

Notes on Contributors

Gemino H. Abad, Ph.D. is University Professor Emeritus at the Department of English and Comparative Literature (DECL), College of Arts and Letters (CAL), University of the Philippines Diliman. He graduated with a degree in English from UP in 1964 and a Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Chicago in 1970. Abad is a prolific poet, a fiction writer, and a literary scholar. He edited a landmark tetralogy of anthologies, which charted the development of Filipino poetry "from English" which include *Man of Earth* (1989, co-edited with Edna Zapanta Manlapaz), *A Native Clearing* (1993), *A Habit of Shores: Filipino Poetry and Verse from English, '60s to the '90s* (1999), and *Our Scene So Fair*. His other books include *Fugitive Emphasis, In Another Light, The Space Between, Poems and Parables, State of Play*, and *In Ordinary Time: Poems, Parables, Poetics*. The translation into Italian of this latter book by the Albanian poet Gezim Hajdari won for Abad the coveted Premio Feronia in 2009. Equally invaluable are his latest Philippine literary history and criticism books — *Upon Our Own Ground* (UP Press, 2008); and *Underground Spirit: Filipino Short Stories in English 1973-1989* (UP Press, 2010); *Hoard of Thunder: Philippine Short Stories in English 1990 to 2008, Volume I 1990 to 2000* (UP Press, 2012); and *Hoard of Thunder: Philippine Short Stories in English 1990 to 2008, Volume II 2001 to 2008* (UP Press, 2012) . At present, Dr. Abad holds the rank University Professor Emeritus at the University of the Philippines, the highest academic rank awarded by the University to an exemplary faculty member.

Naomi R. Cammayo is currently finishing her urban poems for her MA: Creative Writing degree at DECL, CAL, UP Diliman while working as a web production editor for *Financial Times*, one of the world's leading business news and information organizations. Her work has been published in several literary folios of the now defunct *UP Quill*. She was a book buyer of children's & young adult, arts & architecture, lifestyle, poetry, and graphic novel titles for Powerbooks Specialty Bookstore. She has also dabbled in educational and technical writing for corporations. She mainly

derives inspiration from conceptual and language poetry, transgressive and symbolist art, gender studies, mass media studies, and communication theory.

Charmaine Carreon completed a Master of Arts degree in Creative Writing (Poetry) at DECL, CAL, UP Diliman in 2012. She received second prize in the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Award for Literature for her poetry collection, "The Yonic Lover" and a second prize in the Nick Joaquin Literary Awards for her short fiction, "Birds". She has been a panelist on lesbian writing in the 2012 Taboan Philippine Writers Festival, and a fellow in a number of regional and national writing workshops including the Iyas Creative Writing Workshop and The Silliman National Writers Workshop. Her works have appeared in various publications and anthologies such as *Quarterly Literary Review of Singapore*, *The Philippines Free Press*, *Philippine Graphic*, *The Cebu We Know*, and *Babayeng Sugid*. She has also authored a non-fiction book commissioned by the Provincial Government of Cebu. Currently, she teaches writing and literature at the University of the Philippines - Cebu.

Sarah G. Crespo is an instructor at the Department of English and Comparative Literature, UP Diliman. She used to teach at De La Salle University - Manila as an English and Speech Communication Lecturer. Her shorts stories have been published by several literary folios and *Manila Times*. She is currently finishing her M.A. in Comparative Literature at UP Diliman.

U Z. Eliserio is Assistant Professor at the Department of Filipino and Philippine Literature (DFPL), College of Arts and Letters (CAL), University of the Philippines - Diliman. His works have been published in *Diliman Review*, *Philippine Humanities Review*, *Daluyan*, *Pinoy Weekly*, *Philippines Free Press*, *Philippines Graphic*, *Sunday Times Magazine*, *Mga Kuwentong Paspasan*, *A Different Voice*, *Tomas*, *Dapitan*, *Ang Aklat Likhaan ng Dula 1998-2003*, *Dagta*, *UPLB Perspective*, *Philippine Collegian*, *Mondo Marcos*, *Ladga* and *Kathang-Isip*. He is the author of *Sa mga Suso ng Liwanag*, a detective novel.

J. Neil C. Garcia, Ph.D. is a Full Professor who teaches creative writing and comparative literature at DECL, CAL, UP Diliman. He enjoys the rank of Artist II in the Artistic Productivity System. He is a Fellow for Poetry at the Institute of Creative Writing. He is the author of numerous poetry collections and works in literary and cultural criticism, including *Our Lady of the Carnival* (1996), *The Sorrows of Water* (2000), *Kaluluwa* (2001), *Slip/pages: Essays in Philippine Gay Criticism* (1998), *Performing the Self: Occasional Prose* (2003), *The Garden of Wordlessness* (2005), *Misterios and Other Poems* (2005), *Postcolonialism and Filipino Poetics: Essays and Critiques* (2003), and the monograph *At Home in Unhomeliness: Philippine Postcolonial Poetry in English* (2008), whose accompanying anthology he edited for the Philippine PEN. In 2009, Hong Kong University Press published its own international edition of his *Philippine Gay Culture* (1996). Between 1994 and 2006, he coedited the famous *Ladlad* series of Philippine gay writing. He is currently working on a full-length book, a postcolonial survey and analysis of Philippine poetry in English, partial research for which he carried out in the United States in the spring of 2008, as a Fulbright senior research fellow. His most recent book, published earlier this year, is *Aura: the Gay Theme in Philippine Fiction in English*. This anthology gathers together Filipino anglophone stories and novel excerpts about the male homosexual character, by nationally acclaimed writers like Jose Garcia Villa, NVM Gonzalez, Edith Tiempo, and Ninotchka Rosca. He is also currently at work on "Likha," his seventh poetry book, which will be a sequence of lyrics about the generative power of mourning and fallible affection.

Vivien V. Labastilla has a degree in Mass Communication, major in Journalism with a best thesis award from the University of the Philippines in Diliman. She has units in master's in Philosophy from the University of Sto. Tomas. She also earned units in master's in Journalism and Development Economics, both from the University of the Philippines, Diliman.

She has worked as a reporter for major newspapers, corporate communications staff member, PR practitioner, media consultant, case writer, and web editor for private institutions and

speechwriter for the Department of Budget and Management in Malacañang.

She is currently writing her creative non-fiction essays for her MA: Creative Writing program at DECL, CAL, UP Diliman. She resides in Mandaluyong City with her husband and son.

Maricris D. Martin graduated from the University of the Philippines Baguio in 2006 with a degree in Language and Literature and was a member of the faculty of the Department of Arts and Communication at the University of the Philippines Manila from 2007 to 2011. While teaching, she was also freelancing as a travel writer and editor and in 2011, she became a full-fledged editor and writer of MEGA Magazines' TRAVEL Magazine. She is currently a graduate student of Comparative Literature as well as an Instructor at the Department of English and Comparative Literature, CAL, UP Diliman.

Priscelina Patajo-Legasto, Ph.D. is Full Professor XII at the Department of English and Comparative Literature, College of Arts and Letters, UP Diliman, where she teaches literary, cultural, feminist theory and criticism; Philippine theater history; and postcolonial studies. Patajo-Legasto was Coordinator of the Comparative Literature Program at the DECL. She is currently the Editor of the *Diliman Review*, the journal jointly published by the College of Arts and Letters, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, and College of Science.

She has also served the University as Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs (2002-2005), Director of the UP System Information Office (2002-2005), Director of the UP Office of Alumni Relations (2003-2005), the first Dean of the joint Faculty of Social Science & Humanities and Faculty of Science & Technology of the UP Open University (1999-2002), and Coordinator of the CAL Graduate Studies Office and Ph.D. Philippine Studies - CAL (1989-1999).

Her essays and articles have appeared in various books, *Lessons* (2004); *The Philippine Social Sciences in the Life of the Nation* (2001);

The Likhaan Book of Philippine Criticism (2000); *Cultures & Texts* (1995); *Women Reading: Feminist Perspectives on Philippine Literary Texts* (1992); and *Sarilaya: Women in the Arts and Media* (1990), as well as local and foreign journals, *Philippine Humanities Review* (1995); *Rima: Review of Malaysian and Indonesian Affairs* (1994); *Tenggara: Journal of Southeast Asian Literature* (1994); and *Mithi* (1990). She edited the *Filipiniana Reader: A Companion Anthology of Filipiniana Online*, which won the National Book Award given by the Manila Critics Circle. She also co-edited *Philippine Postcolonial Studies: Essays in Language and Literature, Prism of Literature, and Sarswelang Pangasinan* (1996), which earned for her the UPD Gawad Tsanselor for Pinakamahusay na Aklat, and another National Book Award. Her essay "Usapang Babae: Contemporary Feminist Theater" won the UPD Best Published Research for 1994.

She was Fulbright Visiting Professor at Cornell University and University of California-Berkeley (1988-1989) and Fulbright Senior Scholar at University of California-Los Angeles (2005). She received the Metrobank Outstanding Teacher Award (1998) and Metrobank Award for Continuing Excellence and Services (ACES) in 2009). She has also held the UP Foundation and Sigma Delta Phi Professorial Chair for the Humanities (1991-1993); Professorial (1996-1997); and Concepcion Dadufalza Chair (2008); and was awarded the Filonila M. Tupas Professorial Chair for her work on "Historiographic Metatheater: The Discourses of Nation, Class, Ethnicity & Gender in Philippine Theater Practices, 1986-2006."

The newest book that Patajo-Legasto edited and introduced is *Philippine Postcolonial Studies: Have We Gone Beyond St. Louis?*, published by the UP Press in 2008 as part of its 100 books for the UP System's Centennial Celebration. Her keynote paper during the National Sarswela Conference in 2009 titled "Reading Nation in Philippine 20th Century Zarzuelas for the 21st Century" has been published by the *Philippine Humanities Review* (2009-2010).

Ma. Elena L. Paulma, Ph.D. received her PhD in Creative Writing in 2012 from the Department of English and Comparative

Literature, CAL, UP Diliman where she also earned her undergraduate and masters degrees in English.

She won the first prize, Short Story category of the 2010 Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature. She writes fiction, creative nonfiction, and critical essays which have been published in university journals such as the *UP Likhaan Journal of Contemporary Literature* and the *Kinaadman Journal*. Currently, she is the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and an Assistant Professor at the English Department of Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City.

Waldo "Doy" Petralba is an M.A. Creative Writing student at the University of the Philippines, Diliman. He has a degree in Marketing Management from De La Salle University. He has written travel essays for the *Mindanao Current*. He was a fellow at the 4th U.S.T. - J. Elizalde Navarro National Workshop on Arts Criticism in 2012 and a panelist at the International Conference on Postcolonial Praxis, UP – Diliman in 2010. He has worked as a barista, an account executive, and a poultry grower.

E. San Juan, Jr., Ph.D. is a known Filipino American literary academic, mentor, cultural reviewer, civic intellectual, activist, writer, essayist, video/film maker, editor, and poet whose works are related to the Filipino Diaspora. As an author of books on race and cultural studies, he is a "major influence on the academic world". He was the director of the Philippines Cultural Studies Center in Storrs, Connecticut in the United States. In 1999, San Juan, Jr. received the Centennial Award for Achievement in Literature from the Cultural Center of the Philippines because of his contributions to Filipino and Filipino American Studies. He is a professor of the English language, Comparative Literature, Ethnic Studies, American Studies and Cultural Studies in the United States, Europe, the Philippines, and Taiwan. Other universities in the United States where he taught include the University of California at Davis, the University of Connecticut at Storrs, and the Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. In the Philippines, he taught in the University of the Philippines in 2008, and at the Ateneo de Manila. Other universities include the Bowling

Green State University, Wesleyan University, the Universities of Leuven and Antwerp in Belgium, and the National Tsing Hua University in the Republic of China (Taiwan). San Juan, Jr. was a professor and the chairman of the Department of Comparative American Cultures in Washington State University. He was the executive director of the Working Papers Series when he published essays on Cultural Studies and Ethnic Studies. He worked with Angela Davis, an African American feminist. In 2009, he became a fellow at the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research of Harvard University. He was also a Fulbright lecturer, fellow, and professor at the Center for the Humanities of Wesleyan University in Connecticut, the Institute for the Advanced Study of the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh, and at the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society in Ohio. In 2007, San Juan, Jr. authored a book of poems, the *Balikbayang Mahal: Passages of Exile*. His other works are *Racism and Cultural Studies*, *Working through the Contradictions*, *In the Wake of Terror*, *US Imperialism and Revolution in the Philippines*, *Beyond Postcolonial Theory* (1995), and *Hegemony and Strategies of Transgression* (1998). http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E._San_Juan,_Jr.

Marie Aubrey Villaceran is an Assistant Professor at the Department of English and Comparative Literature at the University of the Philippines. She is a candidate of Ph.D. in Sociology at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia.

NOTES ON COVER ARTISTS

AMANDA P. LEGASTO

MARC CAPONES, DR 2012

Marc Capones was a dreamer. When he was younger, he wanted to be an astronaut. So he drew and painted stars, planets, spacesuits, spaceships, and aliens hopefully wishing and waiting for the dream to come true. So he waited. And waited. And waited.

His eureka moment occurred when he finally realized that his true calling was in the Visual Arts. Dreams of space adventures set aside and armed with reality, he studied and finished with a Certificate in Studio Arts at the UP College of Fine Arts, majoring in Painting. His plans for the future include finishing his BFA degree. But for now, he is fervently negotiating with NASA about his first trip to the moon.

Takbo-hubo is an interpretation of the Alpha Pi Omega's yearly Oblation Run at the UP Diliman campus.

MHARA CRUZ, DR 2009

A graduate of the UP Diliman College of Fine Arts, Mhara Cruz currently works as a social network gaming specialist. Despite her demandingly odd working schedule, she still manages to paint on her days off. When she isn't painting she can be seen sniffing a newly purchased sketchpad or obsessively absorbing the smell of a stack of paper freshly excreted by a photocopy machine.

Dwende sa Main Lib is an interpretation of the rumor that has been told for generations by UP students about the playful *dwendes* that inhabit the building. Whenever an object, a book or any resource material is found to be missing, it is believed that a *dwende* has taken a fancy to it and has kept it for himself.

As of today, there have been no reports about any missing persons.

RICHARD MARK "DON" SOLIVEN, DR 2011

Don Soliven was a Doodler. As a kid he would draw until he dropped. He doodled during the day, and at night in his dreams while he slept. He drew on his notebook, on the walls of his room, on his clothes, and pretty soon on his skin. Nowadays, he is a tattoo artist sharing his passion for doodling and infecting others with the love for getting inked.

Si Zorro: Pinoy Style is a take on the popular UP “tambay” fondly named Zorro.

TANYA VILLANUEVA, DR 2010

Tanya Villanueva is forever taking up BFA Painting at the UP College of Fine Arts, Diliman. She will graduate as soon as it is possible but for now she is busy fulfilling the commitments of a full time art practitioner hence spending most of her time planning stuff.

Everyday, she attempts to bake or write... does not mind failing... loves to fall down the internet hole on a daily basis... at night.

BasicFoodGroups is about four years of eating a balance meal of fishballs, bananaque, taho, fruit shake, tapsi, ice cream and beer in UP. On her frequent visits to UP, she samples the bountiful food choices around the campus while admiring all the pretty joggers, and the occasional celebrity hunk sweating away against the backdrop of an ochre UP sunset.

AMANDA P. LEGASTO, Cover Designer for DR 2009-2012

UP Diliman-College of Fine Arts, magna cum laude.

Painter.

Multimedia Visual Artist.

UPS Information Technology Development Center supervising creatives and graphic design officer

Hoarder of gallery show invites but rarely goes to any of them.

Tattoo collector and artist in-training.

Chocolate lover and coffee drinker.

Keeper of toys and scourge of the ants.

Mothersaurus to Gabrielle “Bunnysaurus-rex”.