

Acknowledgement

We would like to thank our talented group of editors for investing their time and attention into each piece. Without them, this publication would not have been possible. Volume X is our first edition completed entirely remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we applaud their commitment and effort in this challenging year. We would also like to thank our contributing authors, who worked closely with the *Américas* staff over a period of several weeks to ensure their work was of the highest caliber. Finally, thank you to the Johns Hopkins Program in Latin American Studies for its financial and programmatic support during the publication process.

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Antonio Berni, *Demonstration*
(*Manifestación*), 1934, Latin American Art
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Letter from the Editor in Chief

Dear Readers,

This year, I am proud to present you the tenth volume of *Américas: The Johns Hopkins Journal of Latin American Studies*, the first *Américas* edition completed entirely virtually. Despite the many challenges this year posed, our editorial team has remained committed to amplifying young voices and publishing the incredible work produced by students on issues pertaining to Latin America. In a year of record submissions, we have chosen a unique set of pieces addressing challenging topics such as civil unrest, immigration, natural disasters and colonial eugenics.

This edition begins with a piece by Emily Sanchez on the emancipation of Afro-Peruvians in the 1850s, exploring the experience of abolition and the emergence of resistance movements in Peru. From racial identity in Peru, we move to civil unrest and migration in the Northern Triangle. Jordi Amaral explores policy recommendations in the face of rampant corruption and impunity in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, and argues for the strengthening of judicial systems. Ian Rice sheds light on the dangerous journey immigrants take into the U.S. through the lens of discarded objects left behind at the border and calls on the reader to view these as tools and belongings as opposed to trash. We then shift gears to a history of exploitation through forced sterilization and birth control of Puerto Rican women. Paige Skaff argues that the United States has practiced eugenics on the Puerto Rican population as a form of culture eradication. Moving south to Argentina, Kevin Ramsey explores the complicated legacy of Juan Manuel de Rosas through the examination of American and British perceptions, shedding light on Rosas' diplomatic impact. Felipe Deidan offers a perspective on Ecuador's development model across different political administrations and identifies a need for an Institutional Development Model centered on institutions. In our last piece, Andrea Newman-Rivera explores access to healthcare in Puerto Rico after hurricane Maria and presents her own interviews with local residents as evidence.

This edition of *Américas* is about danger, safety and conflict. By exploring complex matters such as racial identity, civil unrest, institutional failures and unequal healthcare access, our authors shed light on the Latin America lived experience. We are proud to present these issues here, in such interesting and timely pieces.

This journal would not have been possible without the generous dedication of our six editors. I am so grateful to have worked with each of them this year. Many thanks also to our contributors, who worked diligently with us throughout the editorial process. This year, we publish work by dedicated young scholars from the George Washington University, Princeton University, Otterbein University, the Johns Hopkins University and Pacific Lutheran University. We hope you enjoy reading their work as much as we did.

Best,

Gabriela Hubner

Editor in Chief

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