Latin American Studies

2002-2003 LASC Newsletter

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LASC Report

Latin American Studies Forum Series

Chilean Politics

On October 29, 2002, Robert Neustadt presented “CADA: Performing Politics in Dictatorial Chile”. Neustadt spoke about political performance in dictatorial Chile and showed photographs from his book “CADA día: La Creación de un Arte Social” (Santiago: Cuarto Propio, 2001). The group CADA (Colectivo Acciones de Arte) is credited with redefining the concept of political art in Chile through a series of neo-avant garde “art actions”.

Chilean Literature

On April 9, 2003 Dr. Cecilia Ojeda presented “Imaginarios de la Decepción: Narrativa Chilena de los Noventa”. Ojeda spoke about the new discourse of Chilean writers of the 1990’s. She discussed Gonzalo Contreras, Guadalupe Santa Cruz, Jaime Collyer, Ana María del Río, Marcela Serrano, Alberto Fuguet, Diamela Eltit, and Ramón Díaz Eterovic as a generation of writers that are disillusioned with the hypocrisies of Chile’s so-called “transition to democracy.” Cecilia Ojeda is co-authoring a book on the topic with Professor Guillermo García-Corales from Baylor University.

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Ranging from literature to politics, archaeology, popular music, cultural studies and ethnography, the Latin American Studies Committee provided the NAU community with a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives on life in Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico and Peru. Thanks to all of you who organized events on campus, making 2002-2003 another very productive year. A special thanks as well to Josefina Vásquez, whose skillful work as the LASC Graduate Assistant made for successful (and well attended!) events throughout the year.

Bob Neustadt, LASC Chair