

The Latin American Studies Center is proud to present:

"(Para) Socialist Phantasms: On the Near Drowning and Rescue of Cuba's Godot"

by Dr. Laurie Frederik Meer

SPRING 2008

The act of waiting in lines for scarce goods and services has been one of the common characteristics of lived experience under state socialism in Cuba. Cuban citizens have also been waiting for the definitive "victory" and social utopia promised by revolutionary leaders almost 50 years ago – Che Guevara's "hasta la victoria siempre" suggesting, perhaps, that the word "until" assured the arrival of Cuba's long-awaited "Godot" and a cathartic moment of true nationalist realization. Based on long-term ethnographic fieldwork with playwrights and theatrical performers in the rural mountain regions of Villa Clara and Guantánamo, Meer's research examines how state-funded artists imagine, make sense of, and enact this moment of "in-between," and how they attempt to revive a Cuban Godot in danger of slipping away into the island's salty sea waters.



UNIVERSITY OF
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Thursday, April 17, 2008
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
LASC - Holzapfel Hall
Room 0128-B