

Among Others. Queer Perspectives in Hispanic World

InterAlia, an international journal of queer studies, invites scholars representing Hispanic Studies to send proposals of contributions for a special issue dedicated to queer perspectives in Spanish-speaking countries.

Since the emergence of queer theory in the English-speaking academia and the first attempts to apply this paradigm in gender and sexuality studies in Spain and Latin America there have been voices laying emphasis on the partial incompatibility of the Anglo-American and Hispanic perspectives. Emilie Bergman and Paul Julian Smith, editors of one of the pioneer volumes, *¿Entiendes? Queer Readings, Hispanic Writings* (1995), chose to use the verb *entender* [to understand] in the title of the book to suggest the importance of the local context. As we can read in the introduction, "Spanish speakers may have anticipated that critique of identity and community implicit in [...] Anglo-American queer theory" (12), among others through the slang uses of "entender", to give an example. Nevertheless, these observations were considered insufficient by some scholars and soon it became urgent to rethink deeply the uniqueness of the Hispanic points of view on sexual dissidence. Alfredo Martínez Expósito, the author of *Escrituras torcidas. Ensayos de crítica «queer»* (2004), suggested that a starting point should be made for that purpose out of the metaphors present in the Spanish language in order to dissect "different discourses and thus different rhetorics [revealed] when the semantic field of homosexuality is being articulated" (64). In that way the academic aimed to stress what is typically Hispanic in the queer discourse and to deal with the "servility with which some of the most recent texts seem to follow Anglo-American theories" (51). Another scholar, Jorge Pérez (2010: 142-155), in a paper published in *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, insisted on the need of "exporting" the original ideas of such authors as Javier Sáez or Beatriz Preciado in order to enrich the intellectual debates tending to ignore any thought conceived outside of the English-speaking context. In this sense, his opinions coincide with those of Luciano Martínez (2008: 874), who – in a queer issue of *Revista Iberoamericana* – claimed that a new critical agenda of gay and lesbian, as well as queer Latin and Latin American studies could aspire to "queer the corpus of the theory with Latin and Latin American contributions, which – in many cases – prefigured the Anglo-American theoretical constellations but had already existed in the cultural realms".

We would like to resume those and other debates regarding Hispanic perspective(s) in LGBT and queer studies, putting at your disposal this special issue of the journal *InterAlia* as a bilingual platform for an exchange of ideas between Anglo-American and Hispanic realities. After more than twenty years since the appearance of first queer research projects within the Spanish and Latin American academia we hope to encourage reflection on queer studies' status in different fields of investigation (sociology, anthropology, literary criticism, art criticism, philosophy, cultural studies, media studies), laying special emphasis on the particularities of the reception and the *interception* of queer theory and LGBTQ studies among different Hispanic queer communities, particularities such as those mentioned in *Transfeminismos: epistemes, fricciones y flujos* (ed. Miriam Solá, Elena Urko, 2013). We are interested, moreover, in new challenges and possibilities that are opening up to queer researchers. Essentially, we would like to encourage a diverse debate and reflection including a broad spectrum of research interests, such as the following:

- new forms of expression in LGBTQ literature
- queer postcolonialisms
- queer theory and lesbianisms
- transfeminisms and queer activism
- queer cinema
- Hispanic contributions to queer studies
- political activism and its current challenges
- new technologies and sexual dissidence
- differences between Hispanic and Anglo-Saxon camp
- sexual dissidence and religion
- transsexualities/transgenderisms in Spanish-speaking countries
- pornography and post-porn politics in the Hispanic context
- dictatorships and queer disobedience
- neoliberal politics and queer precarity
- globalization and sexual minorities
- homonormativity and liberal homophobia

Editors of the issue:

- Rafael M. Mérida Jiménez (University of Lleida, Spain)
- Jorge Luis Peralta (National University of La Plata, Argentina)
- Łukasz Smuga (University of Wrocław, Poland)

Deadline for abstracts: April 1, 2016

Deadline for manuscripts: September 15, 2016

The issue is scheduled for the middle of 2017.

The **abstracts** of the contributions (between 300 and 400 words) should be sent to the following e-mail address: **entreatrxs.interalia@hotmail.com** and should include the title of the paper, a short description of its theoretical realm, as well as a concise summary of the ideas that will be developed in the final manuscript. Authors will be notified of paper acceptance or non-acceptance until May 1, 2016.

The papers should be original, written **in English or Spanish**, and should have no more than 40,000 characters (including spaces, endnotes and bibliography). They should include a summary in English (if the paper is written in Spanish) or in Spanish (if the paper is written in English), as well as a brief note about the author. The manuscripts **will be double-blind peer reviewed** before being eventually accepted for publication.

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