

Guillermo Gómez-Peña

Guillermo Gómez-Peña is a performance artist, writer, activist, radical pedagogue and director of the performance troupe La Pocha Nostra. Born in Mexico City, he moved to the US in 1978. His performance work and 10 books have contributed to the debates on cultural diversity, border culture and US-Mexico relations. His art work has been presented at over eight hundred venues across the US, Canada, Latin America, Europe, Russia, South Africa and Australia.

A MacArthur Fellow, Bessie and American Book Award winner, he is a regular contributor for newspapers and magazines in the US, Mexico, and Europe and a contributing editor to *The Drama Review* (NYU-MIT). Gómez-Peña is a Senior Fellow in the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics and a Patron for the London-based Live Art Development Agency. In 2012 he was named Samuel Hoi Fellow by USA Artists and this year received the Fleishhacker Foundation's Eureka Fellowship.

In addition to his work with La Pocha Nostra, Gomez-Peña has engaged in a long term project of collaborations with other performance artists such as Coco Fusco, Reverend Billy, James Luna, Tania Bruguera, and Richard Montoya (from Culture Clash), and with writers Rebecca Solnit, Ruben Martinez and Achy Obejas. He is currently co-writing a new text with Mexico City poet Rojo Cordoba.

Tickets for Peña's performance at the Chan Centre are available online at <http://www.chancentre.com/whats-on/imaginary-activism-role-artist-beyond-art-world> and at <http://www.ticketmaster.ca/event/11004C53BB13089B>.

Performing Utopias is organized with the generous support of:

- The Office of the Vice President Research and International
- Faculty of Arts HSS Grants
- Dr. Shelly Johnson
- The First Nations Longhouse
- The Liu Institute for Global Issues
- The Museum of Anthropology
- The Chan Centre
- The Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies
- The School of Social Work
- The Departments of Art History, Visual Arts and Theory, Asian Studies, History, Sociology, Theatre and Film, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies, and Latin American Studies

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- St. John's College
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If you require any assistance during your time in Vancouver, please don't hesitate to contact Kim Beauchesne, Alessandra Santos and/or Gabriela Badica at (1) 604 790 2608.



PERFORMING UTOPIAS



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

March 13 - 15, 2014

The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Utopia may be described as an ideal community, or as an imagined ideal society. In different world locations, utopias have historically generated practical projects that strived for a better common life.

The goal of the Performing Utopias conference is to bring together students, scholars, artists, organizers, and other members of the community at large to reflect and envision practical possibilities for improving society. We will also address utopias counterpoint: dystopias.

One of the questions the conference poses to its participants is: how to imagine local utopias that resonate globally? The conference is an invitation to re-think multi-disciplinary, local and international contexts, and to ask important questions about cultural, social and environmental issues.

Conference events will consist of workshops, presentations, discussions, performances, and artistic interventions. Through the conference's activities, we aim to create an opportunity for dialogue, exchange, and networking possibilities among a diverse and international group of research and community sectors.

Conference Website: www.performingutopias.com

Email: performingutopias@gmail.com



Thursday, March 13th

11:00 – 12:45	Graduate Student Workshop with Ann Stoler in the History Department, followed by lunch (organized by the Burge lecture series)
14:00 – 14:15	Opening Remarks at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room) Ralph Sarkonak , Acting Head of the UBC FHIS Department
14:15 – 16:15	Presentations at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): Moderator: Kim Beauchesne <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Shamash: “Indigenizing film practices in <i>As Hiper Mulheres</i> (2011)” • Brianne Orr: “Subcomandante Marcos's Masked 'T': A Way of Building a More Inclusive Democracy in Mexico” • Manola Valle: “<i>El Che de Los Gays</i> and <i>Hija de Perra</i>: queer performances of utopia in post-dictatorship Chile” • Carmen Miranda Barrios: “Could Bilingual Radio Be Utopian?”
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 18:30	Presentations at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): Moderator: Nuno Porto <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Andreotti: “Globalization, Education and Utopia” • Cash Ahenakew: “Aboriginal Education, Co-Existence and Conviviality” • Dana Claxton: “Blanket Dance: Practices of Indigenous Utopia”
19:00 – 20:00	Reception at the Chan Centre
20:00–21:00	Multidisciplinary Performance by Guillermo Gómez-Peña at the Chan Centre Telus Studio Theatre: “Imaginary Activism: The role of the artist beyond the art world”

Friday, March 14th

12:00 – 18:00	Workshop with Guillermo Gómez-Peña and Saúl García López at the First Nations Longhouse (simultaneous event)
13:45 – 15:45	Presentations at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): Moderator: Bill French <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rita De Grandis: “Revisiting Utopias from the 1970s in Argentinean Cinema: The Case of <i>Infancia clandestina</i>” • Dina Al-Kassim: “Showing Dispossession: Nudity, Protest and the New Human Right” • Jon Beasley-Murray: “Utopia Ruined: The Ochagavía Hospital, Chile”
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break

16:00 – 17:00	Keynote address at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): ANN STOLER: “IMPERIAL DEBRIS AND THE PROSPECTS FOR DISSENSUS” Introduction by Jon Beasley-Murray
17:00 – 17:30	Reception at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room)
18:30–19:30	Interdisciplinary Dance Performance at Somerset Studio Theatre: Michael Sakamoto and Waewdao Sirisook “Gherm” and “Flash Mixtape”
	“ El Grupo ”: Artistic Interventions (times and locations TBD)

Saturday, March 15th

11:00 – 12:00	Diana Taylor Graduate Student Workshop - St. John’s College (Lecture Room)
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch
13:00 – 14:00	Round Table Discussion at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): Moderator: Shelly Johnson Rodrigo Hernandez-Gomez, Am Johal, Shelly Johnson, Ashok Mathur
14:00 – 14:15	Coffee Break
14:15 – 16:45	Presentations at the Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): Moderator: Alessandra Santos Poetry interludes by Kevan Cameron <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Sakamoto: “Soil: Performing the Southeast Asian Body in Crisis” • Afuwa: “Unsettling Ideals: Diaspora and Belonging” • David Khang: “Wrong Places / Mauvais Endroit / Lugares Incorrectos / 틀린 장소” • Jayce Salloum and Manuel Piña: “tangible cartographies: surviving the colonial/welcome to my house”
16:45 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 17:55	Keynote address at Liu Institute (Multipurpose Room): DIANA TAYLOR: “DANCING WITH THE ZAPATISTAS” Introduction by Pilar Riaño-Alcalá
18:00	Closing Remarks – Victor Guerin (Multipurpose Room)
18:00 – 18:20	Reception
18:30–19:30	Closing performance at the Museum of Anthropology: Ayumi Goto and Peter Morin : “First Contacts?”

All presentations and talks are free and open to the public. Tickets for Guillermo Gómez-Peña's performance at the Chan Centre are available online at <http://www.chancentre.com/whats-on/imaginary-activism-role-artist-beyond-art-world> and at <http://www.ticketmaster.ca/event/11004C53BB13089B>.