

Prof. Lilia Moritz Schwarcz

Wednesday, February 262:30 PMWang Center Theater

RACE AND CITIZENSHIP IN TURN OF THE CENTURY BRAZIL

Lilia Moritz Schwarcz is Full Professor in Anthropology at the University of São Paulo. She has published several books on the history of slavery, racial theories, and 19th century Brazil, such as Retrato em branco e negro (1987) [Portrait in White and Black]; The Spectacle of the Races: Scientists, Institutions, and the Race Question in Brazil, 1870-1930; The Emperors Beard: D. Pedro II a Tropical King, among others. She has been fellow at the Guggenheim Foundation and at the John Carter Brown Library, visiting professor at Oxford and Leiden Universities, Tinker Professor at Columbia University and since 2011 she is Global Professor at Princeton University.



This talk analyzes debates that took place at the end of the 19th century in Brazil, after the Republic was proclaimed in 1889. In spite of the new promises of citizenship and social inclusion, racial theories caused that an important portion of the population, which had won civil freedom in 1888 – when slavery was finally abolished in Brazil –suffered new forms of exclusion. The talk will particularly discuss writer Lima Barreto as a kind of example of a broader social process by which some black families which gained social respect during the Empire, suffered a new and unexpected social relegation, as racist ideas coexisted with liberal ones in a tense though parallel way.



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