



UNIVERSITY OF
MICHIGAN PRESS

BODIES ON THE FRONT LINES

Performance,
Gender, and
Sexuality in
Latin America
and the
Caribbean

Brenda Werth and
Katherine Zien, Editors



DOI: [10.3998/mpub.12587385](https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.12587385)

6 x 9 | 464 pages |
43 illustrations

Hardcover | 2024 | \$95.00 U.S.
ISBN 9780472076734

Paperback | 2024 | \$39.95 U.S.
ISBN 9780472056736

Ebook
ISBN 9780472221684



Introduces English-speaking readers to the rich panoply of political performances in Latin America with intersectional critiques of state violence toward women, queer and femme subjects, particularly those marked as indigenous or black, and introduces readers to feminist theorists from the global south. This is a truly excellent volume that stands alone, in being concerned with transfeminism and performance.”
—Patricia Ybarra, Brown University

BODIES ON THE FRONT LINES

Performance, Gender, and Sexuality in Latin America and the Caribbean

Edited by Brenda Werth & Katherine Zien

Revolutionary feminisms and queer and trans activist movements are traversing Latin America and the Caribbean. *Bodies on the Front Lines* situates recent performances and protest actions within legacies of homegrown gender and sexual rights activism from the South. Performances — enacted in public spaces and intimate venues, across national borders, and through circulating hashtags and digital media — play crucial roles in the elaboration, auto-theorization, translation, and reception of feminist, queer, and trans activism. Movements such as Argentina's NiUnaMenos (Not One Less) have brought together hundreds of thousands of protesters and ‘artists’ on the streets of major cities in Latin America and beyond to denounce gender violence and demand gender, sexual, and reproductive rights.

The volume's contributors draw from rich legacies of theater, performance, and activism in the region, as well as decolonial and intersectional theorizing, to demonstrate the ways that performance practices enable activists to sustain their movements. The chapters engage diverse perspectives from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, transnational Central America, Peru, Puerto Rico, and Mexico.

Rather than taking an approach that simplifies complexities among states, *Bodies on the Front Lines* takes seriously the geopolitical stakes of examining Latin America and the Caribbean as a heterogeneous site of nations and networks. In chapters covering this wide geographical area, leading scholars in the fields of theater and performance studies showcase the aesthetic, social, and political work of performance in generating and fortifying gender and sexual activism in the Americas.

Brenda Werth is Associate Professor of Latin American and Spanish Studies at American University.

Katherine Zien is Associate Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies at McGill University.

**ORDER ONLINE AND SAVE 30%
WITH DISCOUNT CODE UMS24!**