



Left picture: Section of a parade welcoming Samuel Gompers to Puerto Rico in 1904. Right Picture: Santiago Iglesias (left), the first AFL organizer in Puerto Rico and Samuel Gompers (middle). Photos courtesy of The George Meany Memorial Archives.

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Centro) invites you to meet **Carlos Sanabria** the author of **Puerto Rican Labor History 1898–1934–Revolutionary Ideals and Reformist Politics**.

Puerto Rican Labor History 1898–1934–Revolutionary Ideals and Reformist Politics by Carlos Sanabria (just released December 2017) presents a history of the organized labor movement in Puerto Rico from the United States' colonial domination of the island in 1898 to the Great Depression in the early 1930s. Although the most prominent Puerto Rican labor leaders in the early twentieth century were strongly influenced by revolutionary European socialist and anarchist ideology, the organized labor movement as represented by the Federación Libre de los Trabajadores de Puerto Rico and the Partido Socialista became a fundamentally reformist trade unionist campaign that relied heavily on the democratic rights guaranteed by the United States government and the support of the American Federation of Labor. Rather than advocating for the overthrow of capitalism, the abolition of private property and the wage labor system, and its replacement by a socialist egalitarian cooperative society free of centralized

government authority, the organized workers' movement focused on the immediate struggle for higher wages and better working conditions by means of the organization of labor and participation in electoral politics.

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Commentator:
Aldo Lauria-Santiago (Rutgers)

Wednesday, February 21, 2018
6 PM - 8 PM

**Centro Library Room 120, Silberman
School of Social Work**
2180 Third Avenue (119th Street) New York City

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