

The Wolfe Institute

*The First College Year Program,
in cooperation with the Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,
presents a faculty panel discussion*

A Brief Wondrous Discussion of Oscar Wao: Language, Fukú, and the Dominican Diaspora

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao

Moustafa Bayoumi is a specialist in post-colonial literature and literary theory and teaches in the English department at Brooklyn College. His essays on literature, music, history, architecture, and politics have appeared in *Transition*, *The Yale Journal of Criticism*, *Souls*, *Arab Studies Quarterly*, *Interventions*, *Amerasia*, *Middle East Report*, *The Village Voice*, and *The London Review of Books*. He is co-editor of *The Edward Said Reader* (Vintage) and is the author of *How it Feels to be a Problem in America* (Penguin, 2009). He served a three-year term on the National Council of the American Studies Association, and is currently an editorial committee member of *Middle East Report*.

Mark Patkowski is director of the linguistics program and teaches in the English department. His major interests include linguistics, applied linguistics, second language acquisition, and semiotics. His research has been published in journals such as *Applied Linguistics*, *Language Learning*, *IRAL: International Review of Applied Linguistics*, and *TESOL Quarterly*. He has also received a Fulbright lecturing award in linguistics and taught at the University of Paris-8.

Vanessa Perez Rosario teaches in the Puerto Rican and Latino Studies department. Her area of interests include Latino/as and education; bilingualism; U.S. Latino literature; 19th and 20th-century Caribbean literature. Her book *Becoming Julia de Burgos: Feminism, Transnationalism, Diaspora* is forthcoming in summer 2014 from the University of Illinois Press. She is the editor of *Hispanic Caribbean Literature of Migration: Narratives of Displacement* (Palgrave, 2010). Her work has appeared in *Meridians Journal*, *Translation Review* and *Centro Journal*. She is the recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty and served as a visiting fellow in Latino studies at New York University.

Robert Viscusi is executive officer of the Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, the president of the Italian American Writers Association, and teaches English at Brooklyn College. He has published a critical study entitled *Max Beerbohm, or the Dandy Dante: Rereading with Mirrors* (Johns Hopkins UP, 1986), the novel *Astoria* (Guernica, 1995; American Book Award 1996), the long poem *An Oration upon the Most Recent Death of Christopher Columbus* (VIA Folios, 1993), a poetry collection entitled *A New Geography of Time* (Guernica, 2004), a critical history entitled *Buried Caesars, and Other Secrets of Italian American Writing* (SUNY Press, 2006), and most recently, an epic poem entitled *Ellis Island* (Bordighera, 2013). He has held fellowships from the NEH and the Calandra Italian American Institute.

Tuesday, October 1, 2013
12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Reception to Follow.
Jefferson Williams, 4th floor
Brooklyn College Student Center
Campus Road and East 27th Street

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