During the late 1930s and early 1940s, a significant number of Spanish Republican intellectuals settled down in America fleeing the Spanish Civil war. The analysis of the cultural production of the ones who arrived in Argentina during those decades of a rising Nationalism brings to the fore questions with regard to identity and representation in a country built upon European immigration: How does Exile contribute to construe the concept of modernity in the former colony’s cultural terrain?; Do these intellectuals revisit their antebellum aesthetics or develop new artistic strategies in a transatlantic cultural field?; How do their undertakings defy or support a monolithic image of Spain, and what are their political underpinnings? In this talk, works by María Teresa León and Maruja Mallo will be the means to discuss the symbolic productivity of the Spanish Exiles’ artistic strategies to overcome the marginal status of displacement and, by the same token, perform an active opposition to Franco’s regime.

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