

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Round table panel: 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm Rolfe Hall 1301

Refreshments/reception: 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm Rolfe Hall 1301



Film screening of 500 Years and Q&A:
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Haines 39



Indigenous Struggles for Justice and the Impact of Court Trials in Guatemala

On May 10th, 2013, the first trial in the history of the Americas for the genocide of indigenous peoples culminated with the conviction of former president Efraín Ríos Montt for his responsibility in the genocide of the Mayan populations of Guatemala. Ten days later, the verdict was overturned by a higher court. The genocide trial against Ríos Montt was reinitiated in 2017 but the defendant died of natural causes on April 1st, 2018, before the trial could be completed.

Join us for a special symposium on the fifth anniversary of Ríos Montt's genocide conviction with **Dr. Marta Elena Casaus Arzú** (Distinguished Professor at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) and **Dr. Irma Alicia Velásquez Nimatuj** (outgoing Mellon Visiting Professor at Duke University).

The symposium will close with the projection of the awarded documentary film 500 Years: Life in Resistance (Pamela Yates, 2017), followed by a Q&A. The film, narrated by guest speaker Dr. Velásquez Nimatuj, documents the genocide trial against Efraín Ríos Montt, as well as the ensuing civic battles for the defense of human rights, indigenous rights, and social justice that culminated in the massive mobilizations against corruption which took place throughout Guatemala during the spring of 2015.





