

Talking Heads / Cabezas Parlantes Series:

"Fear of a Hispanic Planet"

Talk by Prof. Fernando Gomez Herrero (Hispanic Studies)

November 18, 2010 4.30-6.00 pm at Casa Hispánica (Harvey)



How to come to terms with messy social typologies (US Census 2010, latest "pick-your-ethnicity" Presto form) and subjects and objects of study? How to put together social types and fields of study, or disciplines, inside university spaces also inside society at large (American consumerism, capitalism), undergoing a genuine crisis of self-identity? Since when the category of "Hispanic" or "Latino" actively functional in the American English language? What are the some of the current predicaments, the predictions for the following decades? Are institutions eagerly awaiting some of these vast transformations? Or are they ill-prepared and fearful, ever so awkwardly and unintelligently? And what is the political meaning? And how are you: still fearless?