

# Current Issues

in North American Studies and Cultural Studies

Lecture Series – Summer Term 2017

NORTH  
AMERICAN  
STUDIES  
PROGRAM

UNIVERSITÄT  BONN

**Monday, July 10, 2017**, 6:00-8:00 pm  
Room A, IAAK, Regina-Pacis-Weg 5

Prof. Elizabeth Maddock Dillon (Northeastern University)

## **Performance and Materiality in the Atlantic World: From Jonkonnu to *Yankee Doodle Dandy***



I. M. Belisario, *Koo-Koo, or Actor Boy* (1837-38)

According to the logic of imperialism that governed the eighteenth-century Atlantic, the colony was strictly a site for the production of goods such as sugar and coffee. However, in the shadow of social death, slaves also produced new and radical forms of culture which served as embodied practices of freedom. In her talk, Prof. Dillon traces the emergence of the black dandy figure in colonial Jamaica, arguing that the aesthetic of dandyism had its roots in Afro-diasporic traditions.

Elizabeth M. Dillon is Professor and Chair of the Department of English and Co-director of the NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks at Northeastern University, Boston. Her latest book is *New World Drama* (Duke UP, 2014).