

**Brooklyn College Department of Anthropology & Department of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies**  
Co-sponsored by the Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities as part of the Black Lives Research & Action Engagement Series and the Spring 2021 Anthropology of Latin America course

*Presents*

**A Black Lives Research and Action Engagement**

**"Afro-Latinx spiritualities in defense of Black Life"**

**A talk with Andrew Viñales**  
**Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 11:00AM-12:15PM**

Register in advance for this meeting

<https://gc-cuny-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZludu6vpzopGtaLktba4doK-PH2rLTTigvi>



After the brutal killing of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor many were inspired to take to the streets to demand justice and systemic change. Some of these demonstrations included performances of the Afro-Puerto Rican musical genre of Bomba, in the archipelago and in the United States. This talk takes a critical look at Bomba through the lenses of abolition and spirituality to make sense of the ways Black Puerto Ricans articulate acts of resistance. More broadly, this talk argues for a serious investigation of Afro-Caribbean resistance traditions as spaces where Black subject-making is fomented, and liberation is articulated through notions of “ancestors”, “roots”, and “healing.”

*Andrew Viñales was born and raised in the Bronx, New York by proud Afro-Puerto Rican and Dominican families. He is a twin and practitioner in the Lukumí Afro-Cuban Orisha tradition, as well as an oral historian and cultural worker passionate about highlighting the experiences of queer Afro-Latinx politics, culture, and spirituality. Currently, he is a third year PhD student in cultural anthropology at the CUNY Graduate Center in NYC. His hopes to explore anthropological possibilities in cultural work, storytelling, and public scholarship.*