

CARY AILEEN GARCIA YERO
Curriculum Vitae

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Current

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Postdoctoral Fellow, Freie Universität Berlin; University of Hannover

Berlin; Hannover, Germany

May 2022 – September 2024

Harvard University, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies

Scholar Associate, Cuban Studies Program

Cambridge, MA, USA

September 2022 – September 2023

Previous

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Toronto, History Department

Toronto, ON, Canada

May 2021 – May 2022

Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Scholar Affiliate, Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion

Cambridge, MA, USA

August 2021 – July 2022

Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Raphael Morrison Dorman Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow, Weatherhead Scholars Program

Cambridge, MA, USA

August 2020 – July 2021

EDUCATION

Harvard University

PhD, History

Cambridge, MA, USA

May 2020

Dissertation: "Sights and Sounds of *Cubanidad*: Race, Nation, and the Arts, 1938-1958."

- Honorary Mention, Best Dissertation Award, Latin American Studies Association Cuba Section 2022

Committee: Profs. Alejandro de la Fuente, Robin Bernstein, Tamar Herzog, Susan Sommer

- Certificate in Latin American Studies, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
- Supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

University of British Columbia

MA, Latin American History

Vancouver, BC, Canada

September 2008 – May 2010

Thesis: "Is It All About Love: *Filin* and Politics in Pre-Revolutionary Cuba."

Advisor: Dr. Alejandra Bronfman

University of British Columbia

BA, Music

Vancouver, BC, Canada

September 2005 – May 2008

UBC Student Exchange Program, University of Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain

September 2006 – January 2007

ISA, National University of Arts

Coursework towards a BA in Music

Havana, Cuba

September 1999 – July 2002

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Afro-Latin American Studies; Race in the Americas; Relationship between the Arts, Politics, and Society; Visual Arts; Music; Cuban History; Latin American History; Cold War History; Cultural History

PUBLICATIONS

Book Projects

Colors of Dissent: Race, Nation, and the Arts in Cuba, 1938-1963. Invited to present manuscript to Cambridge University Press for the series *Afro-Latin America*.

El Pasado Mío / My Own Past: Afrodescendant Contributions to Cuban Art. Co-authored with Alejandro de la Fuente and Bárbaro Martínez Ruiz. In preparation.

Black Art in Cold War: Race, Politics, and the Cuban-Eastern European Socialist Bloc Art Exchanges, 1961-1989. Research in process.

Peer Reviewed Articles

Racial Indeterminacy and Afro-Latin American Art: The Case of Antonio Argudín Chon. *Africanidades*, 3, Special Issue: Across the Black Atlantic, Its Visual Arts (proofs submitted, forthcoming, 2023).

Bola de Nieve: The Antiracist Strategies of a Black *AfroCubanista* Musical Icon. *New West Indian Guide* (proofs submitted, forthcoming 2023).

To Whom It Belongs: The Aftermaths of *AfroCubanismo* and the Power over *Lo Negro* in Cuban Arts, 1938-1958. *Latin American Research Review*, 57, No. 2 (2022).

The State within the Arts: A Study of Cuba's Cultural Policy, 1940-1959, *Cuban Studies*, No. 47 (2019).

Is It Just About Love: *Filin* and Politics in Pre-Revolutionary Cuba, *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture*, No. 30 (2012).

Works in Progress

Afro-Latinidad on the Record: The Intersection of Music, Visual Arts, and Race in Panart's *Asi Bailaba Cuba*. In preparation for *Iberoamericana*

Teodoro Ramos Blanco: Black Art, Raceless Nationalism, and the Politics of Memorialization in Contemporary Cuba. In preparation.

Other Publications

Latin America. In Michelle Nicholasen, (Ed.) "The World That Awaits the US President in 2021." *Epicenter*. Weatherhead Center Online Source. <https://epicenter.wcfia.harvard.edu/blog/world-awaits-us-president-2021> (October 27, 2020).

Cofradía de la Negritud: Entrevista a Norberto Mesa Carbonell. *Cuban Studies*, 48, Special Issue on the Afro-Cuban Movement (2019).

Entrevistas a Carlos Cristóbal Márquez Valdés, dueño de la Paladar San Cristóbal, y a Alberto González Ceballos, dueño de la panadería Salchipizza. *Cuban Studies*, 48, Special Issue on the Afro-Cuban Movement (2019).

Book Reviews

Isabel Story. *Soviet Influence on Cuban Culture, 1961-1987: When the Soviets Came to Stay*. Lexington Books, 2019. In *Cuban Studies* No. 51 (forthcoming).

Megan Feeney. *Hollywood in Havana*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019. In *Cuban Studies* No. 52 (forthcoming).

Laurie Frederik. *Trumpets in the Mountains: Theater and the Politics of National Culture*. Durham and London: Duke University Press, 2012. In *Cuban Studies* No. 43 (2014).

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

External Recognition

Honorary Mention, Best Dissertation Award, Latin American Studies Association Cuba Section	2022
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, Berlin, Germany	2022-2024
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Grant of Canada Postdoctoral Fellowship (2022-2023 declined)	2021-2023
Working Group on Slavery and Visual Culture, Colloquium Grant, University of Chicago, USA	2020 – 2021
Royal Society of Canada, Alice Wilson Award Finalist	2021
Volkswagen Foundation, Arts from the Black Atlantic Project, Centre for Global and Atlantic Studies, Leibniz University Hannover, Germany	2020 – 2021
Seal of Excellence, European Commission, EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, <i>Black Art in Cold War</i> Research Project	2020
Columbia University Society of Fellows, Finalist	2020
Casa de América, Madrid, Spain, <i>Congreso Internacional La Esclavitud y sus Huellas</i> Travel Grant	2017
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Grant of Canada	2013 – 2016

University of Miami Cuban Heritage Collection Pre-Prospectus Summer Fellowship	2013
Internal Recognition	
Harvard University, Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Afro-Latin American Art Traveling Seminar	2020 – 2023
Harvard University, Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Cluster Mamolen Dissertation Class 2020	2020
Harvard University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2018 – 2019
Harvard University, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Cuba Studies Program Fellowship	2016 – 2019
Harvard University, Hutchins Center, Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Research Grant	2017
Harvard University, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Graduate Student Associate Research Grant	2016, 2017
Harvard University History Department Research Grant	2015
Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship	2013 – 2015
University of Pittsburgh Center for Latin American Studies Research Grant	2013
University of Pittsburgh Arts and Sciences Fellowship	2012 – 2013
University of British Columbia Graduate Student Research and Writing Fellowship	2009
University of British Columbia History Department Graduate Student Funding	2008 – 2010

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Havana, Cuba (May – June 2009; May – June 2013; May – June 2014; September 2015 – May 2016; May – June 2017)
- Archives: Museum of National Music; Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Música; Biblioteca Nacional José Martí; Biblioteca Universidad de la Habana; Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes; Ministry of Culture Archive; Asociación Alejo Carpentier; Museum Servando Cabrera; UNEAC; Personal Collection José Veigas; Personal Collection Roberto Diago (Grandson); Universidad San Geronimo; Museo Lezama Lima; Archivo Nacional; Biblioteca Universidad de la Habana; Ministry of External Affairs Archive.
- Miami, USA (July 2013)
- Archive: Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami
- Hannover and Berlin, Germany (May – June 2014; August 2018)
- Archive: Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut; Estate of Guido Llinás Personal Collection Christoph Singler
- New York, USA (July 2014; July 2017)
- Archives: New York Public Library; Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution; MoMA

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences, Congresses, Symposiums, and Invited Lectures

- Imagining Black Autonomy: The Afro-Cuban Art of Teodoro Ramos Blanco and Uver Solís. *First Continental Conference on Afro-Latin American Studies*, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA. Presented online December 2022
- Making of White Hegemony via the Arts in Cuba, 1938-1959. Invited Lecturer, *Center For Atlantic and Global Studies, Leibniz University Hannover*. Germany November 2022
- Paintings of Dissent: Race, Nation, and the Arts in Cuba, 1939-1959. *Latin American Center Lecture Series*, University of Oxford, England June 2022
- Racial Segregation and 1940s Cuban Arts. Afro-Latin American Traveling Seminar, Washington Meeting. Washington DC, USA May 2022
- The Challenges of Writing the Life and Work of Afro-Cuban Painter Antonio Argudín: The Archives and the Emerging Field of Afro-Latin American Art. *Symposium on Race, Inequality, and Visual Culture*. Harvard University; University of Basel. Presented online December 2021
- Race, Civilization, and The Circum-Caribbean Circulation of Panart Records. *Latin American Research Group*, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Presented online November 2021
- Remaking A Nation Free of Racism: The Role of the Arts in the Cuban October 2021

Revolution 1959-1961 Antiracism Campaign. <i>Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion</i> . Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA. Presented Online	
A Well-Integrated Culture? The Arts and the Cuban Revolution's 1959-1961 Antiracism Campaign. <i>New Directions in Cuban Studies Conference</i> . University of Miami. Presented online	October 2021
Racial Segregation and Domestic Imagery in Cuban Figurative Art, 1940s-1950s. <i>Universities Art Association of Canada Annual Conference</i> . Presented online	October 2021
The Bifurcation of Cuban Arts: Authenticity and Afro-Cuban Creativity, 1938-1958. <i>Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Annual Conference</i> . Presented online	August 2021
Art Exhibition Spaces and the Formation of Racial Knowledge. <i>Visual Arts of the Black Atlantic Project Workshop</i> . Centre for Global and Atlantic Studies, Leibniz University Hannover, Germany. Presentation online	March 2021
<i>Afro-Latinidad</i> on the Record: Race, Civilization, and Panart, 1940s-1950s. <i>Arts Council of the African Studies Association Triennial</i> . Presented online	June 2021
Mapping National Belonging through Figurative Arts in 1940s Cuba. Poster. <i>American Historical Association Annual Conference</i> , Presented online	January 2021
Hegemony, Ambiguity over Lo Negro, and the Making of State Cultural Policy in Cuba, 1938-1958. <i>Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Weatherhead Scholars Seminar Series</i> . Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	November 2020
Challenging White Cultural Hegemony from Within: Afro-Cuban Figurative Art between 1940-1958. <i>Universities Art Association of Canada Annual Conference</i> , Presented online.	October 2020
Sights and Sounds of <i>Cubanidad</i> . <i>ALARI Mamolen Dissertation Class 2020</i> . Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	October 2020
National Ideologies and Cultural Policy in Cuba, 1938-1958. Invited Lecturer, <i>History Department, State University of New York, Albany, NY, USA</i>	October 2020
<i>Colors of Dissent</i> : Book Proposal Presentation. <i>Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion</i> . Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	September 2020
Revolutionary Transitions: Cuban Arts, Race and Nation between Republic and Revolution. <i>Boston Area Latin American and Caribbean Historians' Workshop</i> , Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	February 2020
Making <i>Cubanidad</i> through Vanguardia Music during the 1940s, Cuba. <i>First Continental Conference on Afro-Latin American Studies</i> , Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	December 2019
Folklore, Appropriation of Afro-Cuban Culture, and Nation Making, 1938-1958. <i>New Voices in Cuba Studies: Graduate Student Symposium</i> , Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	November 2019
Antiracism Crusades and Color Lines: Visual Arts and Race in Revolutionary Cuba, 1959-1963. <i>Latin American Studies Association Congress</i> , Boston, MA, USA	May 2019
Figurative Art, <i>Cubanidad</i> , and Afro-Cuban Representation, 1940-1958. <i>Cuba Studies Program Art Panel "Reflections on Cuban Visual Arts: Race, Politics, and Institutional Development,"</i> Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA	October 2018
Race, Culture, and Equality in Cuba's State Cultural Policy, 1940-1958. <i>Building Bridges Beyond Disciplines Symposium</i> , Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA	May 2018
Upholding Western Culture, Constituting Cuban Art: Race and State Cultural Policy in Cuba, 1940-1958. <i>Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Annual Conference</i> ,	May 2018

Montreal, QC, Canada

- Inclusive and White: Race and Cultural Policy in Cuba, 1940-1958. *Cuba Studies Program Seminar Series*, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA February 2018
- Las ambigüedades de la racialidad en el arte abstracto cubano durante la década de 1950. *Congreso Internacional La Esclavitud y sus Huellas*, Casa de América de Madrid, Madrid, Spain Octubre 2017
- “Cuban and That’s It”: Nation and Race in Bola de Nieve’s Afro-Cuban Performances. *Latin American Studies Association Congress*, Lima, Peru May 2017
- Abstract Art and the Paradoxes of Race in 1950s Cuba. *Graduate Student Associate Workshop; Adminstrating Difference in Latin America Workshop*, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA Spring 2017
- Neither ‘Tropicalisms’ nor ‘Folklorisms’: Race and National Visual Arts in 1950s Cuba. *American Historical Association Annual Meeting*, Denver, CO, USA January 2017
- The Arts, the Artists, and the State: Cultural Policy in Cuba, 1940-1950. *Latin American Studies Association Congress*, San Juan, PR, USA May 2015
- Music as a Political Platform during 1940s Cuba. *Graduate Student Symposium on Latin American Studies*, History Department, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada November 2009

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Designed and Taught

- Race in the Americas*. Sessional Instructor, Simon Fraser University, Spring 2011
- Gender and Class in Latin America*. Sessional Instructor, Simon Fraser University, Fall 2011
- Colonial Latin America*. Sessional Instructor, University of the Fraser Valley, Fall 2011
- Latin America Since Independence*. Sessional Instructor, University of the Fraser Valley, Spring 2012
- Music and Social Change in 20th Century Cuba*. Sessional Instructor, University of the Fraser Valley, Spring 2012

Courses Taught as Teaching Assistant

- The Cuban Revolution, 1956-1971: A Self-Debate*. Teaching Fellow, Harvard University, Fall 2016
- Issues in Latin American History, I*. Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia, Fall 2009
- Issues in Latin American History, II*. Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia, Spring 2010
- War and Society, I*. Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia, Fall 2008
- War and Society, II*. Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia, Spring 2009

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Publishing

- External Reviewer**, *Radical Americas*, University College London November 2022
- External Reviewer**, *Cuban Studies Journal*, University of Pittsburgh Press July 2022
- Copy-Editor**, School of the Black Atlantic Dossier, *Africanidades*, Museo Afro-Brasileiro e Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil June 2022
- External Reviewer**, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, Taylor and Francis Online March 2021
Abingdon, UK
- Managing Editor**, *Cuban Studies Journal*, Peer Reviewed Journal, University of Pittsburgh Press 2013 – 2020

Academic Program Development

- Coordinator**, *Cuba Studies Program*, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Cambridge, MA, USA September 2016 – June 2019
- Coordinated the Cuba Seminar Series
 - Managed fundraising initiatives
 - Liaised with undergraduate student groups
 - Managed the Cuban Visiting Scholars Program
 - Created content for communication materials such as annual reports and flyers
 - Managed website and Facebook page content
 - Reported to the Program’s Advisory Group and the Faculty Committee

Conferences and Symposiums

- Symposium Co-Director**, *Race, Inequality, and Visual Culture*. Weatherhead Center. December 2021

for International Affairs; Center for the Theory and the History of the Image, University of Basel
Panel Judge, *National Collegiate Research Conference*, Harvard College Undergraduate
 Research Association, Cambridge, MA, USA January 2021
Symposium Co-Director, *New Voices in Cuba Studies* November 2018
Symposium Co-Director, *New Voices in Cuba Studies* November 2019
 David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Cambridge, MA, USA
Assistant and Translator, *First Afro-Cuban Movement Symposium* April 2017
 Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Hutchins Center, Harvard University

Visual Arts and Music Events

Cooper Gallery, Hutchins Center, Harvard University
 - **Co-Curator**, *El Pasado Mío / My Own Past: Afrodescendant Contributions to Cuban Art.* September 2022
 David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Cambridge, MA, USA
 - **Creator/Fundraiser/Coordinator**, *Síntesis, A Vision of Afro-Cuba's Musical Heritage Concert* October 2019
 - **Curator's Assistant**, *OPIUM: Works by José Toirac, Exhibition and Lecture* Spring – Fall 2019
 Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Hutchins Center, Harvard University
 - **Coordinator/Translator**, *Afro-Cuban Musical Traditions: Lukumí Batá Concert* April 2017

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Native Language
 English: Bilingual Proficiency
 Portuguese: Listening and Reading (Advanced); Speaking and Writing (Intermediate)
 German: Reading (B2); Writing, and Speaking (B1/A2); Listening (A2)
 French: Listening, Writing, Reading, Speaking (Novice)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Arts Council of the African Studies Association
 Universities Art Association of Canada
 Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
 Latin American Studies Association
 American Historical Association
 Afro-Latin American Research Institute
 David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
 Green College, University of British Columbia, Fellow

REFERENCES

Available upon request.