



The Anglo-Bolivian Society

www.angloboliviansociety.org.uk

The future is retro? Ropavejeros, used clothes and development in Bolivia



A talk by:

Dr Kate Maclean

Ask almost anybody in La Paz where they got their stylish new top or skirt and they may well say from the ropavejeros in the 16 de Julio market in El Alto. Customers are not limited to a single social class or group, and the second hand clothes markets clearly supply a demand for modern, Western and cheap clothing.

The global trade in used clothes is controversial worldwide. In Bolivia, political debate on the trade has demonstrated tensions inherent in the government's 'post-neoliberal' agenda - one of nationalisation, protection of cultural identity, and the well-being of the poor in an increasingly liberalised and globalised market place.

The trade in used clothes from overseas threatens national production, and the sale of western labels in markets dominated by indigenous women challenges the politics of identity and social inclusion in Bolivia. Based on work with women in the city of El Alto, Kate Maclean will explore how women's involvement in the second-hand clothes trade challenges understandings of identity and development in contemporary Bolivia.

Kate Maclean is a Geography lecturer at King's College, London. Her work focuses on gender and livelihoods in the global South. She is vice-chair of the Anglo-Bolivian Society.

**Canning House, 2 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PJ
6.30 pm Friday 8 July, 2011**

Price: Members £8, Non-Members £10 to include refreshments & a glass of wine. Under 16 £2

It is always best to book in advance. Please send the slip below, along with payment, to:

Arthur Wilkinson (ABS) 391 Southborough Lane, Bromley, Kent, BR2 8BQ

or email info@angloboliviansociety.org.uk

No tickets will be sent out.

Please arrive promptly.

Please reserve me:..... (name) tickets for the talk *The Future is retro?* by Dr Kate Maclean on Friday 8 July, 2011 at Canning House, for myself and the following people:

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