





PAZ GUEVARA

Kuratorin, Berlin

CURATING LATIN AMERICAN ART

QUESTIONS, DEBATES, POLITICS AND AESTHETICS

DONNERSTAG, 12. DEZEMBER 2013 I 18 UHR c.t.

Graimberg-Raum (001) | IEK | Seminarstr. 4 | Heidelberg

This lecture is an invitation to examine the curatorial process of three recent, major exhibitions on Latin American art, which Paz Guevara co-curated — *The Latin American Pavilion* at the Venice Biennale (2011 and 2013) and the *1st Montevideo Biennial* in Uruguay (2012) — as well as a large scale exhibition on cultural translation she curated last year: *In Other Words. The Black Market of Translations - Negotiating Contemporary Cultures* at the NGBK and Kunstraum Kreuzberg in Berlin. Works by artists from all across the continent will be integral part of the conference.

Curating Latin American art raises a set of urgent questions on the scope and perspective of our contemporary moment. Are the geopolitical assumptions of the term "Latin American" questionable, and if so, how do we deal with the inclusions and exclusions of nations, cultures, and communities that they implicate? Curating Latin American art within the aforementioned self-reflection then, means thinking of exhibitions not as mere spaces of representation (of nations, regions, or topics), but as contexts for experimentation, as a medium for the transformation of the aesthetic experience, and as sites where and new categories emerge. Ultimately, a relationship to artistic practice has been crucial for contemporary curating: to what extent do the political strategies of art influence the curatorial practice of exhibition-making and the exhibition-as-form, specifically with regard to the tradition of political art in Latin America?

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Abb.: Juan Burgos, Dios y el diablo en la tierra del sol, 2012. Collage. 1st Montevideo Biennial. © The artist.