



CALL FOR PAPERS/PORTFOLIO

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Fostering a dialogue between the Latin American Studies, Caribbean Studies and Mobilities literatures, this portfolio aims to re-think mobility as a *longue durée* uneven process. Latin America and the Caribbean offer a diverse field of inquiry into many unique regional aspects of im/mobilities, as well as facilitating a comparison with other world regions. Our goal is to promote the study of Latin America and the Caribbean from a mobility perspective, emphasizing the circulatory networks that have configured and continue to shape these regions, as well as how these regions have reshaped mobility practices. Such an approach requires attention to, first, the way in which geometries of power are configured over time and, second, how hegemonic and subaltern spaces affected each other. It also involves examining horizontal, collaborative networks within and beyond the continent and amongst the islands.

The portfolio will raise the following questions: In different historical and social moments, how has 'mobility' been exercised as a right or controlled as a privilege? How have different groups in society struggled or competed over access to mobility? What role has been played by the State, political and civil society groups, and others to either overcome or reinforce social, ethnic, or gender inequality in relation to mobility?

We seek to address the following themes:

1. Challenges to mobility posed by:

- the continent's immense geographic scale and natural barriers
- the difficulties of inter-island travel
- the significance of tourist and extractive enclaves
- the tensions affecting borderland areas

2. Issues relating to human movement:

- forced human migrations (such as the African slave trade and contemporary human trafficking)
- mass migrations into the continent from Europe and Asia and outwards towards the United States and Europe

3. Other forms of circulation:

- imports of goods, technologies, knowledge, expertise, and capital
- exports of commodities and cultural products
- illicit trade such as colonial smuggling and more recent drug trafficking

4. Cultural and social:

- creolization and hybridity
- cosmopolitanism and exoticism, the circulation of ideas within and beyond the continent
- political exile and diaspora
- a pronounced gap between the richest and the poorest as well as political efforts to resolve this inequality

5. The impact of mobility studies on the center-periphery question:

- understanding the role of human and non-human networks whose practices and infrastructures channel and regulate the circulation of ideas, people, goods, capital, technologies, information, resources, etc.
- exploring how these different configurations unfolded over time and how they were juxtaposed, either through suppression or absorption, paying attention to the ways in which older forms have persisted or resurfaced in contemporary networks

In sum, the portfolio aims to promote rich debates on mobilities in Latin America and the Caribbean through the publication of a special section within the journal, as well as individual articles and reviews of books, films, and exhibitions. It will also facilitate the planning of workshops, conference panel sessions, and seminars along these lines to feed the publication. These events will draw out future collaborators and themes. Our intention is to gather scholars who are already working on mobilities from different disciplines as much as to invite those whose works might serve to re-think mobility but who may not consider themselves mobility scholars.

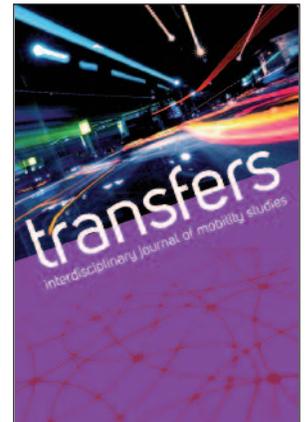
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