

INDIAN ARTS & THE POLITICS OF CULTURE IN CENTRAL MEXICO

Join us as Pavel Shlossberg discusses his community-based ethnographic and oral-historical research.

Dr. Shlossberg's work documents contemporary danzas, such as the pastorelas, and related masking customs in central Michoacan. His work also examines how knowledge about masks and masking is often falsified in popular and scholarly work through the repetition of colorful myths that envelop the craft and the disavowal of items produced for the tourist and curio markets as inauthentic and low-grade. Debates over the authenticity of tourist and curio arts shed light on how popular and elite, indigenous, mestizo, and Anglo actors in central Michoacan construct and contest relations of class, race, and inequality as they negotiate the meanings of "tradition," "ethnic authenticity," "globalization," and "cultural change."

Pavel Shlossberg is an assistant professor in the M.A. Program in Communication and Leadership Studies at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. A book based on his research is forthcoming from the University of Arizona Press.

THURSDAY, JAN 30, 2014
NILES GALLERY, FINE ARTS LIBRARY
3:30 TO 5:00 PM



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