**Encoding Agentive Publics: The Political and Moral Economy of Syntax, Register, and Context as Conditions of Rule in Madagascar**

Following the daily interactions in the art and performance of *kabary politika* orators and political cartoonists in the capital city province of Madagascar, this paper examines the conscious and unconscious multivalence of syntactic constructions interpellated as indexical of character and mentality. This interpellation from ways of speaking to ways of being serves to create a power code for classifying and controlling others, delimiting access to political process by foreclosing on particular language users the symbols of political discursive interaction. It is the apportionment of these symbolic resources that lend themselves to audibility and visibility activating an aesthetic of power, identity, memory, and belonging.As the cultivation of such aesthetics *felt* through language underpin notions of a shared biography, they too play a role in the production of publics structuring political process and inform the way this process is experienced. These aspects of linguistic practice act as coordinates to map the schematic of the place and stakes of vernacular democratic politics as a form of agentive emancipation as they determine those who have a part in the community of citizens and those who do not.