Laura Isabel Serna
Assistant Professor, School of Cinematic Arts

Laura Isabel Serna received the PhD in American Studies from Harvard University (2006). Her dissertation was honored with both the American Studies Association's Ralph Henry Gabriel Prize and the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Dissertation Prize. That work is the basis of her manuscript /Making Cinelandia: American Films and Mexican Film Culture before the Golden Age, 1896-1936/, which is under contract with Duke University Press.

She has published essays in /The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Inter-American Cultural History/ and the edited volumes /Land of Necessity: Consumer Culture in the U.S. Mexico Borderlands/ (Duke University Press, 2009) and /Convergence Media History/ (Routledge, 2009).

Trained as a cultural historian her primary research interests are the cultural history of cinema during the silent period (especially historical reception studies), Chicana/o and Latina/o media and culture, Silent Cinema in Mexico, and nationalism and the formation of film cultures.

She has received numerous prestigious awards in support of her research, including an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship and a Fulbright.

Contact Information:
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Surviving the Intersections:
Filmmakers Take on Race, Gender and Sexuality

Saturday, February 4, 2012 : 1:00pm - 9:00pm | Eileen Norris Cinema Theatre (NCT)
Admission is free.

A day-long event featuring films and a discussion that will examine the intersections of race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality. The films that will be screened are Tina Mabry’s Mississippi Damned, based on a true story of three poor, Black kids who reap the consequences of their family’s cycle of abuse and addiction; Lydia Nibley’s Two Spirits, a documentary about gender and sexuality in Native American culture and the brutal murder of a transgendered Navajo teenager; and Peter Bratt’s La Mission, a powerful story about masculinity, family, redemption and community. A panel featuring filmmakers and scholars will critically reflect on family dynamics, cultures of violence and what it means to live at the intersections.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
- 1 p.m.: Two Spirits Directed by Lydia Nibley
- 2:30 p.m.: Mississippi Damned Directed by Tina Mabry
- 4:30 p.m.: Panel Discussion Reception to follow
- 6:30 p.m.: La Mission Directed by Peter Bratt

For more info: http://csii.usc.edu/events_intersections.html
L.A. Contemporary Dance: Catch & Release
Featuring Music by Filip Zachary
Friday, February 3, 2012 | 7:30pm | Bovard Auditorium

An evening of groundbreaking dance set to the music of D.J. Filip Zachary.

Kate Hutter brings her celebrated Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Company to USC to perform an original, high-octane and physically charged piece accompanied by the electronic music of gifted composer-producer Filip Zachary (aka Stropharia). The program will also include live D.J. sets by Filip, giving you the opportunity to get up and dance to your own beat before each act.

About the Dance Company

The Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Company began as a business plan in an arts management class at USC. Michelle Mierz (executive director), then an entrepreneurial business major in the Marshall School of Business, and Kate Hutter (artistic director), a Theatrical Design major and independent choreographer studying in the School of Theatre, were paired to prepare a final project: a non-profit dance company serving the L.A. area. With a plan drafted and a passionate team to support it, the project grew to become the realized dream that it is today.

The repertory dance company performs a diverse repertoire of modern, ballet and jazz works representative of L.A.’s vibrant culture. The company is a stomping ground in which the next generation of dance artists and collaborators craft the future of dance in L.A. and beyond. Dance Spirit magazine called Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Company one of the “25 Things We Love About Los Angeles,” describing it as a “vibrant, youthful repertory company under the creative leadership of rising star Kate Hutter.”

For more info and RSVP: http://sait.usc.edu/spectrum/events_details.asp?EventID=717

City Year Meet & Greet

Join us for a special meet and greet to learn more about City Year and how you can make a difference.

We are currently offering full-time positions to college graduates interested in doing a year of service. City Year is a great opportunity for young people to build their leadership skills and make a difference in the lives of children.

Date: February 3, 2012
Time: 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Location: Trojan Presentation Room (STU-B3)
Why: Learn more about our post-graduation opportunities and enjoy free food!

For more information about the meet and greet and City Year, contact the City Year Los Angeles Recruitment Department at losangelesrecruitment@cityyear.org.

City Year is an education focused, nonprofit organization that unites young people of all backgrounds for a year of full-time service to keep students in school and on track to graduation. At City Year’s 21 locations across the United States and two international affiliates, teams of young people called corps members serve full-time in schools for 10 months as tutors, mentors and role models. By focusing on attendance, behavior and course performance, corps members are uniquely able to help students and schools succeed. Visit cityyear.org to learn more.

Join US! February 3, 2012 and learn how you can make a difference.

City Year Meet & Greet

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UNPAID INTERNSHIPS:

Conde Nast - Internship

Condé Nast will again offer a highly competitive and educational internship program for Summer 2012. The program will begin on June 4 and run for nine weeks. The Summer 2012 Intern Program will allow students to gain exposure to the industry and will provide a real-world experience that can be a supplement to classroom studies. To apply, please send your cover letter and resume as PDF attachments to InternProgram@condenast.com. In your cover letter, please discuss your preferred Condé Nast brands/departments. The submission deadline is Friday, February 10, 2012.

Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF)/Revlon - Run/Walk for Women Internship

Upbeat, fast paced environment working on participant & team cultivation and management for the EIF Revlon Run/Walk Los Angeles & New York. Great opportunity to gain experience working on one of the nation’s largest 5k fundraising events for women’s cancers. Tasks include answering participant customer service questions via phone, sending out team materials, putting together team packages, research & general administrative tasks. Roles & responsibility will increase greatly with experience & skills. Great for anyone enthusiastic about events & grassroots fundraising. This internship will be from January to May with a time commitment of at least 8 hours a week, 2-3 days per week, days and time based on your schedule. Flexible schedule if you need specific weeks off for breaks/finals etc. The location for this internship is El Segundo. If you are interested please email your resume to HR@davisgrp.org.

For much more information: Contact the Internship Programs Office in STU B1 or log on to connectSC at http://careers.usc.edu
L.A. Xicano invites you to...
A Musical Conversation with La Santa Cecilia & Paper Fashion with Patsi Valdez

Saturday, February 4, 2012 | 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. | The Fowler Museum at UCLA

GRAMMY-nominated La Santa Cecilia—fronted by belter La Marisoul—draws inspiration from a hybrid of Latin culture, rock, and world music in passionate performances that mesmerize audiences. After an interview moderated by Josh Kun, curator of the PST/GRAMMY Museum exhibition Trouble in Paradise: Music and Los Angeles, 1945-75 and director of The Popular Music Project at USC Annenberg's Norman Lear Center, La Santa Cecilia will take audience questions and perform a selection of songs. During the post-concert reception, Asco icon Patsi Valdez leads a crunch-and-fold workshop inspired by Asco's 1970's-era public appearances as self-made fashionistas in paper gowns and hats. See Valdez's work in Mapping Another L.A.: The Chicano Art Movement, which will be open. Reception includes dessert and a cash bar.

$10 for Fowler/GRAMMY Museum members and students; $15 general
Tickets now on sale via the GRAMMY Museum box office:
213-765-6803

This event is co-presented by the GRAMMY Museum.
For more information about this event, visit the Fowler's website. For more on the L.A. Xicano project, visit the CSRC’s website or L.A. Xicano Facebook page.

Opportunities for USC Students

There are many opportunities available through USC and otherwise that many of you may have participated in, or know of anyone that has participated in each. If you've participated in any of the following please follow the link so that we can share your experiences with other students that want to take a part of them, who might have questions about them.

Alternative Spring Break, GlobalFellows Program, INROADS, Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (IRT), JEP, Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT), Project 1000, Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO), Studying abroad (any location), UCLA Law fellows program, USCGlobal Medical Brigades, USC Global Water Brigades, USC McNair Scholars Program

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dFJOb0U1MVlrN3hoaktxMHZUenJTdHc6MQ

If you have any questions please feel free to email Fabiola Avina at favina@usc.edu.
Road to the White House: Competing Demographic Threats and Electoral Strategy

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 | 11:30am to 1:00pm | TCC 450

A political discussion featuring Dowell Meyers of the USC Price School is moderated by Dan Mazmanian, director of the Judith and John Bedrosian Center.

Rapid demographic change has dramatic, polarizing effects among the electorate, especially in a time of economic despair. The declining majority status of whites, growing numbers of elderly, and increasing immigration each have been cause for rejoicing and new political demands. Yet those trends fan fears and galvanize opposition that is easily exploited by political candidates. In this environment, is there any hope for reducing division and polarization? How can a middle-ground position of common interest be established and defended?

Professor Dowell Myers, a demographer and policy planner, relies on the latest census information and new forecasts to propose a more productive narrative for America. He critiques old misconceptions, spotlights uncontested truths and finds grounds for new hope. A shared destiny with great promise links our generations and spans the demographic groups. The question remains whether this vision of fruitful connectedness can survive in a competitive political contest.

Moderator:
Dan Mazmanian, director of the USC Judith and John Bedrosian Center on Governance and the Public Enterprise
Panelists
Dowell Myers, Director, Population Dynamics Research Group, USC Price School of Public Policy
Alaina Jackson, D.P.P.D. candidate, USC Price School
Dyana Mason, Ph.D. candidate, USC Price School

Contact Info: aubreyhi@usc.edu | (213) 821-2550

Spring Diversity Networking Mixer

Tuesday, January 31st, 2012 | 6:00pm-8:00pm | Student Union 110

We (Career Center) are committed to facilitating an understanding and appreciation of diversity within the Trojan community. Come meet and network with top employers from the entertainment, consulting, accounting, hospitality, retail industries and more that are looking for diverse members of the Trojan Family!

Attending employers include:
- Creative Artist Agency
- The Walt Disney Company
- Nestle
- Northrop Grumman
- Progressive Insurance (Sponsor)
- Target
- Teach for America
- California State Auditor
- KPMG
- Kaiser Permanente Theater Educational Program
- Party Earth
- Warner Bros.
- TM Financial Forensics

This event is brought to you by the Career Center in partnership with the Latino Student Assembly, Black Student Assembly and the Asian Pacific American Student Assembly.

Please RSVP via connectSC.

This event is for current USC students only.

First Generation (Documentary Screening)

7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 8th, 2012 | The Ray Stark Family Theatre, George Lucas Building, SCA 108

Written, Directed and Produced by SCA Alum Adam Fenderson and Jaye Fenderson
Followed by a Q&A with Adam & Jaye Fenderson and documentary participant Cecilia Lopez

Narrated by Golden Globe nominee Blair Underwood, First Generation tells the story of four high school students - an inner city athlete, a small town waitress, a Samoan warrior dancer, and the daughter of migrant field workers - who set out to break the cycle of poverty and bring hope to their families and communities by pursuing a college education.

Shot over the course of three years and featuring some of our nation’s top educational experts (Richard Kahlenberg, The Century Foundation; J.B. Schramm, College Summit; Dr. Bill Tierney, University of Southern California), this 95 minute documentary explores the problem of college access faced by first generation and low-income students and how their success has major implications for the future of our nation.

RSVP HERE
Los Angeles: Making Memory Visible

Latin American and Spanish filmmakers have used film as a transmitter of historical memory, NOW IT’S YOUR TURN!

The contest gives you the chance to create a short (3-5min) video that shows a creative and ethical engagement with the topic of historical memory. This video should address one or more of the following questions:

What stories help us understand the history of Los Angeles?

What groups of people and events are important to Los Angeles, yet have been forgotten in the dominant story of the global city?

What forms of historical memory emerge as traces of the city’s past?

How can you use film to bear witness to the experiences and memories of people who surround you in the city?

All USC undergraduate and graduate students are eligible

The deadline for entries is February 17, 2012 by 5pm

Winners will be announced on February 26, 2012 at the Politics of Memory on Screen event.

What Matters To me and Why: Michael L. Jackson

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 | 12:00pm to 12:50pm | GZ | Free

What is important to the leaders of this university? Come for a free lunch and hear what the vice president for Student Affairs has to say.

Michael L. Jackson has been vice president for Student Affairs and professor of higher education at the USC Rossier School of Education for the past 16 years. Prior to his arrival at USC, he served as dean of students at Stanford University.

At USC, Jackson and his colleagues in Student Affairs are responsible for programs and co-curricular learning and development opportunities that enrich the experience for students outside the classroom. He has also overseen the construction of several residential colleges and the Ronald Tutor Campus Center, as well as large-scale fundraising programs to support these projects.

Jackson received a B.S. in anthropology, with distinction, from Stanford University, and his master’s and doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

For more info: http://web-app.usc.edu/ws/eeo2/calendar/32/event/896313

Explore@4: Career Fest Edition - Healthcare

Wednesday, Feb. 1st, 2012 | 4:00pm-5:30pm | Student Union B3

The Explore@4 series is a fantastic, new career program that connects students with top professionals/USC Alumni in various career fields in an interactive, intimate setting. Join us for our seventh Explore@4 roundtable discussion of the semester as we explore healthcare! The following industry professionals will share their experiences and provide valuable advice to students seeking employment in this industry:

*Kim Sherman, Senior Associate, Triage Consulting Group
*David Weinberg, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, California School Finance Authority
* Davis Tang, Actuary at Molina Healthcare (Specialty: Medicaid and Medicare)

During the 2011-2012 year, the Explore@4 series will provide an overview of a wide array of career choices from the fields of Social Media to Entertainment to Healthcare. Peruse upcoming Explore@4 workshops by checking out the rest of the Career Center calendar.

Brought to you by:
The Career Center