



**NOTES ON THE
CONTRIBUTORS**

JOHN PATRICK ALLANEGUI has received two national writing fellowships in creative nonfiction. His works have appeared in publications across the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and the United States. His academic background in the social sciences and interest in creative writing have put him across a number of work, ranging from journalism to policy development and speechwriting in government.

DAVIDSON LADRINGAN BANQUIL is a public school teacher in Sto. Tomas National High School, Subic, Zambales. He graduated from President Ramon Magsaysay State University (formerly Ramon Magsaysay Technological University), San Marcelino, Zambales.

He has published two pieces of flash fiction in a national magazine, “Tsinelas” and “Tambol.” His short story “Tabon” is included in the *Kataga 2* literary anthology. He has self-published a poetry collection titled *Ngiyaw*. A self-taught illustrator, painter, writer, and musician promoting environmental and cultural awareness, he has created and produced zines containing visual art / illustrations and literary works.

Lumaki sa maingay at makulay ng mga eskinita ng Tundo si ERIC JHON BITUIN, at mula rito ay nakabuo siya ng mga danas na kalimitan niyang musa sa pagsusulat. Kasalukuyan siyang nasa ikalawang taon ng kolehiyo sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas–Diliman at kumukuha ng kursong Malikhaing Pagsulat sa Filipino.

Si EMMANUEL JAYSON V. BOLATA ay nagtuturo ng kasaysayan sa Departamento ng Kasaysayan sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas–(UP) Diliman at kumukuha ng masterado sa parehong institusyon. Inilathala noong 2020 ng Sentro ng Wikang Filipino, UP Diliman, ang kaniyang aklat na *Hindi Lang Basta Bata: Mga Pananaliksik at Panunuri sa Kasaysayan at Panitikang Pambata*.

NIKKI MANZANO CABUGAO writes poems, essays, and short stories in English, Filipino, or a mix of both. Her work has also appeared in 聲韻詩刊 *Voice & Verse Poetry Magazine*, in *Native Skin*, and in small zine publications. You can find her on Twitter @NManzanoCabugao.

F. JORDAN CARNICE is a creative writing graduate at Silliman University and an IT graduate at STI College. He was a communications specialist for a food company, a features contributor for a community paper, and an HR initiatives associate for a utilities company and is currently an information systems analyst for a government agency. His works have appeared in *Sands & Coral*, *Ani*, *Novice*, *Santelmo*, *Philippines Graphic Reader*, *Anomaly*, *Quarterly Literary Review Singapore*, *Voice & Verse Poetry Magazine*, *Dx Machina: Philippine Literature in the Time of COVID-19*, and the forthcoming *Anthology of Southeast Asian Eco-Writing* through the University of Hawai'i Press's *Mānoa Journal*. He has received fellowships from writing workshops in Dumaguete, Iligan, and Bacolod, and he has served as a panelist twice in the Taboan Writers Festival.

In 2020, he won the poetry grand prize in the 2020 Cebu Climate Emergency Literature and Arts Competition for his poem "There Is Too Much Light in This World." He is the author of two poetry chapbooks: *Weights & Cushions* (2018) and *How to Make an Accident* (2019). He was recently hailed as Poet of the Year in the Nick Joaquin Literary Awards 2023. Also a visual artist currently based in Bohol, he can be found online through Instagram (@thebullfrog__ and @art.bullfrog) and Twitter (@thebullfrog_).

ANDREW BONIFACIO L. CLETE finished his MFA in Creative Writing at De La Salle University Manila. He is a fellow of the 13th Ateneo National Writers Workshop for drama, 9th Palihang Rogelio Sicat for fiction, 12th Virgin LabFest Fellowship Writing Program, 20th UST National Writers Workshop for drama, and the Henry Lee Irwin SJ Chair Creative Writing Workshop for theater adaptation. He received the Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing Mini-Grant in 2018 and 2021. He is also a member of Writer's Bloc.

KRISTIAN SENDON CORDERO is a poet, translator, and filmmaker based in the Bicol Region. He directs the Ateneo de Naga University Press and runs an independent bookshop called Savage Mind. He has recently been reappointed as artist-in-residence in the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies in South Africa.

RAYJI DE GUIA is a fictionist, poet, and illustrator. Her work can be found in *Asian Cha*, *The Deadlands*, *harana poetry*, *Journal of English*

Studies and Comparative Literature, *The Pinch*, and elsewhere. She received recognition from the Gémino H. Abad Awards for Poetry and for Literary Criticism and the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature. She was a writer resident at Sangam House in 2019, Rimbun Dahan in 2022, and Chennai Mathematical Institute in 2023 with support from Asia-Europe Foundation and Cambodian Living Arts, Para Site, artlink, and Südkulturfonds. In 2021, she was a fellow for fiction in the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference.

Currently, she is an instructor at the University of the Philippines–Diliman.

CHRISTA I. DE LA CRUZ, born and raised in Parañaque City and based in Mandaluyong, is currently the associate editor of SPOT.ph and a graduate student of MFA Creative Writing at De La Salle University–Manila. She completed a Certificate in Creative Writing in Filipino from the University of the Philippines–Diliman in 2017 and a Bachelor of Arts Major in Communication Arts from the Philippine Women's University in 2021. Her poems have appeared in *Asymptote Journal*, *LILA* (Librong Lira, vols. 1 and 2), *Malate Literary Folio*, and *Under the Storm: An Anthology of Contemporary Philippine Poetry*. Her poetry collection “*Mula sa Silong*” won first prize at the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature in 2015.

ABNER DORMIENDO is currently a lecturer at Far Eastern University, and has taken his MFA in Creative Writing at De La Salle University. He currently serves as the director of Palihang LIRA, and his works have appeared in *Likhaan*, *High Chair*, and *Cha*, among other publications.

ERICKA FLORES, nafound her love for writing ignited as she delved into the world of crafting poetry, plays, and short stories. Currently, she is a sophomore at the University of the Philippines–Diliman, pursuing a degree in creative writing in Filipino.

AUSTERE REX GAMAO is from Sagay City, Negros Occidental. His works have appeared in *Cordite Poetry Review*, *tractions: experiments in art writing*, *Queer Southeast Asia: A Literary Journal of Transgressive Art*, *Underblong*, *TLDTD*, and *Ilahas*. He was a fellow for the 14th Ateneo

National Writers Workshop. He obtained an MFA in Creative Writing from De La Salle University.

J. NEIL C. GARCIA teaches creative writing and comparative literature at the University of the Philippines–(UP) Diliman, where he serves as a fellow for poetry in the Likhaan: UP Institute of Creative Writing. He is the author of numerous poetry collections and works in literary and cultural criticism. Between 1994 and 2014, he coedited the famous Ladlad series of Philippine gay writing. Other important anthologies that he edited are *Aura: The Gay Theme in Philippine Fiction in English*, published in 2012; *Bright Sign, Bright Age: Critical Essays in Philippines Studies*, 2017; *Busilak: New LGBTQ Poetry from the Philippines*; and *Lamyos: New LGBTQ Fiction from the Philippines*. He was the lead academic investigator for the Philippines of Project GlobalGRACE: Global Gender and Cultures of Equality, a worldwide research and arts consortium sponsored by the Research Councils of the United Kingdom and Goldsmiths, University of London, which concluded its operations in December 2021. For its final activity, he directed the first National Teacher Training Seminar on Philippine Queer Literature, which utilized the digital archives of literary and artistic works that had come out of the GlobalGRACE residencies and workshops. *The Burden of the Oral & Other Reviews: Philippine Film & Theater, 2011–2019* is a forthcoming title of the Philippine Writers Series of the Likhaan. He is currently at work on three other manuscripts, including *Kumustahan: Creative Writing in the Philippines Today* and *Our Literate Orality: Publishing, Readership, and Writing in the Philippines*.

JULIA HAO is an undergraduate from Ateneo de Manila University, majoring in creative writing with a track in nonfiction. Her literary works and art have been published by Gantala Press, *HEIGHTS Ateneo*, *Novice Magazine PH*, and Perceptions International, including her poem “S,” which received the Platinum Award for Perception International’s Writing, Art, and Music Contest. You can find more glimpses of her other writings on Instagram (@juliaavhao).

NH LEGASPI is an editorial worker born and based in Cagayan de Oro City. She holds a graduate degree in creative writing from the University of the Philippines Diliman. Her short fiction pieces have

appeared in the *Bulawan Literary Journal of Northern Mindanao* (2018, 2022) and *Tinubdan: New Voices from Northern Mindanao* (XU Press, 2021). In 2017, she received an F. Sionil José Young Writers Award for her short story “Housewarming.” In 2022, she was a participant at the third Saling Panitik: Bienvenido Lumbera Seminar-Workshop on Translation. She currently leads the publishing arm of Nagkahiusang Magsusulat sa Cagayan de Oro (NAGMAC).

COCOY LUMBAO JR. is a writer, curator, and visual artist based in Manila, Philippines. His writings have appeared in the form of essays through several publications like art magazines, artist’s monographs, exhibition notes, and a book on contemporary Filipino artists. He was a writing fellow for the 18th Ateneo National Writer’s Workshop and is currently working on a collection of short stories. He teaches art history at the University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts under the Department of Art Theory.

PRISCILLA SUPNET MACANSANTOS writes poetry, nonfiction, and fiction in English, Filipino, and Iluko, her native language. She has won prizes for her poetry from *Home Life* and *Focus* magazines and was awarded for her essay “Departures” in the 1998 Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature. She was head of the NCCA (National Commission for Culture and the Arts) Committee on Literary Arts from 2011 to December 2013 and was chancellor of the University of the Philippines–(UP) Baguio until April 2012. She has attended creative writing workshops held by the University of the Philippines and Silliman University in Dumaguete City. She has also served in the teaching panel of the Cordillera Creative Writers’ Workshop, the Western Mindanao Writers’ Workshop, and Lamiraw. Her collection of essays titled *Departures* was published by the UP Press in 2021. *Departures* won the National Book Award for Nonfiction in English in May 2023 (for books published in 2020 and 2021). She has served in the Editorial Board of the *Cordillera Review*, UP Baguio’s research journal, and edited two anthologies published by NCCA: *Himaymay* (NCCA, 2022) and *Agwat Hilom 2* (NCCA, 2023). She holds a PhD in mathematics.

FRANCISCO MONTESEÑA was a private school instructor and is a published writer, with a master’s degree in management. He has

won awards for his works but wants to be remembered as a good son nonetheless.

JHIO JAN A. NAVARRO hails from Bago City in Negros Occidental. His poems in English, Filipino, and Hiligaynon have appeared in various magazines, journals, and anthologies. Recently, translations of his poems in Hiligaynon have appeared in *Modern Poetry in Translation* and *Asymptote*. He was fellow for poetry in the Palihang Rogelio Sicat (Filipino), San Agustin Writer's Workshop (English), and Iyas National Writers' Workshop (Hiligaynon). He is currently a psychology instructor at the University of the Philippines–Visayas.

ADRIAN MEDINA PREGONIR is a writer from South Cotabato and one of the activist-writers behind the resurgence of Hiligaynon and Kinaray-a literature in Mindanao. He has received honors and awards in the field of literature for his poetry and essays, including the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature, Gawad Rene O. Villanueva para sa Personal na Sanaysay, Gawad Bienvenido Lumbera for Hiligaynon Poetry, Padya Dungug Kinaray-a for Poetry, and Bantugan sa Panulatan Kinaray-a Prize. His works have been featured in various journals and anthologies, including *Ani*, *Dx Machina*, *TLDTD*, *17 Halin sa Iraya*, *Liwayway*, *Luna Journal*, and *SeaGlass Literary*, *Dagmay*, among others.

Si JAY JOMAR F. QUINTOS ay guro ng panitikan at araling Pilipino sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas. Kasalukuyan niyang tinatapos ang kanyang doktorado sa indigenous studies sa University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

DOMINIC SY's stories have appeared in *The Transpacific Literary Project*, *The Literary Apprentice*, *transit: an online journal*, and *Destination: SEA 2050 A.D.*. His first book of fiction, *A Natural History of Empire*, won the Kritika Kultura / Ateneo de Manila University Press First Book Prize and was a finalist for the Philippine National Book Award and for the Madrigal Gonzalez Best First Book Award.

Si JOSE MONFRED C. SY ay katuwang na propesor ng araling Pilipino sa Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas, Unibersidad ng Pilipinas Diliman. Nailathala ang ilan sa kaniyang mga

pag-aaral hinggil sa panitikang pambata sa *Plants in Children's and Young Adult Literature* (Routledge, 2021), *Martial Law@50: Mga Alaala at Kasaysayan ng Pagbabalikwas* (IBON Foundation, 2022), at *Children's Literature in Place* (Routledge, 2023). Nagsusulat at nagsasalin din siya ng mga kuwentong pambata. Nagwagi ang kaniyang piktyurbuk na *Kakatok-katok sa Bahay ni Benok* (CANVAS, 2021) sa 29th Romeo Forbes Story Writing Competition at National Children's Book Awards 2022. Kasapi rin siya ng Congress of Teachers/Educators for Nationalism and Democracy (CONTEND) at Supling Sining, Inc.

RONALDO SOLEDAD VIVO JR. is a Filipino novelist and graphic artist. He is the author of the novels *Ang Kapangyarihang Higit sa Ating Lahat* and *Ang Bangin sa Ilalim ng Ating mga Paa*. He has been recognized for his contributions to Philippine literature: As finalist for the Madrigal Gonzalez Best First Book Award and recipient of both the Gawad Bienvenido Lumbera and the Premyong LIRA. He is the founder of UngazPress, a collective of writers from the town of Pateros. He is also an award-winning filmmaker whose short films have been screened at festivals and cinemas in the Philippines and overseas. As a musician, he runs Sound Carpentry Recordings, which releases music on cassette, CD, and vinyl for worldwide distribution.



ABOUT THE EDITORS

Issue Editor

RAMON GUILLERMO is director of the Center for International Studies (CIS), University of the Philippines–Diliman. He was one of the first to engage with the emerging discipline of digital humanities in the Philippines and has published several studies as well as led research projects in the field. His novel *Ang Makina ni Mang Turing* (2013) is an example of his effort to combine computational approaches with his creative literary work. He has a special interest in the social and cultural impact of digital technology on the Global South.

Associate Editors

CHARLSON ONG has published four collections of short fiction—*Men of the East and Other Stories*, *Woman of Amkaw and Other Stories*, *Conversion and Other Fictions*, and *Of That Other Country We Now Speak and Other Stories*—as well as four novels: *An Embarrassment of Riches*; *Banyaga: A Song of War*; *Blue Angel, White Shadow*; and *White Lady, Black Christ*.

He has won several awards for his fiction, including the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards, the Asiaweek Magazine short story prize, the Philippines Free Press Award, the Philippines Graphic Award, the Centennial Literary Prize, the Philippine National Book Award, the Gawad Balagtas (lifetime achievement award from the Writers' Union of the Philippines), the Jose Rizal Award (from the Chinese Filipino community), and the Southeast Asia (SEA) Write Award from the Thai royalty.

He also won a Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences (FAMAS) award for Best Adapted Screenplay for *Tanabata's Wife* (a film based on Sinai Hamada's short story), which he wrote and codirected.

He teaches creative writing at the University of the Philippines and is an associate of the Likhaan: UP Institute of Creative Writing. He is a board member of the Philippine chapter of the International PEN (Poets, Essayists, Novelists).

Propesor ng malikhaing pagsulat at panitikan si EUGENE Y. EVASCO sa Kolehiyo ng Arte at Literatura, Unibersidad ng Pilipinas–Diliman. Naging research fellow siya sa International Youth Library sa Munich, Germany. Nagwagi siya bilang 2000 Makata ng Taon at 2020 Mananaysay ng Taon mula sa Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino. Ang kanyang *Ang Aklatang Pusa* ay napabilang sa White Ravens List noong 2019. Siya ay kabilang sa Hall of Fame ng Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for

Literature at ginawaran ng Dangal ng Panitikan 2021 ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino. Kasalukuyan siyang fellow sa Likhaan: UP Institute of Creative Writing. Inilathala ng Scholastic ngayong 2023 ang kanyang picture book na *Pahiyas: Planting Rainbow Seeds*.

Managing Editor

CHRISTIAN JIL R. BENITEZ teaches at the Department of Filipino, Ateneo de Manila University, where he earned his AB-MA in literature. He is currently pursuing his PhD in comparative literature at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. His first book, *Isang Dalumat ng Panahon*, has been published by the Ateneo de Manila University Press.

Copy Editors

NESTOR D. R. DE GUZMAN is senior editor of the University of the Philippines Press. He copyedited several volumes of the second edition of the *Cultural Center of the Philippines Encyclopedia of Philippine Art* (2017). He also indexed (unpublished) the twelve-volume CCP encyclopedia.

MONS STA. CRUZ is a language editor by profession, occasional feature writer, casual film reviewer, aerialist, and slave to three dogs otherwise. Mainly affiliated with the book publishing industry, she has edited for the University of the Philippines Press and Anvil Publishing Inc. Her essays have been published by Women Writing Women Philippines, Gantala Press, and the defunct music website Amplify.ph.

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R. JORDAN P. SANTOS is the managing editor of Anvil Publishing. Formerly one of its art directors, he continues to design noncommercial publications to keep sane.



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