

# Descent into the Archive: The Limits of the Human Matter

## A talk by Professor Daniel Noemi

This lecture revolves around the recently opened archives of Colonia Dignidad –a Nazi enclave in Southern Chile. It examines the horror contained in thirteen boxes of

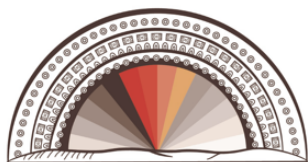


uncatalogued material, providing a historical and social context to 'understand' what these pieces of paper, photographs and objects tell us (several of those documents have now been used in Human Rights trial cases). Accordingly, the first part of the talk examines the limits

and the political/social/aesthetic possibilities of the Archive in Latin America. The second part of the presentation analyzes *Human Matter* [Material Humano] by Guatemalan author Rodrigo Rey Rosa, and his ensuing descent into the abyss of the archive.

## May 8, 2:30 p.m. Latin American Studies Building Gildred Room

Professor Daniel Noemi (Northeastern University) is a cultural critic, chronicler, and scholar of Latin American Literature and culture. His research and teaching focuses on the intersection of critical theory and literature, and on visual arts film, and politics. His latest book is *Surveillance, the Cold War and Latin American Literature* (Cambridge UP, 2022)



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