

SNUAC Asia Square Brown Bag Seminar Series, Spring 2023

Defining (East) Asian–Latin American cinema and literature

Lucía Rud, Ph.D.

From the late 19th century until the late 20th century, the presence and relevance of the East Asian population in Latin America were rendered invisible, if not openly discriminated against and stereotyped in cultural productions. During that period, the portrayal of East Asia, East Asians, and their descendants in Latin American film and literature was shaped mainly by an orientalist and exotizing gaze.

Nevertheless, since the last decade of the 20th century—in a context of multiculturalism—a group of Latin American writers and directors of East Asian descent (and East Asians living in Latin America) emerged, narrating from new perspectives (e.g., Augusto Higa Oshiro, Siu Kam Wen, Alejandra Kamiya). At the same time, Latin American writers and directors of non-Asian descent began to reflect on the Asian component in Latin America in a different way from the orientalist perspective of the 20th century, with more complex and well-rounded characters and stories (e.g., Juan Forn's *María Domecq*; Federico Jeanmaire's *Tacos altos*; Cristina Rivera Garza's *Verde Shanghai*).

Many of these cultural productions have been analyzed by scholars over the last ten years, building the burgeoning field of Asian–Latin American studies. This presentation aims to (1) present a brief overview of the history of Asian–Latin American studies as a research area, (2) propose possible categories (and limitations) for the study of Asian–Latin American literature and film, and (3) strengthen the bridge between Asian and Latin American scholars, promoting new research on the interconnections between the two regions.

Lucía Rud is a visiting scholar at the SNUAC and a film researcher from the University of Buenos Aires/National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET). She studied arts, film, and theater at the University of Buenos Aires and cinema direction and production at Buenos Aires Comunicación College. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Buenos Aires and holds an M.A. in cultural diversity from Tres de Febrero University. During the past seven years, she has been researching the transnational cultural ties between Argentina and South Korea.

Date & Time: Tuesday, May 9th, 12:00-13:00

Venue: SNUAC Room 406 (4th Floor)