

Consuming the City: Social-Cultural practices of Consumption in Latin America

Hybrid Workshop – Universidade Federal Fluminense
June 13 & 14, 2023

Location: Campus do Gragoatá – Auditório do PPGH, Bloco O, 5º andar

Latin America is one of the most urbanized regions on earth. At the same time, the one with the highest social inequality indexes in the world. This workshop will investigate how Latin American cities are altered and spatially transformed by consumption related processes, transforming Latin American cities into laboratories for experimenting with new possibilities of sociality. Wealth (re)distribution and social policies seem to relate to urban consumption in a particular reproduction of social inequality in which values, attitudes, ideas and political measures influenced urban struggles and definitively changed the future of the city as a social device.

To sign up, please send an email to:
melina.teubner@unibe.ch



Workshop program

Tuesday, 13.06.2023

09:00 - 09:15 Opening Remarks
Christian Büschges

Panel I: Consumption and Pleasure

09:15 - 10:15 The Moral Politics of Pleasure: Contradictions at the Heart of Consumer Capitalism
Richard R. Wilk (Indiana University)
Chair: Melina Teubner
Commentary: Andrés Dapuez

10:15 - 10:45 *Coffee and Tea Break*

Panel II: Food Crisis and the role of the State

10:45 - 11:45 Estallido: Food Riots and Hyperinflation in Buenos Aires, 1989-1991
Jennifer Adair (Fairfield University)

11:45 - 12:45 Making fun of the State and throwing away polenta
Andrés Dapuez (CONICET)
Chair: Daniel Sanfelici
Commentary: Micaela Diaz Rosaenz

12:45 - 14:15 *Lunch*

Panel III: Consumer Capitalism and its Consequences

14:15 - 15:15 The Best of Times, the Worst of Times: Consumer Capitalism and Its Discontents in Two Brazilian Cities
James Woodard (Montclair University)

15:15 - 16:15 The Making of logistics as a pandemic-resilient asset class
Daniel Sanfelici (Universidade Federal Fluminense)
Chair: Jean Veloso
Commentary: Paulo Fontes

Wednesday, 14.06.2023

Panel IV: Urbanization and Consumption Transformation

09:00 - 10:00 ¿An Empire of Beads? Manaus in the Age of the Free Trade Zone
Adrián Lerner Patrón (University of Cambridge)

10:00 - 11:00 Managua – A “Gringorized” City? Urbanization, Consumption, and Shopping Spaces in the “City Without Center”
Christiane Berth (University of Graz)
Chair: James Woodard
Commentary: Paulo Terra

11:00 - 11:15 *Coffee and Tea Break*

Panel V: PhD Project Presentation

11:15 - 12:15 “In Beirut, you find yerba mate in every corner”. Consuming and Trading Argentinien Yerba Mate in Syria and Lebanon (1920-1990)
Rea Vogt (University of Bern)
Chair and Commentary: Jennifer Adair

12:15 - 13:15 Accumulation policies in the crisis of slavery: land, labor and capital in Brazil, 1870-1890
Jean Veloso (Universidade Federal Fluminense)
Chair and Commentary: Adrián Lerner Patrón

13:15 - 14:45 *Lunch*

Panel VI: Cities and Commodity Demand

14:45 - 15:45 The marketable chicken. Continuities and changes in urban food consumption (1990-2010)
Melina Teubner (University of Bern)

15:45 - 16:45 Re-thinking the circulation of goods and money in vulnerable environments. The experiences of Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro
Micaela Diaz Rosaenz (Universidad Nacional de San Marín)
Chair: Valter Lúcio de Oliveira
Commentary: Tâmis Parron

16:45 - 17:45 Final Discussion – Christiane Berth and Richard R. Wilk

20:00 *Conference Dinner*

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