

ATLANTIC TALK SERIES
PRESENTS

OF TIME AND SUGAR: MAKING AND UNMAKING CUBAN PLANTATION TEMPORALITIES
WITH
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MAY 12TH 2016 | BUNCHE HALL 6275 | 12 PM
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This presentation explores the relationship between time – as it was regulated and embodied in the Cuban sugar plantation world – and the lived experiences of the people enslaved on these plantations. It juxtaposes the function of time as an ever-evolving technology of the plantation world, and its possibilities as a site of black fugitivity and regeneration. This split sense of “plantation-time” marked one of the most important tensions in the world of sugar production: slaveholders and managers sought to ration and appropriate time as a precious commodity, yet enslaved people consistently reshaped its strictures and repurposed its possibilities. Exploring the ways in which enslaved people were violently circumscribed by this plantation temporality, but also the creative means they found to circumvent it, will offer important ways to understand how they inhabited, negotiated, and resisted their enslavement.

