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4th Annual Charles A. Hale Lecture

Public Festivals and Performative Feasts: Aztecs and Allegory in Colonial Mexico

This presentation takes you back in time to a November afternoon in 1680, when a new Spanish viceroy made his formal entrance into the capital of New Spain (formerly México-Tenochtitlan). In a tradition as old as ancient Rome, triumphal arches were erected for the viceroy's celebratory arrival; bands played and companies of dancers performed. But the ceremony's main event eschewed the customary gods and heroes of Greco-Roman antiquity to celebrate Aztec myth and history. Portrayed not as lords of ritual human sacrifice but as exemplars of civic virtue whom the new viceroy should strive to emulate, these allegorical Aztecs, from Huitzilopochtli through Cuautehmoc, invite us to reconsider the artistic complexities and political conundrums of the New World Baroque.

"The Hale Lecture honors the memory of Professor Charles A. Hale (1930-2008), a specialist in Latin American liberalism and intellectual history. He was a distinguished scholar and faculty member at The University of Iowa from 1966 to 1997."

<http://international.uiowa.edu/lasp/events>

October 3, 2013
4-5:30PM, UCC 2520D

Speaker: Rolena Adorno



Photo credit: Michael Marsland

Rolena Adorno is Sterling Professor and Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Yale University. Her most recent books are *Colonial Latin American Literature: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2011); *De Guancane a Macondo: estudios de literatura hispanoamericana* (Sevilla: Renacimiento, 2008), and *The Polemics of Possession in Spanish American Narrative* (Yale University Press, 2007). She has received numerous awards and fellowships for her research, and was appointed to the National Council on the Humanities by President Barack Obama in 2009. She holds a B.A. from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. from Cornell University.

This event is sponsored by the Latin American Studies Program in International Programs, the UI Department of History, and the UI Department of Spanish and Portuguese.