

Myth and Mythmaking in Iberian and Luso-Hispanic Literatures Call for Papers



Diego Velasquez, *The Forge of Vulcan* (1630) Oil on Canvas, Museo del Prado, Madrid

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Rolena Adorno, Reuben Post Halleck Professor of Spanish and Portuguese Yale University

From Plato's famous declaration that art is the most potent threat to a functioning republic to Hans Blumenberg's contention that human beings mythologize to escape the "anxiety of reality", the question of how myths are constructed have long perplexed philosophers and scholars in many disciplinary circles, including literary studies. In an effort to engage in this exciting debate, the Spanish graduate students of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Chicago have organized a graduate student conference entitled "Myth and Mythmaking in Iberian and Luso-Hispanic Literatures" scheduled for October 31- November 1, 2008 at the Franke Institute for the Humanities at the University of Chicago. The conference hopes to engage with the following questions: 1. What is myth? 2. Who creates them and how are they constructed? 3. Are there conflicting myths at work in the same discourse? 4. How are myths transmitted, and to whom? 5. How does genre create a space in which these myths can be expressed? 6. How do these myths influence Self/Other relationships? 7. Are critics too quick to stress the relationship between myths and literature? The conference organizing committee welcomes papers from all theoretical perspectives in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Abstracts should be sent as attachments in Microsoft Word format and should not exceed 250 words in length. They should also include the title of the presentation, your name, institutional affiliation and phone number. Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes in length. Abstracts and questions can be sent to mythmythmaking@gmail.com.

Deadline for Submissions: June 30, 2008

Conference Organizing Committee

James Nemiroff (Early Modern Spanish Literature)	Alejandro Maya (Latin American Literature)
Jesús Botello (Golden Age Spanish Literature)	Jason Sinclair Fowler (Golden Age Spanish Literature)
Traci Dybdahl (Spanish Literature)	Felipe Rojas (Spanish Literature)
Jenna Leving (Latin American Literature and Culture)	Erika Tanács (Colonial Latin American Literature and Culture)
Thelma Jiménez-Anglada (Latin American Literature and Culture)	