LACSI Cross-Disciplinary Conversation on Friday, March 22, 2013, at 4:00 p.m.

Modulating the Nation State: Music in the Cuban Diaspora and the Changing Definition of Citizenship

Dr. Susan Thomas’ work explores the development of Cuban Alternative Music as an explicitly transnational phenomenon that was both impacted by and stimulated from the experience of diaspora. Stylistically hybrid, the movement has provoked aesthetic and cultural controversy, as it challenges pre-existing notions of what Cuban music is and how, where, and with whom it is performed. Alternative musicians and their music have also had a direct impact on State policy. As audible proof of the new transnational Cuban reality, they have been at the forefront of an official renegotiation of Cuban citizenship at a moment when the island’s territorial boundaries are increasingly amorphous.

Dr. Thomas is associate professor of music and women’s studies at The University of Georgia Hodgson School of Music and Core Faculty of LACSI.

LACSI Cross-Disciplinary Conversations

LACSI Cross-Disciplinary Conversations are 15-minute lectures followed by 45 minutes of open discussion. Open to the general public and UGA faculty, staff, and students, affiliates of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute address a specific research project or current issue of broad importance. These events are opportunities for UGA and the surrounding community to get to know the vital work being done by LACSI’s 140+ affiliates, which now represent every college and professional school on campus.

LACSI Cross-Disciplinary Conversations are located at 290 South Hull Street, Athens, GA. For more information or questions, please contact lacsiuga@gmail.com.