

UCSD Ethnic Studies Department Colloquium and Book Launch



Aloha America: Hula Circuits through the U.S. Empire

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ALOHA AMERICA

HULA CIRCUITS THROUGH THE U.S. EMPIRE

Adria L. Imada

Wednesday, November 7, 2012

3:00pm-4:30pm

Location: SSB 107

Reception to follow

Books will be available for purchase and signing before and after the presentation.

While nineteenth and twentieth-century tourist hula performers are often assumed to have been victims or beneficiaries of colonial capitalist development, *Aloha America* explores their unexpected relationship to Hawai'i's present-day self-determination movement. Adria L. Imada traces the origins of Native Hawaiian decolonization activism in tourist hula circuits that sustained cultural reproduction and political contestation during the past century of American colonization. Tourist dance practices, rather than being antithetical to decolonization, constitute an important archive and repertoire for Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) performers. Politically engaged readings of colonial and neocolonial performances suggest how hula survived colonial repression and is being reconstituted as a contemporary form of redress.

For more information, please contact: ethnicstudies.ucsd.edu, 858-534-3276.