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NOTES ON EDITORS

Biographical notes in alphabetical order

Adela McKay Villegas is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles. She earned her M.A. in Spanish from the University of California, Riverside, and her B.A. in Spanish, Community, and Culture from the University of California, Los Angeles. Throughout her academic career, she has been a member of the feminist scholars' nonprofit coalition, Feministas Unidas. Her research interests include early modern Spanish literature, transatlantic studies, and 20th-century Latin American literature. Since 2022, she has served as a member of the Editorial Board of *Mester*.

Adriana Rojas is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles. She earned her M.A. in Hispanic Studies from the University of Washington in 2024 and her B.A. in English Literature and Spanish from DePauw University in 2016. Her research focuses on literature and media produced after the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile, both within the country and across the diaspora, with particular interest in memory and spatiality studies. She also explores transatlantic themes, especially geocriticism and the role of place as a site of emotional and historical memory. Adriana has presented her work at PAMLA and LASA, and is slated to present again at PAMLA in Fall 2024 with a project titled *Directors as Cartographers: Journeys of Memory, Transnationalism, and Family*.

Ana K. Arreguin Gómez is a Ph.D. student from the Spanish and Portuguese Department at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in the Ph.D. program in Hispanic Languages and Literatures. She holds a B.A. in Language Studies from UCSD and an M.A. in Spanish from SDSU. Raised between Tijuana and San Diego, Ana is interested in migration and borders. Her research investigates the effect of multiple types of violence in border zones and how its effects are portrayed in contemporary literature texts, such as Yuri Herrera's novels. She is also part of the Urban Humanities Initiative 2024-2025 cohort, where she has worked on projects based in Downtown LA. As a second year, Ana is researching the literature production on the Mexico-USA and Mexico-Guatemala border for her thesis project.

Andrew Mason Edwards is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles. Before beginning his doctoral studies, he completed two interdisciplinary master's degrees, researching nineteenth- and twentieth-century Brazilian poetry for his MA in Latin American Studies at UCLA and Marxist feminist theory for his Master Universitario en Estudios de Género at la Universidad Complutense de Madrid. He now focuses on Latin American poetry and poetics in comparative contexts, working in English, Portuguese, Spanish, and Quechua. In his criticism, Andrew often reads literature alongside Marxist, feminist/queer, Indigenous, and critical theory, and he enjoys studying questions of lyric, genre, and voice through poetic lines. He is, also, an editor of *Mester*.

Bianca Mayer is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), as well as the author of *Variações sobre a saudade: a não originalidade e a poesia pós-tudo de Patrícia Lino* (2025). She earned her degree in Portuguese and English at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), where she also completed a master's degree in Literary Theory, Criticism, and Comparativism. Her research centers on Brazilian and Portuguese poetry and the Baroque as a trans-historical phenomenon, with particular interest in the concepts of originality and copying across literature and the visual arts of the Lusophone world.

Camila Lee is a graduate student at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Candela Perichon is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles. She earned her M.A. in Spanish American Literature from the Universidad de Salamanca, Spain, and her B.A. in Latin American Literature from the Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. Drawing on the fields of memory, archive and spectrality studies, her research explores the representation of systemic violence and enforced

disappearance in contemporary Latin American literature, cinema and performance, with special focus on Argentine post-dictatorial narratives produced by the generation of children of the disappeared.

Fernanda Mora Triay is a graduate student at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Gabriela Cruz was born in Puebla, Mexico, she is a fourth-year Ph.D. student at UCLA who focuses her studies on indigenous productions such as film and literature, modern and contemporary Latin American dictatorships, and the role of the woman in the reconstruction of the memory, truth, and justice, Human Rights, and migration among others. Gabriela holds a M.A. in Spanish & Portuguese, from the University of California Davis (Class 2022), a B.A. Spanish & Portuguese with Honors, and Chicano Studies from the University of California Berkeley (Class 2020) and an Associates of Arts, Communication, Media, and Language (December 2017), Associates of Arts, Spanish for Transfer (June 2018) from Riverside City College, Riverside, CA.

Ícaro Carvalho is a Ph.D. candidate and Teaching Fellow at UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese. His main research focuses are Brazilian literature, urban spaces, history, and society.

Jacob Chan is a second-year Ph.D. student in Hispanic Linguistics at UCLA. His main interests are in sociolinguistics, and linguistic anthropology. More specifically, he seeks to understand the (lack of) representation of the minoritized languages of Spain in their respective linguistic landscapes. This has shown up in his work through research on language policy, language attitudes, second language acquisition, and language maintenance.

Mara Uriol-Garate is a Ph.D. student in the department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Davis. She received her M.A. in Spanish with an emphasis in literature from UC Davis and her B.A. in Arts in Spanish from San Francisco State University. Her academic research interests are in contemporary Latin-American literature, memory studies, human rights, and Latin-American cultural studies. Mara is currently collaborating with the project Humanizing Deportation as part of the research team, and she is a Guest Contributing Editor with Mester, the academic journal of the graduate students of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Marco Antonio Sánchez-Cano, originally from Tijuana, Baja California, is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures at the University of California, Irvine. He received his M.A. from San Diego State University in 2023. His research focuses on film historiography in México during the 20th century. He is also the Editor-in-Chief of UC Irvine's public humanities journal, *Atlántica & Pacífica*.

Marianna Gómez Strengé Tórgo is a Brazilian translator and interpreter. She holds a degree in English-Portuguese Translation from UFRGS (2021) and is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Literary Studies at the same university. Marianna has worked as a freelancer and full-time translator across government, corporate, and academic sectors, with clients including Amazon, Dell, TikTok, and Google. Besides, Marianna is an independent multimedia artist, developing creative writing, photography, and design projects.

Nickolas Barba Izurieta was born and raised in Quito, Ecuador, before immigrating to the United States in 2013. He earned his undergraduate degree from UC Davis and later worked as a high school teacher in the San Fernando Valley as a member of Teach for America. He is now a graduate student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UCLA. His research focuses on Ecuadorian science fiction, particularly narratives that explore artificial intelligence, utopian and dystopian imaginaries, and automation. He currently serves as editor-in-chief of *Párrafo*, the department's literary magazine.

Raquel Zandomeneghi is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her research focuses on introspective narratives centered on patriarchal rural societies and their engagement with the tragic in Brazilian literature.

Rebecca Benitez is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UCLA. She earned both her M.A. in Spanish Linguistics and her B.A. in Philosophy & Spanish from the University of Houston. Her research focuses on experimental phonetics, with a specific interest in third-language acquisition of Portuguese vowels in multilingual speakers. Other interests include heritage speakers of Spanish and regional differences of Brazilian Portuguese sounds.

Saraí Jaramillo is a Ph.D. student in Hispanic Languages and Literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, where she has also completed a concentration in Gender Studies and Experimental Critical Theory. She received her B.A. in Comparative Literature from Brown University. Her interests include queer maternity, pregnancy, and embodiment in Latin American and Latinx literature. She is also interested in translation theory and practice and has published several translations of Spanish Golden Age plays in collaboration with the UCLA Working Group in Comedia.

Xana Furtado is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UCLA. She earned both her M.A. in Luso-Brazilian Literature and her B.A. in Portuguese from Brigham Young University. Her research centers on nineteenth-century Brazilian literature, with a focus on archival work related to female writers from northeastern Brazil and Indigenous representation in the works of Maria Firmina dos Reis.

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Biographical notes in alphabetical order

Ana Drawin holds a BA in Languages and Literature and an MA in Literary Studies from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Brazil. She is currently a PhD candidate in General and Comparative Literature at the University of Zurich (UZH), Switzerland. Her research lies at the intersection of literature, visual arts, and contemporary aesthetic theory, with a particular emphasis on questions of materiality, writing, and the relationship between art and nature. Her doctoral research explores these questions through the work of contemporary Swiss artist Alain Huck, examining the material and conceptual operations through which writing, images, and artistic media intersect. Her broader research interests include contemporary art and literature, theories of materiality, aesthetics, and the dialogue between literary studies, art history, philosophy, and contemporary critical theory.

Bianca Mayer is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), as well as the author of *Variações sobre a saudade: a não originalidade e a poesia pós-tudo de Patrícia Lino* (2025). She earned her degree in Portuguese and English at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), where she also completed a master's degree in Literary Theory, Criticism, and Comparativism. Her research centers on Brazilian and Portuguese poetry and the Baroque as a trans-historical phenomenon, with particular interest in the concepts of originality and copying across literature and the visual arts of the Lusophone world.

Carlos André Cordeiro de Oliveira is an Associate Professor at the Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Paraíba (IFPB), Brazil. He holds a PhD in Literary Theory from the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE), Brazil, where he is currently completing postdoctoral research in Literary Studies. He coordinates the research group "Global South Comparative Literature and Literary Theory" (IFPB/CNPq). His current academic interests center on Comparative Literature, Global South studies, and Digital Humanities.

Isabel Ibáñez de la Calle is a writer and candidate for a doctoral degree in the Department of Spanish and Languages at the University of Texas in Austin. Author of the novel *Los ojos de mi padre* (Suburbano editores, 2023), awarded with the Roy Crane Award. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing from New York University and worked for a decade as a cultural journalist for publications such as Gatopardo, Esquire, and El Universal in Mexico City.

Lei Edmonds is a passionate professional and intellectual of the heart contributing to the advancement and recognition of Afro-diasporic art and culture. Her life's work is to map presences and absences spatiotemporally in the Americas and to bring them into critical view. She holds degrees in Art History and Spanish from Spelman College, Nonprofit Management from Columbia University, and Latin American Studies from New York University.

Rachel Williams is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Johns Hopkins University. Her dissertation investigates how the trope of *desengaño* excavates racial and sexual anxieties in various pieces of Golden Age literature. Prior to beginning her doctorate, she received a B.A. at Wesleyan University, where her undergraduate thesis explored male lovesickness in the Spanish Golden Age. She served as a Curatorial Fellow at the Stern Center for the History of the Book in the Renaissance from 2024-2025, where she studied how the history of the book intersected with the Spanish imperial project.