The Department of Anthropology and the Caribbean Research Institute proudly present:

Dr. Laura-Zoë Humphreys: "Faith Without Fidel: Censorship and Allegory in Late Socialist Cuban Bureaucrat Comedies"

This lecture examines the changing dynamics of censorship and social criticism in late Cuban socialism, focusing on the controversy over Cuban director Daniel Díaz Torres's 1991 film, Alicia en el pueblo de las maravillas (Alice in Wondertown). Dr. Humphreys reading of these events takes seriously the director's claims that his film, banned as counter-revolutionary, was in fact based on revolutionary values. The scandal over Alicia reveals the central role that criticism of the bureaucracy plays in political and intellectual discourse under state socialism and the way in which this genre can be used both to contain dissent and to challenge hegemonic political hierarchies.



Wednesday, January 13th 12:30 pm – 1:20 pm

Room 1L06

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Dr. Laura-Zoë Humphreys graduated with a Joint Ph.D. in Anthropology and Cinema and Media Studies from the University of Chicago. She is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Manitoba and is at work completing her first book manuscript, tentatively entitled Fidel Between the Lines: Paranoia and Ambivalence in Late Socialist Cuban Cinema.

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