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Comics and Natural Disasters

Using an interdisciplinary methodology that draws from the digital humanities and from community-based knowledge production, I study artists' representations of crisis, disaster, trauma and political trust in different countries: Mexico, U.S.A, Puerto Rico and Haiti. The comics and graphic novels I analyzed for this presentation serve as alternative archives for rewriting history from vantage points that challenge hegemonic narratives. Graphic narratives artists I study have the power to expand and rewrite colonial master narratives addressing historical personal traumas by giving voice to marginalized communities and by thinking about how contemporary forms of systemic violence, like the aftermath of natural disasters, affect those groups.