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"Identities in Crisis": Behind-the-Scenes of the Documentary Film
Lorca and the Telluric Identity

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Oral Presentation O1.2

**"IDENTITIES IN CRISIS": BEHIND-THE-SCENES OF THE DOCUMENTARY FILM
*LORCA AND THE TELLURIC IDENTITY***

Peter W. Gray and Sandra Lindberg*

Theatre and Hispanic Studies Departments, Illinois Wesleyan University

In May 2006, sponsored jointly by students, faculty and administration of Illinois Wesleyan University, Peter Gray traveled to Spain to investigate (and document on video) the cultural background and artistic development of one of the country's most distinguished poets, Federico Garcia Lorca. Later that year, Gray shared the findings of his research with a faculty director, design team and cast of student performers at the University's School of Theatre Arts, to aid in their preparation for the November presentation of Lorca's famous tragedy, *Blood Wedding*.

Lorca and the Telluric Identity, the documentary film which resulted from Gray's research and footage shot abroad, was first shown to the public in IWU's Beckman Auditorium directly preceding select performances of *Blood Wedding* on McPherson Stage. Five months later, Gray now reflects on the most shocking aspects of his first-ever experience with research for documentary film, and how he discovered that the word "identity" continues to be a cause for suspicion and fear in post-totalitarian Spain today.