



*"A window on the past to understand the present"*

### Conference

#### **Science and faith: Secularization and exegesis in the creation of social theory. Notes of the Jewish origins of the social sciences**

When one examines the list of the "founders" of the social sciences it is impressive to see the number of those who have a Jewish background. Nevertheless, often the very mention of this presence is problematic. What is a "Jewish" background? Does it refer to religious practices? Cultural norms? Ways of knowing? And if one brings in a more prejudiced view, is it a question of genetics? Did these Jewish thinkers even consider themselves Jews?

Last month, Dr. Luis Pérez, Associate Professor in the Social Sciences Department of the University of Puerto Rico in Río Piedras, shared some of the results of his investigations on these topics with members of the UNE community in Carolina. In his talk, Dr. Pérez analyzed the contributions of thinkers such as Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx and Emile Durkheim to the social sciences and the influences that Judaism could have had on their work. During the dialog with the public there was a very interesting discussion of the Jewish communities in the Caribbean, particularly in Cuba and Puerto Rico, and the role of Jewish intellectuals in these societies.

This conference will be available on line during the coming weeks.



Dr. Luis Pérez shared with the UNE community his investigations concerning the Jewish influences on the social sciences particularly in the works of authors such as Marx, Freud and Durkheim.

### Book presentation

#### **War, banking and development: The GDB and the Industrialization of Puerto Rico**

The Second World War is a fascinating era in Puerto Rico's history in which military conflicts, economic and political interests, the struggles for freedom and popular movements collide to give a very special tone to historical processes.

Dr. Bolívar Fresneda's book examines in detail the efforts of Puerto Rico's government, within the context of military conflicts, and their particular manifestations in the Caribbean, to energize an economy that was dependent on the production of sugar. During the presentation of his book on October 16th in the Piñero Reading Room, Bolívar explained how he took into consideration three important factors when he investigated the creation and early years of the Government Development Bank: war, banking and economic development. This work describes in detail how the GDB participated in these processes highlighting successes, limitations and failures.

The work is lavishly illustrated with hundreds of photographs that document these historical projects and has a high quality binding. The publication is available for purchase at the Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation.



Dr. José Bolívar Fresneda and Mr. José E. Piñero Bou review the work *Guerra, banca y desarrollo* after the book presentation in the Piñero Reading Room.

# Books

The following are the titles of a few of the publications that have entered the Piñero Collection during the past weeks:

Abadía Rexach, Bárbara. *Musicalizando la raza: La racialización en Puerto Rico a través de la música*. San Juan: Ediciones Puerto, 2012.

Bolívar Fresneda, José. *Guerra, banca y desarrollo: El Banco de Fomento y la industrialización de Puerto Rico*. San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín e Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña, 2011.

Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña. *Pintura puertorriqueña*. San Juan: Editorial ICP, 2012.

Malavet Vega, Pedro. *Historia de la canción popular en Puerto Rico (Cuatro siglos de música: 1493 - 1898)*. Ponce, 1999.

Rosselló González, Pedro. *A mi manera*. San Juan: Sistema Universitario Ana G. Méndez, 2012.

Seale Collazo, James y Tania Rosario Méndez. *Círculo de la memoria en la Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín: Un proyecto de historia oral*. San Juan: Fundación Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades, 2012.

**The Institute for Caribbean Studies, UPR-RP, invites the public to the continuing series:**

## Caribbean Conferences

*“La batalla del Caribe durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial: La Guayana Francesa y la subalternidad de los puertorriqueños”.*

Dr. Humberto García Muñiz.  
martes, 13 de noviembre

*“Haiti’s Laborious Reconstruction: From Strategic Deficiencies to Popular Discontent”*

Dr. Paul Latortue, Comentarista  
martes, 27 de noviembre

*“Bomba y pancaribeñidad: cuando múltiples géneros, estilos y ritmos convergen en una tradición”.*

Dr. Edgardo Díaz Díaz.  
jueves, 29 de noviembre

The conferences will be held at the Social Sciences Amphitheater, Room 108, at the UPR in Río Piedras.

## Piñero House Museum



### Visits:

**Tuesday thru Saturday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Highway. #3,  
Km. 15.4  
Canóvanas  
787-876-0562**



### Piñero Reading Room Hours:

**Monday through  
Friday  
7:00 am to 5:00 p.m.**

For more information about the  
Jesús T. Piñero Collection  
write to: [bibliotecajtp@suagm.edu](mailto:bibliotecajtp@suagm.edu)  
or call: 787-257-7373 ext. 2523, 3025

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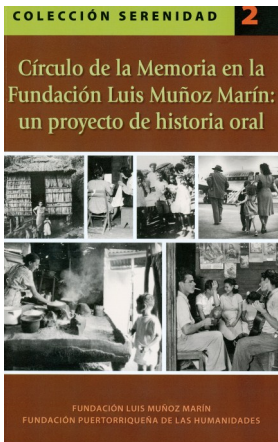
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# Books



## Círculo de la Memoria en la Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín: Un proyecto de historia oral

James Seale Collazo y Tania Rosario Méndez.  
San Juan: Fundación Luis Muñoz Marín y Fundación Puertorriqueña de las Humanidades, 2012.

Oral history is not only a method for collecting the memories of individuals who have participated in historic events. It is also a manner of creating history. In addition, it provides the opportunity to study the ways in which memory functions, how our memory shapes our behavior and influences our identity.

Since the 1930s oral history has developed both as methodology as well as a unique medium for historical investigation. The number of projects and centers dedicated to oral history has increased dramatically.

This book, published by the Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation, documents an experience of oral history that combines both the elements of interviews and the participants' written expressions. The historical researcher Tania Rosario Méndez writes about her experiences with "memory circles" ("círculos de la memoria"), a method that she has used for several years and which has served to preserve the memories of a large number of residents of homes for the aging as well as a group that met at the Muñoz Marín Foundation. The topics of these writings include: family experiences, children's games, song and music as well as educational experiences.

The book includes an introduction by local historian and educator James Seale Collazo. He underlines the importance of the "intergenerational dialog" that these experiences represent. They are not only a very rich source of experiences, knowledge and information but also opportunities in which young people and the older generation can meet, share and communicate their respective experiences of life in Puerto Rico. Fortunately, Seale also includes his experience as an educator to point out the value of oral history as a way of teaching a new generation of Puerto Ricans.

This work is an invitation to continue to document our Island's history by learning from the experiences of previous generations.



Separe la fecha: **jueves, 29 de noviembre de 2012**  
9:00 a.m. en adelante

Se desarrollará el tema del derecho de los ciudadanos a tener acceso a información pública, y, de manera específica, cómo aportan las bibliotecas, los archivos y la prensa a garantizar este derecho.

**Inscripción \$50 / incluye:**

**Desayuno  
Almuerzo  
Certificado de participación**

**Inscripción y más detalles a partir del lunes, 8 DE OCTUBRE**

Centro para Puerto Rico  
Fundación Sila M. Calderón  
Calle González 1012, Santa Rita,  
Río Piedras, P.R.



## Nilita Vientós Gastón Cultural Center

Calle Cordero 55  
Ocean Park, Santurce

## FRENCH-SPANISH FILM FEST

**Wednesday, November 7**  
*French Cancan* (1954)  
Jean Renoir

**Wednesday, November 28**  
*Viridiana* (1961)  
Luis Buñuel

7:00 p.m.  
Entrance is free of charge.