

VCU COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES & SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF WORLD STUDIES

presents the

SPRING 2012 BISHOP WALTER F. SULLIVAN CHAIR IN
CATHOLIC STUDIES LECTURE SERIES



Santa Muerte, the Skeleton Saint

featuring

R. ANDREW CHESNUT, Ph.D.

*Bishop Walter F. Sullivan Chair in Catholic Studies and
Professor of Religious Studies
School of World Studies, VCU*

Professor Chesnut is an internationally recognized expert on Christianity in Latin America. He is author of *Born Again in Brazil: The Pentecostal Boom and the Pathogens of Poverty* (Rutgers University Press, 1997) and *Competitive Spirits: Latin America's New Religious Economy* (Oxford University Press, 2003 and 2007). His latest book, *Devoted to Death* (Oxford University Press, 2011), offers a fascinating portrayal of Santa Muerte, a Mexican folk saint whose cult has attracted millions of devotees in both Mexico and the U.S. over the past decade. In particular, Dr. Chesnut shows Santa Muerte has become the patron saint of drug traffickers, playing an important role as protector of peddlers of crystal meth and marijuana.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2012

4:00 PM

VCU Student Commons Theater, 907 Floyd Avenue

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

For additional information, contact: Dr. Andrew Chesnut
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Parking available (for a fee) on first come-first served basis in VCU's Main Street Deck (corner of Laurel & Main Streets)