## **Steuernagel Marcos**

## The precarious stumble of PROJETO BRASIL

## standard lecture

Boaventura de Sousa Santos has proposed that there can be no global social justice without global cognitive justice. During the first decade of the twenty-first century, the New South American Left had provided a much-needed voice against the closure of epistemological alternatives engendered by neoliberal globalization in previous decades. The impeachment of Dilma Rousseff, however, marked Brazil's entrance into the current global conservative turn. PROJETO bRASIL was a three-year theatrical project by Cia. Brasileira de Teatro that spanned a critical period in this process, from the widespread protests of June 2013, through the political polarization in the 2014 election, to the downfall of the Workers's Party in 2016. This paper investigates the ways in which performance acts in response to attacks on cultural and political difference. What can the performatic precariousness of PROJETO bRASIL contribute to theorizing, from the South, a response to the growing conservatism throughout the world?

## Bio:

Marcos Steuernagel is Assistant Professor of Theatre at the University of Colorado Boulder, and works on the intersection of performance and politics, Brazilian and Latin American theatre and performance, and the digital humanities. He is co-editor with Diana Taylor of the trilingual digital book *What is Performance Studies?* (Duke University Press & HemiPress, 2015). His upcoming monograph traces the relationship between politics and aesthetics in contemporary Brazilian theatre and dance. Originally from Brazil, Marcos holds a Ph.D. in performance studies from New York University, and was previously Arts and Humanities Postdoctoral Associate at New York University Abu Dhabi.