

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Gémino H. Abad is a University Professor emeritus of literature and creative writing, is a poet, fictionist, and literary critic and historian, with various honors and awards. In 2009, he received Italy's Premio Feronia ("Foreign author category") for his poetry, later published as a bi-lingual edn., *Dove le parole non si spezzano* (Roma: Edizioni Ensemble, 2015; a cura di Gëzim Hajdari, traduzio-ne di Andrea Gazzoni). *When Bridges Are Down, Mountains Too Far* (2020) is his eleventh poetry collection, and *Past Mountain Dreaming* (2010), his ninth of critical essays; he has two collections of short stories, *Orion's Belt* (1996) and *A Makeshift Sun* (2001). He is known also for his anthology series of Filipino poetry in English from 1905 to the 1990s: *Man of Earth* (co-ed., Edna Zapanta Manlapaz; 1989), *A Native Clearing* (1993), *A Habit of Shores* (1999), and its 2-vol. sequel, *The Achieve of, the Mastery* (co-ed., Mookie Katigbak-Lacuesta, 2018); and his six-volume anthology of Filipino short stories in English from 1956 to 2008: *Upon Our Own Ground* (2008), *Underground Spirit* (2010), and *Hoard of Thunder* (2012). He obtained his Ph.D. in English at the University of Chicago in 1970, and continues to teach at U.P. where he has served as Secretary of the University, Vice-President for Academic Affairs, and Director of the U.P. Creative Writing Center (now an Institute).

Marren Araña Adan was granted fellowships for writing fiction from UST CCWLS and DLSU-Iyas, writing children's story from Lampara, and writing criticism (urban design and cultural studies) from DLSU-Kritika. His fiction can be read in *Oyayi*, *Katastropiya*, *Vox Populi*, *Philipine Daily Inquirer*, *Balintuna*, *Aksyon*, *Inkwentro*, and *Basag*, essay in *Novice* and *Valenzuela Network*, poetry in *Liwayway*, and criticism in *Gaslight Online* and two issues of *Kult journal*. He co-edited *Abstract Jupiter* and *Ang Pulo*. His collaborative work *Ortigas Excursions* was granted Komura; Creators' grant.

Virgilio S. Almario, isang nangungunang makata, kritiko, editor, tagasalin, guro, at administrador pangkultura. ginawaran ng National Artist for Literature--ang pinakapremyadong parangal ng Republika ng Filipinas--noong 2003. Hinawakan niya ang matataas na posisyon sa pamahalaan bilang Direktor ng Sentro ng Wikang Filipino - UP Diliman, Dekano ng Kolehiyo ng Arte at Literatura sa UP Diliman, Tagapangulo ng Pambansang Komisyon para sa Kultura at Sining (NCCA), at Tagapangulo ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF).

Ma. Ailil B. Alvarez currently serves as Director of the UST Publishing House. She is also an Assistant Professor in the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters-Department of Literature, a Resident Fellow of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies, and a Faculty Researcher at the UST Research Center for Culture, Arts and the Humanities. Her book of critical essays, *Slivers of the Sky: Catholic Literary Readings and Other Essays* (2016), was named a finalist in the 36th National Book Awards for the category Literary Criticism/Literary History in English.

Si **Stefani J. Alvarez** ay nagkamit ng National Book Award mula sa Manila Critics' Circle para sa Best Book of Non-Fiction Prose in Filipino para sa kaniyang unang librong *Ang Autobiografia ng Ibang Lady Gaga* (Visprint, 2015). Kinilala rin sa nasabing parangal para sa Best Book of Short Fiction ang kaniyang nobelang *Kagay-an, At Isang Pag-Ibig Sa Panahon ng All-Out War* (Psicom-Literati, 2018). Nalathala ang ilan sa kaniyang mga akda sa *Liwayway* at iba pang antolohiya gayundin, isinalin sa English, Chinese, at Bahasa para sa *Afterwork Readings* ng *Para Site* – Hong Kong. Tagapangulo siya ng Kataga - Online, isang sangay ng grupong Kataga - Samahan ng Mga Manunulat Sa Pilipinas at Honorary Member ng NAGMAC (Nagkahiusang Magsusulat sa Cagayan de Oro). Naging fellow siya sa iba't ibang creative writing workshops. Isa siyang OFW simula pa noong 2008 at kasalukuyang naninirahan sa Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia.

Mark Anthony Cayanan obtained an MFA from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and is a PhD candidate at the University of Adelaide. They are the author of *Narcissus* (Ateneo, 2011) and *Except you enthrall me* (UP, 2013); their third poetry book, *Unanimal, Counterfeit, Scurrilous*, is forthcoming from Giramondo Publishing in 2021. New work has appeared or is forthcoming in, among others, *Crab Orchard Review*, *The Margins*, *Overland*, *The Spectacle*, and *Lana Turner*. A recipient of fellowships from Civitella Ranieri in Italy and Villa Sarkia in Finland, they teach at the Ateneo de Manila University.

Joselito D. De Los Reyes has a BSE Social Science degree from Philippine Normal University. He obtained his master's and doctorate degrees in Philippine Studies from De La Salle University, where his final research project received an Outstanding Dissertation Award. He is the author of *Paubaya* (UST, 2014), *Troya: 12 Kuwento* (Visprint, 2016), two National Book Award-winning collections of essays about social media: *Istatus Nation* (Visprint, 2014) and *Titser Pangkalawakan* (Visprint, 2015), and numerous literary translations including the timeless novel *Ang Metamorphosis* of Franz Kafka. His latest book, *Finding Teo: Tula/Talambuhay* (UST, 2018), won the 2018 National Book Awards for Nonfiction. He has won several awards and citations from the National Book Development Board, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the Dr. Pio Valenzuela Memorial Awards for Journalism and Literature, and the Dangal ng UST. He is the 2013 Makata ng Taon (Poet of the Year), an award given by the Commission on Filipino Language. He was a recipient of the 2020 Gawad Sulo-PNU Eminent Alumni Awards. He is a regular popular culture opinion contributor for *Abante* and *Rappler*. He is a member of LIRA, UMPIL, Museo Valenzuela Foundation, and Lucban Historical Society.

Rodrigo Dela Peña, Jr. is the author of *Aria and Trumpet Flourish* (Math Paper Press, Singapore) and the chapbooks *Requiem* and *Hymnal* (Vagabond Press, Australia). His poems have been published in *Tomas*, *Likhaan: The Journal of Contemporary Philippine Literature*, *Kritika Kultura*, *Banwa*, and other journals and anthologies. He has received prizes from the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature, Kokoy F. Guevara Poetry Competition, Sixfold, and the British Council. He has been based in Singapore since 2011.

Si **Soc Delos Reyes** ay nagtapos ng BFA Creative Writing mula sa Pamantasang Ateneo de Manila. Naging bahagi siya ng Virgin Labfest Fellowship Program, Palihang LIRA, UST National Writers' Workshop, Henry Lee Irwin SJ Chair Creative Writing Workshop, at Ricky Lee Scriptwriting Workshop. Itinanghal ang kaniyang mga dula sa Ateneo Fine Arts Festival, Virgin Labfest ng CCP, at ng Teatro Kolehiyo ng Miriam. Kasapi siya ng Linangan sa Imahen, Retorika, at Anyo (LIRA) at alumnus ng Tanghalang Ateneo. Kasalukuyan siyang nagtuturo sa High School department ng The Raya School.

Si **Mina Deocareza** ay nagtapos ng kursong BA Creative Writing sa UP Diliman. Kasalukuyang siyang kumukuha ng MA Language and Literacy Education sa UP Open University. Naging writing fellow siya sa UST National Writers' Workshop (2019). Siya ang tumatayong Editorial Director ng Sinaya Cup.

George Deoso finished his bachelor's degree in Literature (magna cum laude) from the University of Santo Tomas, where he is currently taking up his MA in Creative Writing. He is the author of *Revolt and Other Horrors* (UST, 2020). For his works, Deoso received twelve Gawad USTetika awards. His essays, stories, and poems have appeared in *Dapitan*, *Liwayway Magazine*, *The Sunday Times Magazine*, *Philippine Panorama*, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, and *Sustaining the Archipelago: An Anthology of Philippine*, among other publications. He was also a fellow for poetry in the national writers' workshops of UST, De La Salle University, and Silliman University.

U Z. Eliserio is an artist from Marilao. For his works, visit: www.instagram.com/ucliserio.

R. Benedito Ferrão A writer and academic, he is currently an Assistant Professor of English and Asian & Pacific Islander American Studies at The College of William and Mary and a Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Research Fellow at the Xavier Center of Historical Research, Goa. In 2017-18, he curated the art exhibition *Goa/Portugal/Mozambique: The Many Lives of Vamona Navelcar* (Fundação Oriente Gallery, Goa), and edited a book of the same title, published by Fundação Oriente

(2017), to accompany this retrospective of Navelcar's art. His scholarly writing appears in various international journals and edited books, including *Research in African Literatures* and *Places of Nature in Ecologies of Urbanism* (HKU Press 2017); his fiction and creative non-fiction can be read in *Riksha*, *The Good Men Project*, *Mizna*, *The João Roque Literary Journal*, and other publications.

Si Ralph Fonte ay manggagamot at manunulat mulang Kalakhang Maynila. Makailang ulit nang nagwagi sa mga patimpalak ang kaniyang mga tula. Mababasa naman sa mga lathalain gaya ng *Young STAR*, *Cha: An Asian Literary Journal*, *Voice&Verse Poetry Magazine*, at *Cordite Poetry Review* ang iba niyang mga akda. Nakapagtanghal na rin siya bilang makata sa iba't ibang entablado sa Timog-Silangang Asya.

Ralph Semino Galán, poet, literary and cultural critic, translator and editor, is the Assistant Director of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies. He is an Associate Professor of Literature, the Humanities and Creative Writing in the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters and the UST Graduate School. He is the author of the following books: *The Southern Cross and Other Poems* (UBOD New Authors Series, NCCA, 2005), *Discernments: Literary Essays, Cultural Critiques and Book Reviews* (USTP, 2013), *From the Major Arcana* [poems] (USTPH, 2014), and *Sa mga Pagitan ng Buhay at Iba pang Pagtutulay* [translations] (USTPH, 2018).

Eugene Gloria is the author of four books of poems—*Sightseer in This Killing City* (Penguin-Random House, 2019), *My Favorite Warlord* (winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award), *Hoodlum Birds*, and *Drivers at the Short-Time Motel* (a National Poetry Series selection and recipient of the Asian American Literary Award). In 2017, Gloria served as a Senior Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila. He is the John Rabb Emison Professor of Creative and Performing Arts and Professor of English at DePauw University.

Popi Laudico is an Architect by profession, an Iyengar Yoga teacher, and an avid Argentine Tango enthusiast. Her book, *Shaw Boulevard*, was published by UST Publishing House (2018). She was part of the anthologies *Turning Points* (Anvil), which was a finalist at the 31st National Book Awards, *Friend Zones* (Ateneo), and *Be Hands On* (Anvil). Her work has been published in *The Philippine Free Press* and *Inquirer Red Magazine*.

Rolin Cadallo Obina is a Collections Director in one of the leading financial companies in the country. He is a playwright and is an active member of The Writer's Bloc, an organization of playwrights based in Manila. He is an alumnus of Ricky Lee's Scriptwriting Workshop and Rody Vera's Playwriting Class. His plays *Ang Pag-uulyanin ni Olivia Mendoza* (2019) and *Mga Bata sa Selda 43* (2018) were staged at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) through the Virgin Labfest. He has won the Don Carlos Palanca Award for Literature (2018) for his full-length stageplay, *San Nicolas, Ang Sarsuwela*. He is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Creative Writing at the Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas in Manila.

Jenny Ortuoste has written about horseracing many times before. Her piece on the now-defunct Santa Ana Park won a first-place Carlos Palanca Memorial Award for the essay. As an industry insider of nearly 30 years' standing, she wrote a horseracing column, "The Hoarse Whisperer" for the *Manila Standard*, where she simultaneously wrote opinion, "Pop Goes The World.". Five of her fiction stories have garnered Nick Joaquin Literary awards and have been published in *Philippines Graphic* and other publications, while her creative nonfiction has appeared in UST's *Tomás* and the University of the Philippines-Diliman's *Likhaan*. Her short story collection, *Fictionary*, was published by UST (2016). Some pieces from her *Salitang Makulay* series of embroidered works were exhibited at the *Chromatext Rebooted* show at the Philippines' Cultural Center in 2016. Two of her artworks have graced the covers of books – one of a UST author, the other of a Fil-American poet in Northern California. She teaches creative writing at the UST Graduate School, where she is an assistant professor. She obtained BA and PhD Communication degrees from UP-Diliman, and an MBA from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Si **Chuckberry J. Pascual** ay nagtapos sa UP Diliman. Siya ang awtor ng *Kumpisal* (UST), *Pagpasok sa Eksena* (UP Press), *Ang Nawawala* (Visprint), *Ang Tagalabas sa Panitikan* (UST), at *Hindi Ito Romansa* (Sentro ng Wikang Filipino). Nagtuturo siya sa UST at nagsisilbing Resident Fellow ng CCWLS at Faculty Researcher ng RCCAH.

Danton Remoto studied at the Ateneo de Manila University, Rutgers University (Fulbright Scholar), University of Stirling (British Council Scholar), and the University of the Philippines. His poems have won awards from the Cultural Center of the Philippines Literary Awards and the Philippine Literary Arts Council. In 2015, the Writers Union of the Philippines gave him the Gawad Balagtas National Achievement Award for Poetry in English. He has published three books of poetry and seven books of prose. His last book, *Riverrun, A Novel*, was published by Penguin Random House South East Asia to critical acclaim. He has worked as a publishing director, head of communications at the United Nations Development Programme, and a radio-TV talk show host. His body of work is cited in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Literature*, *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetics and Poetry*, and *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Literature*.

Anna Felicia C. Sanchez is the author of the fiction collection *How to Pacify a Distraught Infant: Stories* (UP), which was a finalist in the 2018 National Book Awards, and the chapbook *Frog Leap & Other Stories*, published under the first NCCA Ubod New Authors Series. As Anna Ishikawa, Sanchez wrote the chick lit novellas *Odd Girl Out* and *Glamour Games* (PSICOM), as well as *Where Your Dreams Come True* (Fox Books). A number of her stories have won prizes in the Amelia Lapena-Bonifacio, Free Press, and Palanca literary awards. Her nonfiction pieces about parenting and disability have seen light in the *LIKHAAN: The Journal of Contemporary Philippine Literature* and the anthology *Here and Now: Selected Poetics from the UP National Writers Workshop*. She finished her bachelor's and master's degrees in the Department of English and Comparative Literature of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, where she teaches literature and creative writing. She is currently an associate at the UP Institute of Creative Writing. Her second collection, *Pics or It Didn't Happen and Actual Stories* is due for publication by the UP Press.

Joey A. Tabula studied Medicine and Internal Medicine at the University of the Philippines. He was the editor of *From the Eyes of a Healer: An Anthology of Medical Anecdotes*, co-editor of *BULAWAN: Interviews with Filipino Medical Oncologists*, and co-author in *Painless Evidence-Based Medicine*. He is the vice president and publisher of *Linangan sa Imahen, Retorika*, at Anyo (LIRA), and a board member of *Unyon ng mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas (UMPIL)*. He is currently writing his thesis for MFA in Creative Writing at the De La Salle University.

John Iremil Teodoro He is an Associate Professor and the Graduate Program Coordinator at the Literature Department in the College of Liberal Arts of De La Salle University. He is also the Associate for Regional Literature of La Salle's Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing Center. He holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Literature from DLSU. He is a multi-awarded writer in Kinaray-a, Filipino, Hiligaynon, and English. He is the author of more than 12 books. His collection of short essays *Pagmumuni-muni at Pagtatalak ng Sirenang Nagpapanggap na Prinsesa* won the National Book Award from the Manila Critics Circle and the National Book Development Board. Teodoro is also a scholar of Hiligaynon Literature. He is presently the Secretary General of *Unyon ng mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas (UMPIL or the Writers Union of the Philippines.)*

Ruth Clare G. Torres She has a Master of Arts degree in Literature from the University of Santo Tomas, where she received the St. Antoninus Research Paper Presentation. Her work *Teaching Smaller and Smaller Circles as Detective Fiction* was also recently published in *Reading the Regions: Teaching Philippine Literature from Multi Perspectives* by the National Commission for Culture and The Arts. She teaches Spanish I and II to college students.

Joel H. Vega lives in Arnhem, The Netherlands, where he works as publications editor. His book *Drift* won the 2019 National Book Awards for Poetry in English and the Philippine Literary Arts Council for Best Poetry in English. His poems have appeared in various literary journals in the US, Philippines, The Netherlands, Germany, Austria, France, and the United Kingdom.

Maria Amparo N. Warren is a graduate of the University of the Philippines Diliman's Master of Arts in Creative Writing program. She is an alumna of the 12th IYAS Creative Writing Workshop, the 2nd IWP Alumni Writers' Workshop, the 13th Virgin Labfest Writing Fellowship Program, and the 1st Henry Lee Irwin SJ Chair's Creative Writing Workshop for Playwriting. Her prose has garnered prizes in UP's Amelia Lapeña-Bonifacio Literary Contest and the Nick Joaquin Literary Awards. She is a three-time winner of the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature, for the categories of One-Act Play and Poetry Written for Children. She was published in *Likhaan: The Journal of Contemporary Philippine Literature*, *Voice & Verse Poetry Magazine*, *The Philippines Graphic*, and *Philippine Speculative Fiction Vol. 8*. She teaches creative writing part-time at Ateneo de Manila University.