



**Prof. Dr. Luis Trindade (Birkbeck, University of London)**

**Raw History: radical culture  
and historical inscription in post-revolutionary Portugal**

**Dienstag, 6. Mai 2014, 18.15 Uhr, KOL-F-104, Universität Zürich**

Eine Veranstaltung im Rahmen des "Culture Club",  
organisiert vom Studienprogramm Kulturanalyse der Universität Zürich

This presentation will analyse several forms of literary and filmic representation in the historical context of the Portuguese Carnation Revolution (1974-75). The revolutionary process was a unique opportunity to question some key aspects of Portuguese history. More specifically, in the context of political radicalization in the European 'long 1960s', the proliferation of speech and images opened the way to a renewed self-awareness of the role of discourse in politics and the remaking of national narratives and identity. In short, throughout the revolution, the People will emerge as the main protagonist of historical transformation while the narratives circulating around the event will become a central object of contention. 'What shall I do with this sword?', asked filmmaker João César Monteiro in the title of a film in 1975. How can a film, or any other cultural object, contribute to emancipation; how will the People use its freedom of speech to build a new country? In 1970s Portugal, a problem immediately emerged when these questions were asked: in a society whose illiterate population reached almost 50%, where people not only could not read but hardly managed to articulate, how could those forces be used in a political process so pervaded by discourse?