Message from the Chair

Randal Johnson

The past year has seen a number of important changes in the Department. Most importantly, we are delighted to welcome a new faculty member. Dr. Elizabeth Marchant has joined us as an Assistant Professor of Lusophone Literature. Professor Marchant received her MA from Stanford and her Ph.D from NYU. She comes to us from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

On July 1, 1998, the Department merged administratively with the Department of Linguistics. This means that the two departments now share the services of "MSO" (Management Services Officer) Todd August, Academic Personnel Coordinator Olivia Diaz, and Accounting Coordinator Mary Hoang. Hilda Pimental now coordinates the student academic counseling services offered in both Departments. Because of the merger we have been able to reconstitute the position of undergraduate Student Affairs Officer, a position held by Wendy Alvarado, who also serves as Lower Division Assistant. We have also been able to find a dedicated main office coordinator in Renaissance man Brent James, who studied Philosophy at the University of Florida and International Relations at American University.

We also have a new novelist among us. Jesús Torrecilla has recently published his first novel, Tornados, in Spain, a work for which he won the IV Lengua de Trabajo Narrative Award. Congratulations, Jesús! 😊

Great Futures

The following appeared originally in Great Futures, Volume 2, Number 1 (Fall 1998), the newsletter of Campaign UCLA.

"It's a major shot in the arm for us," says Professor Randal Johnson, chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. He is speaking of not one but three significant gifts totaling some $525,000 which, he says, will "transform the work of the department." They represent the department's first gifts as part of Campaign UCLA.

Ben and Rue Pine, who have been generous supporters and actively involved in the Humanities in the College of Letters and Science for many years, have endowed a travel fund for faculty and graduate students. Lorraine Lydeen, an alumna of the department, has chosen to make a planned gift to support the reading room over the long term, and an anonymous donor has funded the immediate needs of the reading room.

Both UCLA alumni, the Pines are always a warm and welcome presence at their many campus events they attend. "Rue and I travel a lot," says Ben Pine, "and over the years, we have come to have a special love of Spanish culture. So this year, we looked for a way to combine that personal interest with our devotion to UCLA and, in particular, to support the Humanities." They found the perfect blend, because the fund they have endowed will enable future generations of students and faculty to follow in their own footsteps.

Established with a gift of stock, the Ben and Rue Pine Travel Award will be a valuable resource for faculty and graduate students who need to consult original manuscripts, archives and rare books, many of which are held in the Biblioteca Nacional in Madrid and other such repositories, to complete their research projects. Just as important, the fund will enable these scholars to participate in major conferences with a focus on Spanish and Portuguese culture, which take place every year in the United States, Latin America, Spain and Portugal.

Lorraine Lydeen, a former fashion writer, opted for a planned gift for the department's reading room and its related activities. She designated The UCLA Foundation as beneficiary of her IRA assets after her lifetime, and specified Spanish and Portuguese.

"Since I never had children, I thought the best thing was to leave my resources where they would benefit a large number of people," she explains. Later, she specified Spanish and Portuguese. "I majored in Spanish at UCLA, but we didn't have a reading room then. It would have been a wonderful thing to have had. So, I de-
Faculty Profile: Claudia Parodi

Claudia Parodi, Associate Professor of Spanish Linguistics and Vice-Chair of the Department, has taught at several universities in Mexico, Argentina and the U.S. She has a vast range of intellectual interests, and she is a specialist in modern Mexican archival research.

When she was eighteen, Professor Parodi started doing research in Mexican archives, where she found and edited 18th-century manuscripts of literary value. Her first book, *La obra dramática de Cayetano de Cabrera*, is a critical edition and lengthy study of a previously unpublished post-baroque comedy and twelve "losas".

Professor Parodi later studied early 16th-century manuscripts, undertaking paleographic transcriptions and analyzing the reflexes of Spanish pronunciation in them. Some of her discoveries, such as early proof of "sesos" and "yeismo," were published in several articles. While doing philological research, she found that practically all Spanish loan words in Mayan languages showed some crucial aspects of Old Spanish pronunciation. In *Orígenes del español americano*, she studies the reflexes of 16th-century Spanish pronunciation in both manuscripts and Mayan languages.

She later discovered that traces of Old Spanish pronunciation were present in many native American Indian languages. One of her current research projects, undertaken in collaboration with Karen Dakin, explores this topic. Professor Parodi also discovered that several 16th-century Spanish dialects were spoken in America during the conquest. These dialects leveled in a *koiné* that gave rise to what is called *español americano*. Being aware of this historical fact, she decided to study the process of *koinéization* in general in order to explain the history of the Spanish language in America. By studying the present, she hopes to account for the past. Thus, she joined forces with Otto Santa Ana of UCLA's César Chávez Center. They are currently studying the process of accommodation in Los Angeles Spanish with speakers of different dialects.

As a reaction to the Romanian linguist Eugenio Coșeriuc, who claimed that there was no linguistic research in Latin America, Claudia wrote the book *La investigación lingüística en México (1970-1980)*, in which she proves just the opposite. She has published, in collaboration with Rebeca Barriga, the second volume, which updates this information to 1996.

In the eighties Professor Parodi joined the doctoral program at UCLA, where she studied generative grammar with Carlos Otero, Carlos Quicoli and Tim Towell. As a result of her studies, she wrote several articles on the history of Spanish, such as "Object Shift Constructions in Old Spanish: A Minimalist Theory Approach," which incorporates Chomsky's theories in order to explain object shift and verb incorporation in Old Spanish. Along these same lines, she is working toward what was once considered impossible: to join the study of language variation and dialectology with generative theory.

More recently, at the invitation of critic José Pascual Buxo, she spoke on "Dogma y espectáculo en El iris de Salamanca" in a symposium on Symbolism in New Spain. There she realized that many specialists are unaware of the existence of a femnine *teatro de colegio* in New Spain. She is currently writing an article documenting the existence of this form of theater, in which nuns were actresses.

Use of Technology to Enhance Lower Division Instruction

In the last year, the Department has undertaken several initiatives to use technology to enhance Lower Division instruction. First, we were one of six departments selected by the Office of Instructional Development (OID) to receive funding, through a FIPSE grant, to employ a senior Teaching Assistant to serve as a Technology Teaching Assistant Consultant in the Winter and Spring quarters. Sandra Pérez-Linggi was selected to fill this position. In Winter she attended a seminar on technology and teaching, sponsored by OID. She also assisted the Lower Division Coordinator, Dr. Susan Schaffer, in exploring ways in which our extant uses of technology in language teaching could be augmented for the benefit of both students and TAs. In Spring, Ms. Pérez-Linggi gave a seminar, under the supervision of Dr. Schaffer, on technology and language teaching.

This hands-on workshop, which met weekly in the Powell CLICC Lab, instructed TAs on topics such as using technology to evaluate students, manage classroom bookkeeping, customize WebCT, exploit the Web for the communicative, cultural and linguistic enrichment of students, create pedagogical websites and communicate electronically with students. At the seminar's conclusion, each participant integrated his or her work into an electronic teaching portfolio. Based on the success of last year's Tech TAC program, our department was one of the few selected by OID to receive funding to hire another Tech TAC in 1999.

Second, during the summer, Dr. Schaffer, with technical assistance from Lower Division Administrative Assistant Wendy Alvarado, created a Lower Division Master Website. Password coded for instructor and staff use only, this website provides instantaneous access to nearly all of the documents and curricula that comprise Lower Division Spanish. It includes the course contract, Media Calendar and interactive syllabi, which links TAs to the electronic website activities they assign, for Spanish I-IV. It also posts pedagogical support material, such as information on exam construction, tips on using technology in teaching effectively, and links to other grammary- and culture-based websites in Spanish. Wayne Miller, UCLA's Web Master, has called our Master Website the most comprehensive curricular website serving North Campus. Finally, Kent Dickson received a stipend from OID to create websites, under Dr. Schaffer's supervision, for Spanish I-IV. Kent's activities provide innovative grammar exercises based on Hispanic fine art and photography.

Visiting Professors and Scholars

During 1998-99 the Department will welcome two Visiting Scholars and two Visiting Professors. John Brotherton of the University of New South Wales, Australia, spent the Fall Quarter at UCLA working on a book on Spanish poet Federico García Lorca. María Teresa Zubiaurre-Wagner of the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México and UNAM will be with us throughout the academic year, working on the representation of space in the novel and erotic fiction by women writers in Spain and Spanish America.

In the Winter and Spring John Kronik of Cornell University will be a Visiting Professor, teaching a variety of courses on modern Hispanic literature. In the Spring, Marta Luján of the University of Texas will also be a Visiting Professor, teaching courses on Semantics and Linguistics for Literature Students.
Graduate Student Profile:
Sandra Pérez-Linggi

Sandra Pérez-Linggi's interest in the Spanish language is both personal and scholarly. Having spent four formative years of her childhood in Guadalajara, Mexico, she internalized its cadences and nuances. She began her formal linguistic studies in 1992 at the Fundación Ortega y Gasset in Toledo, Spain. In 1994, she returned to the University of San Diego to pursue her passion for Spanish and the humanities by completing a BA in both Spanish and English. She entered graduate school at UCLA in 1994 and completed her MA in 1997 under the direction of Professor Efraín Kristal, whose ideas and approach to literature continue to challenge her intellectually. At UCLA Sandra has also had the opportunity to pursue Chicano literature studies with the guidance of Professor Héctor Calderón, who will direct her dissertation on the tradition of Chicano literature based on colonial writers. Sandra served as the Technology Teaching Assistant Consultant last year and taught Spanish 490, "Using Technology in the Foreign Language Classroom." She is currently serving as Teaching Assistant Consultant, with responsibility for overseeing exam preparation and assisting TAs in their everyday endeavors.

Latin American Film Tour

On October 22-25, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese joined the UCLA Film and Television Archive and the Department of Film and Television in hosting the Motion Pictures Association's Latin American Film and Lecture Tour, a one-month travelling Latin American film series that began at the Rhode Island School of Design and passed through Florida, Wisconsin, Louisiana, and Arizona, before its grand finale at UCLA. The tour was intended to better acquaint US academic communities with the film industries of Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico, and to offer an opportunity for the Latin American film industry to exhibit its films in a non-commercial setting in the United States. At UCLA the program, which began with a Symposium on Current Latin American Cinema, included a classic film, a contemporary film, and an experimental film plus a lecture by a representative from each country. Films from Argentina were Lucas Demare's La guerra gaucha (1942), Sergio Renan's El sueño de los héroes (1996), and Gustavo Mosquera's Moebius (1996). Argentine Professor of Film and Architecture Edgardo Oscar Chibian discussed the films with the audience, and Gustavo Mosquera was present to answer questions about his film. The Brazilian films were Anselmo Duarte's O pagador de promessas (1962), Buza Ferraz's and Luis Carlos Lacerda's For All the Triumph of the Vitória (1997), José Araiçó's Sentao das memórias (1996). Film critic Susana Schild represented the Brazilian film industry. Mexican films screened included Emilio Fernández's Enamorada (1946), Rafael Montero's Cilantro y perejil (1995), and Francisco Astié's Fibra óptica (1996). Discussing the films was critic Carlos Bondil. The Tour was conceived and coordinated by Steve Solot, Senior Vice President for Latin American Operations. It was co-sponsored the University of Arizona, the Instituto Nacional de Cine y Artes Audiovisuales in Argentina, the Secretaría para el Desarrollo del Audiovisual in Brazil, and the Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía in Mexico. Randal Johnson coordinated the event at UCLA.

De Nuevo el 98

Jesús Torrecilla

1898 was a decisive year in the history of both Spain and the United States. The war between the two countries marked the end of the colonial Spanish Empire and the American ascent to the status of world power. In Spain the conflict also provoked the beginning of a new national consciousness and the emergence of a new political and literary discourse. Spaniards had profusely acknowledged their country's marginal position in Europe during the previous two centuries, but the humiliating defeat of 1898 forced them to address the "problem of Spain" (i.e., the decline of the Empire, lack of economic progress, "backwardness") with greater self-criticism than ever before. This conference "De Nuevo el 98" discussed how members of the Generation of 98 reacted to their country's weakness and marginality and how the national situation profoundly affected their ideas on history, national identity, philosophy and literary creation. With a special focus on the modernity of its attitudes and ideas, the conference explored the role played by the Generation of 1898 in the building of a new Spanish identity in the 20th century.

Conference speakers included Germán Gullón (Universiteit Amsterdam), Dain Borges (UC San Diego), Julio Ramos (UC Berkeley), Marsha Collins (North Carolina), Javier Herrero (Virginia), Michael Predmore (Stanford), Birute Cipliauskaite (Wisconsin), Fernando García Lara (Universidad Pablo de Olavide), Joan-Ramon Resina (Cornell), Nil Santínez (Concordia University), Nelson Orringer (Connecticut), Dru Dougherty (UC Berkeley), Robert Johnson (Kansas), Brian Morris (UCLA), Carlos Feal (SUNY), Gonzalo Navajas (UC Irvine), Donald Shaw (Virginia), and José Luis Abellán (Universidad Complutense de Madrid).

The conference was co-sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Center for Modern and Contemporary Studies, with generous support from the College of Letters and Science's Division of Humanities, International Studies and Overseas Programs, the Del Amo Foundation, the Dirección General de Relaciones Culturales y Científicas del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores de España, and the Program for Cultural Cooperation between the Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture and U.S. Universities.

Great Futures — Continued from page 1, column 2

...cided, if I can help countless future generations to have something that I would have loved when I was a student, I would be doing something good.

Lydeen's gift will allow the department to expand its collections by buying new books, subscribing to new journals, and keeping up with new work published via the Internet. In gratitude for her generosity, the reading room is to be named in her honor.

With the same desire to provide support for educational purposes, a donor who wishes to remain anonymous has given the department a current-expenditure gift to meet the pressing needs of the reading room as it begins to be reorganized. Foremost among these needs are new computers and the appropriate software, new furniture, and funding to catalogue the collection. In this way, says the donor, the gift will "allow students and faculty to make better use of this precious resource."

"People often don't realize how much their gifts mean," Johnson reflects. "Commitments like these allow us to enrich the educational experiences of our students, and to support faculty research, in ways that would not be possible otherwise," says Johnson. "They simply raise the level of our entire program."
Faculty News

In Spring 1998, Verónica Cortéz became the Department’s first recipient of UCLA’s prestigious Distinguished Teaching Award. Verónica will soon be returning to the department after a two-year stint as Director of the University of California’s Education Abroad Program in Chile.

Carroll Johnson presented a paper entitled “Sexo, economía y relación familiar en la historia del cautivo capital” at the Third International Congress of the Asociación de Cervantistas (III CINDAC), held in Valencia, Spain, in October 1996. Professor Johnson’s elucidation of an aspect of female anatomy figured in Cervantes’ text as a hand in a window caused Jean Perfecto Cuadrado at the University de las Illes Balears to roll his eyes back in his head and clutch the edge of the table for support.

Randal Johnson’s short book *Antonio dos Mortes* (1998) has been published by Flicks Books in Great Britain, and *Black Brazil: Culture, Identity and Social Mobilization*, which he co-edited with Larry Crook, is scheduled for publication in the Winter quarter. Professor Johnson presented a paper on “Brasiliano Cinema in the Age of Globalization” at the conference “Movements Movimentos Moviments: Reshaping the Americas,” held at the UC Humanities Research Institute at UC Irvine, and another on “The Tropicalism Image in Brazilian Cinema” at the Latin American Studies Association’s XXI International Congress, which took place in Chicago in September, 1998. In November he spoke on the situation of Portuguese language instruction in American universities at the annual seminar of the Sociedade Internacional de Portuguese como Lingua Estrangeira, held at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. While in Brazil, he assisted the University Office of Education Abroad Programs in setting up an Intensive Portuguese Language Program in Salvador, Bahia. Because of his activities on behalf of Brazilian culture in the United States, the Brazilian government has decorated Professor Johnson with the Ordem do Cruzeiro do Sul (Order of the Southern Cross), one of the highest honors Brazil bestows upon non-Brazilians.

José Monleon is currently serving as Director of the University of California’s Education Abroad Program in Spain. In July Professor Monleon was promoted to the rank of Full Professor.


A review of Susan Platt’s book, *A Silent Minority: Deaf Education in Spain, 1850-1835*, has appeared in the *Times Literary Supplement* of London. Her article on “Francisco Goya and Roberto Prández: The Role of Deafness in the Lives of Two Spanish Artists” has been accepted for publication in *Das Zeichen*, a journal published by the University of Hamburg. An abridged version of this article will appear in *El Faro del Silencio*, the journal of the Spanish Deaf Confederation. She has also been invited to present a paper on “Spanish Deaf History as Minority History” at the meeting of the American History Association in Washington, D.C.

Paul Smith published several articles and read several papers in Valencia on the novelist Vicente Blasco Ibáñez as part of the *Año Blasco Ibáñez*, which was decreed by the Diputación de Valencia (Spain) He and Professor Christopher Anderson (University of Tulsa) will soon finish an annotated bibliography on Blasco Ibáñez covering the years 1975-1998, a continuation of the volume Smith published in 1976. Professors Smith and Torrecilla will together lead and teach in the Department’s one-month Summer Session study-travel program in Spain. Last summer’s TAs Meli Penrose and Marta Corona did a superb job teaching in the program.

Montserrat Reguant’s book *Etapas reivindicativas de la teoría nacional catalana* has been published by Peter Lang. The Catalan version of the book appeared in 1996. Dr. Reguant has been actively engaged in expanding the Department’s Spanish heritage speakers’ language program.

Sylvia Sherno’s entry on Spanish poet Gloria Fuertes is to be included in the forthcoming Feminist Encyclopedia of Spanish Literature edited by Janet Perez and published by Greenwood Press.

In November, John Skirius gave a lecture titled “La raza cósmica e Indolocía: utopía y síntesis de América” as part of a colloquium in San Antonio on “Los atentados: una visión del porvenir” sponsored by Columbia University, UNAM, the Mexican Cultural Institute of San Antonio and Fideicomiso de Mexico. He participated in the Congress of Contemporary Mexican Literature at the University of Texas, El Paso, on March 7, 1997, with the paper “Dos novelas insólitas en una: El Apoteosis,” which was later published in the *Revista de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea*. The fourth, revised edition of *El Ensayo hispanoamericano del siglo XX* (Fondo de Cultura Económica), appeared in late 1997. In November 1997, Professor Skirius read a paper on Agustín Yáñez’s novels *El filo del agua y Las vueltas del tiempo* at the International Colloquium on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Publication of *El filo del agua*, sponsored by the Colegio de México. A portion of the paper was published in *Siempre* as “La influencia y el tiempo en Yáñez.” The complete version will appear in a volume to be published by the Colegio de México.

Luís Silva-Villar presented “Demostrativas y Feature Based Derivations” at the 28th Annual Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, held in April 1998 at Pennsylvania State University (co-authored with Javier Gutiérrez-Rexach), and “Regular and Irregular Syntax” at the Second Hispanic Linguistics Symposium, which took place in October 1998 at Ohio State.

Special Events, 1998

January 22-24, 1998
In his capacity as president of the Cervantes Society of America Professor Carroll Johnson organized the Annual Meeting of the Cervantes Society of America. Some thirty cervantistas from around the country presented papers and engaged in discussion. Theresa Ann Sears (University of Missouri, St. Louis) gave the keynote address. Other highlights included papers by UCLA graduate students Dorina Apahidean and Alvaro Molina, and Columbia University graduate student Stephen Wagshul. The event was supported by funds from the Department, the Spanish Consulate in Los Angeles, and an anonymous benefactor.

January 23, 1998
PhD Candidate José Luiz Passos spoke on “The Stammering Structure: Muchacho de Assis Between Literature and Society.” (GSA Brown Bag Series)

January 30, 1998
Brazilian novelist Ivan Ângelo, who inaugurated UCLA’s participation in the Brazilian Ministry of Culture’s Writer-in-Residence program, read excerpts from *Amor?* (1996) and from his work-in-progress.

February 5, 1998
PhD Candidate Eric Thau spoke on “Generalísimo Francisco Franco is still dead: Specializing in contemporary Spanish literature.” (GSA Brown Bag Series)

February 17, 1998
Writers Ivan Ângelo and Raduan Nassar discussed their work within the context of contemporary Brazilian fiction.

February 19, 1998
PhD candidate Erick Fellinto de Oliveira spoke on “Bible and Babylón: Babel and Kaballah: The Concept of Sacred Text in Borges and Benjamin and its Literary Implications.” (GSA Brown Bag Series)

March 12, 1998
Guillerino Gucetti, Professor at the University of Rio de Janeiro and Visiting Professor at Stanford University, spoke on “La vida cultural de los objetos.”

March 13, 1998
The Department celebrated the publication of Efrain Kristal’s new book, *Temptation of the Word: The Novels of Mario Vargas Llosa*. Presenting the book were Enrico Mario Santi (Georgetown University) and our own John Skirius.

April 9, 1998
Visiting Professor Michael Schuessler spoke on “El Norte, El Sur” (GSA Brown Bag Series)
April 16, 1998
Joan Arias and Ron Arias initiated a new tradition in the Department by presenting the First Annual Alumni Lecture on the topic “Life After Academe.”
April 18-19, 1998
The 21st Annual Symposium on Portuguese Traditions featured speakers from Portugal, Brazil, Japan, Canada, as well as the United States.
April 23, 1998
April 24, 1998
Critic Fernando Alegria spoke on “La memoria creadora: Novela y poesía autobiográfica latinoamericana.”
May 8, 1998
The Department celebrated the publication of Susan Plann’s A Silent Majority: Deaf Education in Spain, 1550-1833 (University of California Press, 1997). Presenting the book were Mary Elizabeth Perry of Occidental College and Lawrence Fleischman of Cal State Northridge.
May 11, 1998
Aviva Doron of the Department of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of Haifa, Israel, spoke on “Hebrew Poetry in Medieval Spain.”
May 12, 1998
Members of the Centro Cultural Gauchito Bento Gonçalves of Los Angeles, along with representatives of the Centro de Tradiciones Gauchas from Rio Grande do Sul, spoke on “Gauchito Traditions in Brazil.”
May 13, 1998
Carroll B. Johnson spoke on “Cervantes and the Materialist Vision” to initiate a faculty brown bag lecture series.
May 22, 1998
David William Foster, Chair of the Department of Languages at Arizona State University, led a workshop on Queer Theory.
May 29, 1998
Julia Ramos, Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UC Berkeley, delivered the annual Lois B. Matthews Lecture titled “The Subjects of Latin Americanism.”
October 20, 1998
Briiter Marina Colasanti discussed multiple facets of her work with students, faculty, and people from the Brazilian community in Los Angeles. Marina was in the United States as a writer-in-residence at the University of Texas at Austin.
November 4, 1998
Filmmaker Geoffrey O’Connor visited the department to screen and discuss his film Amazon Journal, as well as his book of the same name.
November 5, 1998
Joffre Rodrigues, son of the late-Brazilian playwright Nelson Rodrigues, joined producer/actress Denise Milfont and the cast of “Doroteia: An Irresponsible Farce” in a round-table discussion of their Los Angeles presentations of the play, which took place at the Los Angeles Theater Center on November 6 and 7.
November 18, 1998
Visiting Scholar John Brotherton, of the University of New South Wales in Australia, presented his comic monologue, The True Confessions of Christopher Columbus.
December 9, 1998
John Brotherton, completing his quarter at UCLA, spoke on the topic of his research on the theater of Federico García Lorca in a lecture titled “Live Minds, Dead Bodies or the Poet[ics] of Protest.”

PhDs Awarded in 1997-98

Fall 1997
Salvador Acosta
Sergio Pietil y el tema del desenfocado: La intertextualidad en su narrativa. Director: Guillermo Hernandez.
José Ramón Nuñez
Narrador y receptores en Los Milagros de Nuestra Señora de Gonzalez de Berceo. Director: Joaquín Gimeno.
Winter 1998
Jennifer Garson Shapiro
Jewish Representations in Latin America Literature. Director: Efrain Kristal.
David Nordlund
Authority, Power and Dramatic Genre in the Theater of Federico García Lorca. Director: C. Brian Morris.
Spring 1998
Norma Vega
Juanita Heredia
Vincent Barletta
Social Action and Manuscript Culture: The Libro del Cavallerio de Dios (Zifar). Director: John Dagenais.
Summer 1998
José Luiz Passos
Ação e Dissimulo nos Primeiros Romances de Machado de Assis, 1872-1881. Director: Randall Johnson.

Graduate Student Novel

John Skirius

PhD candidate Eloy Urroz’s most recent novel, Herir tu fiera carne (1997), offers a teasing triangle of lovers: the religious man is anguished over the possible lack of purity of his female companion while Bernardo, the first-person narrator, is faithful to the same woman. Psychic pain and doubts are key to the sadomasochistic voyeurism and exhibitionism involved. Urroz acknowledges his debt to Proust, Lawrence, and the contemporary Mexican poet Gilberto Owen (Urroz’s monograph on Lawrence and Joyce will soon be published). The unexpected ending points to the protagonist’s rebellious non-conformism. Urroz has moved away from the complex structure of his previous novel, Las Reñoras, and has instead focused on developing a psychological novel reflecting the subjectivity of the narrator-protagonist.

MA’s awarded in 1997-98

Rosa Arco
Ylmer José Rojas
Adrienne Sereno
Michael Sinissgall
Laura Tomes
Caryl Lee Benner
Araceli García Lópex
Cristina Jae Won Moon
Marcela Redolés

Alumni News

Jennifer Garson Shapiro, PhD ‘98, presented a paper in April at the NELMA conference in Baltimore entitled “Fragmentation and dual-identity in two Latin-American women writers.”
Francis Komla Aggor, PhD ‘92, whose dissertation was directed by C. Brian Morris, has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at John Carroll University.
Edward F. Stanton, PhD ‘72, is working on his sixth book, Handbook of Spanish Popular Culture, to be published by Greenwood Press in 1999. To carry out research on the work, he has received a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Culture. He has been named the first Bingham Professor of the Humanities at the University of Kentucky. Among his most recent publications are two short stories in Confrontation, Nos. 62/63 (Fall 1997).