Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
And the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies
Presents

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101 International Studies Building, 910 S. Fifth Street

ON THE CULTURAL MEANING OF ANIMALS IN BRAZIL AND THE
UNITED STATES: FROM TH ANIMAL LOTTERY TO MICKEY MOUSE

This lecture will be a reflection on the role of animals in modern societies and it will start
with some thought on the famous and ill studied Brazilian popular lottery called "jogo to
bicho" (animal game) that Elena Soárez and Roberto DaMatta studied and wrote about (a
book, entitled “Eagles, Donkeys and Butterflies” came out of this research, and was
published by Notre Dame Press). From its social history DaMatta will go to its cosmology
and will, once more, explore the different roles animals played in US and Brazil. He reveals
how animal are perceived as "bichos" in Brazil and as citizens (and super stars) in the United
States.