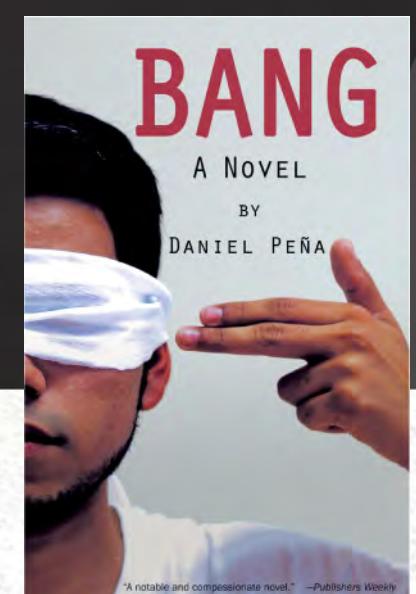




Trauma as cultural legibility in **BANG**: Researching and writing the contemporary narconovela with author Daniel Peña



**MARCH
21**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 • 2:00 PM
LATIN AMERICAN & IBERIAN INSTITUTE**

The LAII is located just north of the Duck Pond on Yale Blvd, and is Building 165 on the campus map.

Join the Department of Spanish & Portuguese and the Latin American & Iberian Institute for a presentation with noted author Daniel Peña.

Research is key to world-building in any novel. But where should a writer start? And how much research should one integrate into the fictional landscape of any given work? Peña will present on the evolution of his debut novel, *BANG*, from inception to publication and the way research guided the various drafts along the way. He'll also discuss resources for writers writing about Latin America with a special focus on Mexico and the contemporary drug war as well as common pitfalls and hang-ups he experienced in writing *BANG* and the strategies he used to overcome them.

Peña is a Pushcart Prize winning writer and Assistant Professor in the Department of English at the University of Houston-Downtown. Formerly, he was based out of the UNAM in Mexico City where he worked as a writer, blogger, book reviewer and journalist. He is a Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholar and a graduate of Cornell University. His fiction has appeared in *Ploughshares*, *The Rumpus*, the *Kenyon Review Online*, *Callaloo*, and *Huizache* among other venues. He's currently a regular contributor to the *Guardian* and the *Ploughshares* blog and his novel, *BANG*, is forthcoming from Arte Publico Press. He lives in beautiful Houston, Texas.

This lecture is free and open to the public. It is presented as part of the Spring 2018 LAII Lecture Series with support from the US Department of Education Title VI. For more information, visit laii.unm.edu or contact laiioutreach@unm.edu.



Department of Spanish & Portuguese • Latin American & Iberian Institute