

The Wandering Nation

A Lecture by Luis Miguel Estrada



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A lot of contemporary Mexican literature is moving away from the “national literature” label that dominated critical discussions of the last century. However, the question of what is national is still present in authors such as Julián Herbert, Guadalupe Nettel and Cristina Rivera Garza.

This lecture, by Luis Estrada, explores possible readings of 21st century literature in juxtaposition with the literature they destabilize or dialogue with including, for example, the Narrative of the Revolution (specifically, Rafael F. Muñoz and Nellie Campobello) and Juan Rulfo’s work. Drawing on his experience as scholar, educator and creative writer, Estrada attempts to explore the ways in which the “wandering nation” is rediscovered by revisiting canonic Mexican literature, teaching it to Mexican-American students, and establishing a dialogue between his own work and the Mexican literature created and discussed inside and outside of Mexico.

