own journey in reclaiming my Charrúan ancestry through artistic practice to desenterrar familial and historical silences, reconnecting with culture and language.

Rafael Azeredo

Affiliation: Griffith University

Bio: Rafael Azeredo is a PhD candidate and sessional academic at Griffith University whose research interests include sociology of migration and broader relations between Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region. As part of his doctoral research, Rafael is undertaking ethnographic research on the Brazilian diaspora in Queensland, Australia.

Paper title: Living one visa at a time: Migration temporariness and the experiences of Brazilians in Australia

Paper abstract: This presentation provides an overview of a doctoral research project that explores the experience of contemporary Brazilian migrants in Australia in navigating imposed migration temporariness. The research project uses ethnographic methods and is currently in its final year. The presentation outlines the research objectives, methods, and outcomes achieved to date. It also discusses the challenges and limitations encountered during the research process, as well as the implications of the research for policy and practice in the field of migration. Overall, this project contributes to a deeper understanding of the lived experiences of contemporary Brazilian migrants in Australia and sheds light on the broader issues and ambiguities of temporary migration and its impacts on migrant well-being and integration.

Salvador Cantellano

Affiliation: Griffith University

Bio: Salvador Cantellano is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, educator, and PhD candidate at Griffith University. His work traverses across the arts, culture and climate science, exploring community-engaged themes and methods with the aesthetics of cinematic romance. His doctoral research is underpinned by screen practice, zooming into climate change and environmental communication while reimagining the role of cinema as a space for intercultural interventions through south-south dialogues. His doctoral project is titled, Cinema Del Pueblo: Documentary filmmaking in age of crisis and the potential of community-engaged

practice. Salvador and his family have lived in Australia for 35 years after arriving as refugees from Chile.

Paper title: Towards a Cinema Del Pueblo: Collaborations at the intersection of documentary film practice and decoloniality

Paper abstract: This paper reflects on a recent filmmaking project commissioned for World Science Festival Brisbane 2023, in which South-South dialogues underpinned a collaborative scripting process. This collaborative process shifts the power position of the participant and invites them to engage in the process of framing their own narrative. This work is part of a doctoral research project exploring documentary cinema through South-South dialogues in response to climate change. This is arts-based research exploring the nuances of collaborative spaces, framing these cinematic interventions as platforms with potential to lead new narratives while fostering self-determination. By repositioning the traditional practices in which films are made, this research posits the possibilities of engaging in processes of decoloniality, challenging the knowledge systems and power relations that are present in filmmaking hierarchies. This paper will focus on two documentary films arising from this eight-part web series Cool Jobs, designed to engage high-school students in STEM pathways. The two films, which were developed collaboratively with the Indigenous researchers featured in them, present an opportunity to discuss decoloniality and design, how it can play out on screen, and how this approach to arts and science communication helps to build on the continuum of Indigenous identities. This paper combines reflection on filmmaking practice with commentary from participants about the process and their experience of collaborative storytelling at the intersection of science communication, decoloniality and art.

Thomas Nulley-Valdés

Affiliation: Australian National University in Canberra

Bio: Thomas Nulley-Valdés is Lecturer in Spanish Studies at the Australian National University in Canberra, from where he obtained his doctorate in 2020. His research is focused on world literature theories and methodologies, twentieth- and twenty-first-century Latin American literature, anthologies, literary canonization, and the Spanish-language literary field in the United States. He has published in a number of peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes, and his author interviews feature in various magazines including Latin American Literature Today. His first monograph, *McOndo Revisited: The Making of a Generation Defining Anthology in the Latin American Literature-World*, is being published in August 2023 by Lexington Books. He tweets as @TNulleyValdes.

Paper title: “We don’t talk about Bruno.” Encanto between Macondo & McOndo

Paper abstract: Contemporary expressions of Latin American cultures in popular media, such as Disney’s 2021 musical Encanto, promote an exoticised vision of Latin Americanness that critics call macondismo. This term takes its name from the village in Gabriel García Márquez’s novel *Cien años de soledad* (1967), and refers to how the tropical, magical realist Garciamarquian vision became something of a master narrative or metaphor for the region. Toward the end of the 20th Century the Latin American literary field became a leading site for the questioning of this

establishment, through the so-called “McOndo generation,” for instance. Yet, even in seemingly reductive and decadently stereotypical films like *Encanto* these visions are questioned and even de/reconstructed. In *Encanto* the ostracised uncle Bruno (who is a seer) is banished from the Madrigal family for foretelling the destruction of the family’s magic triggered by the only family member lacking a magical power, Mirabel. This is, metonymically, a fate similar to that which befell unconventional Latin American authors who openly satirised and (according to some) undertook to demolish the established notions of what constituted Latin American literature, in order to rebuild it and give it new life, such as the McOndo authors and their precursors. This is just one example of how the form and content of exoticised films like *Encanto* can be read both as an expression of macondismo, and as well as a McOndo-style questioning of this very orthodoxy.

Victor Del Rio

Affiliation: RMIT

Bio: For the last 30 years I have been involved with the Oz?/LATAM communities in three fronts: 1. Analysing the LATAM migrant population settlement process in Australia and New Zealand 2. Working on projects aimed at expanding the relationships and understanding between Australia and LATAM 3. Working on Big Science projects to improve access for LATAM researchers to frontier technologies

Paper title: An overview of the LATAM migration settlement process in Australia from 2011 to 2023.

Paper abstract: An overview of the LATAM migration settlement process in Australia from 2011 to 2023. My presentation will focus on the things that remain the same and those which have shaped the new LATAM profile in Australia.

Walescka Pino-Ojeda

Affiliation: The University of Auckland

Bio: Walescka Pino-Ojeda is the director of the New Zealand Centre for Latin American Studies at The University of Auckland. Building on Latin American Cultural, Literary, Memory and Trauma Studies, as well as on the regions’ neoliberal post-authoritarian context, she has published on women and gay literature, photography, civic activism, film, and popular music.

Paper title: The Crisis of Iberian and Latin American Studies in New Zealand amid the Growing Role of Culture in Socio-political Global Processes

Paper abstract: In this presentation I will address the gradual deterioration that Iberian and Latin American studies have been experiencing in New Zealand in a context of the deepening of neoliberal policies, specifically regarding the social and community role that the university must fulfil, as well as in the academic practice itself. Although this is a global phenomenon, it is more dramatic in a society that for many decades was very successful in consolidating social democratic principles. Paradoxically, this deepening of a neoliberal concept of education and the university

occurs at a time when culture, the arts, and the humanities in general play a central role in denouncing, clarifying, and proposing alternatives to the social, economic, ethical, and environmental crisis that defines our era. To illustrate the above, this presentation will briefly discuss the role that the arts and culture have played in recent political events of great social impact in Latin America.