

# La Compañera



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Photo: Coffee finca in Mogiana. Brazil.  
Courtesy of Augusto Carneiro, *Nossa Família*.

## Senior COMPS Topic

Katie Blansett '14 explores the coffee economy in Brazil beginning in 1920 and indigenous mobilization in Ecuador and Bolivia.

Page 2

## The Detective and Borges

Professor Pablo Martín Ruíz, Tufts University, presents "Ficciones el engaño"

Page 3

## Chilean Film Screening

Carleton's International Film Forum screens *Crystal Fairy*

Page 3

# Introducing Katie Blansett's COMPS Topics

Senior LTAM Studies and Political Science/IR Major



**LTAM Studies COMPS:** Senior Katie Blansett found inspiration for her LTAM Studies COMPS topic during Carleton's Brazil seminar, led by Prof. Silvia López and Prof. Al Montero. Her paper follows the coffee economy in Brazil from 1920 to the modernist era and tracks the continuity of patronage through political and cultural change. Katie argues that although the revolution in 1930 created political rupture, the system of patronage was not broken: President Getúlio Vargas continued to depend on the people he overthrew. Katie is particularly interested in examining how modernist culture was amplified under Vargas when the coffee economy was initially funded by coffee elites, his political opposition.

**Political Science/IR COMPS: Katie's IR COMPS** also focuses on Latin America. Her topic examines natural resource extraction on historically indigenous land in Ecuador and Bolivia. She will study indigenous people's anti-poverty mobilization and commitment to protecting the environment. Katie notes that her work in the Latin American Studies Department, particularly in *History 273: Go-Betweens and Rebels in the Andean World*, provided an important foundation for understanding the colonial legacy.

## *The Detective Novel and Borges*

Prof. Pablo Martín Ruiz (Tufts University) visits Carleton



**“Ficciones del engaño”**: Pablo Martín Ruiz, Professor of Latin American Literature at Tufts University, visited Carleton last month to share his expertise on Jorge Luis Borges with students of Spanish and Latin American Studies. In addition to visiting Yansi Pérez’s class, *Span 321: The Detective Novel in Latin America*, Ruiz presented a talk titled “Ficciones del engaño” (Fictions of Deception). Ruiz used Borges’s short story “Abenjacán el Bojarí, muerto en su laberinto” in *El Aleph* as a microcosm of the detective genre, particularly in its wedding of logic and “el texto sagrado,” or a text that captures a plurality of meaning in its wedding truth. Students interested in studying Borges further may be interested in taking *Span 366: Jorge Luis Borges* with Prof. Jorge Brioso this coming spring.

## *Crystal Fairy*

Carleton’s International Film Forum highlights Chilean film

The Carleton International Film Forum kicked off its first screening of the term with director Sebastián Silva’s fourth film, *Crystal Fairy & the Magical Cactus* (Chile, 2012). CAMS Professor Jay Beck introduced the film, which explores cross-cultural connections between the United States and Latin America. Silva poses the question, how do American Tourists react to Chile and how do Chileans react to American tourists?

Although the film was shot in Chile, more than half of the dialogue is in English and the film stars Michael Cera. Interested students may borrow *Crystal Fairy* from Gould Library.

