Caló Pachuco

Caló Gitano vs. Germanía

- Caló Gitano mixed language of Spanish Gitanos –some Romani lexical items, Spanish grammar.
- Germanía criminal argot from 16th Century Spain largely Spanish and Italian words disguised to create an in-group language, disguised from the general population (cf. Golden Age literature).
- Caló and Germanía mixed in Spanish prisons –hence, modern Caló Gitano contains words of Germanía origin; criminal language also contains words from Caló Gitano.
- The term 'Caló' is often interpreted to mean 'criminal argot'.

Caló Mexicano

- Speakers of Caló Gitano (Gitanos) and speakers of criminal argot were among the immigrants to Mexico during the colonial period.
- Caló Mexicano is the slang associated with both of these marginalized groups.

Caló Pachuco

- 'Pachuco' slang term for El Paso, Texas
- Pachuco culture of the 1940s associated with Mexican immigrant community in the US - – came to mean any marginalized Mexican American, often associated with gang activity (similar to 'Cholo' today).
- Marginalized elemental of immigrant community imported Caló Mexicano, mixed with a border slang, based partly on English borrowings

Caló Gitano - Caló Pachuco

Caló Gitano

caló 'Gypsy, black,

Gypsy language'

chavo 'youth'

bató 'father'

bute/i 'good, a lot'

gachó 'non-Gypsy,

'the other'

Caló Pachuco

caló 'youth, argot'

chavo 'youth'

vato 'dude'

bute/i 'a lot'

gacho 'bad'

Example

- Pos, ¿sabe qué, guy? Yo apañé el rufo allá en Los, ¿ve? Y me descolgué pa Juarílez, ¿sabe? Quedé bute jarioso y me fui a un resta, ¿ve? Y me pregunta una ruca que si qué quiero de refi y le digo yo: "Ésa, pos traigame unas de lámina con unos de cemento." Pos, se escamó de a buti la rucaila y me llamó a la jura, pos, me entabicaron.
- Well, you know, man, I caught the train over there in L.A., see?, and I took off for Juarez, you know? When I got there I was starving and I went to a restaurant, see? And this chick asks me what do I want to eat and I tell her: "Hey, well, bring me some laminated ones with some cement ('beans and tortillas'). Well, the lady got all shook up. She called the cops and they locked me up.

Wino Boogie – Don Ramón Sr. y Don Tosti's Pachuco Boogie Boys

Tirilis 'Pachucos'

guistita 'girlfriend'

más crudote 'with a bad hangover'

qué gacho, ése 'what drag, man'

wainote 'wine'

ya me agüité 'l got fed up'

huacho 'I see'

huachale pos ése 'take a look, dude'

ahi los huacho 'l'll see them later'

El Tirili

¿Has visto a un tirili?

Esos vatos que se ponen buti high

Y luego quieren fight

Pero no lo pegues que es un tirili

Have you seen a Pachuco?

Those guys who get real high

And then want to fight

Don't hit him- he's a Pachuco

