

**Distinguished Alumni Lectures**  
**UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese**  
**1999-2023**  
2022-2023- TBA

2021-2022- Maite Conde, University of Cambridge



2019-2020- Sherry Velasco, University of Southern California

THE UCLA DEPARTMENT OF  
SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE INVITES YOU

**2020 Distinguished Alumni Lecture**

**Sherry Velasco**  
University of Southern California

**Listening in the Age of Cervantes:  
Moriscos and Gendered Sounds from  
Spain to Algiers**

February 27th, 2020  
4pm  
UCLA Faculty Center  
Hacienda Room  
480 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1657

What is the role of sound in early modern literary and historical texts? Can written and printed sources capture gendered sound in the past? How can these sources help us understand what people heard? Professor Velasco's presentation ponders these questions by listening for the acoustic qualities and semantic significance of the vocalizations and musical expressions by Muslim and Christian women on both sides of the Mediterranean. Despite the fact that some of the most widely circulated texts on Algiers and its conflicted relationship with Spain were conspicuously aware of the sounds of women, most investigations have not listened attentively to the gendered soundscapes echoing in the archive. This presentation seeks to redress this scholarly hard of hearing by tuning into and sounding out the audible events and actions associated with Moriscos and women in Algiers in both written and visual texts. Through listening critically to sound events that often go unheard we can better understand the ways in which auralizing (through imaginative or virtual listening) together with visualizing evidence of women's lives in the past allows us to hear why the vocalizations of women mattered and how they helped interpret both political events and personal activities.

2018-2019- Jean Graham-Jones, The City University of New York

THE UCLA SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE DEPARTMENT  
*invites you to the 2019 annual*  
*Distinguished Alumni Lecture*

**IMPOSSIBLE NECESSITIES:  
TRANSLATING THE CONTEMPORARY ARGENTINE STAGE**

*By Jean Graham-Jones*  
The CUNY Graduate Center

March 15, 2019  
4pm  
UCLA Carnesale Commons  
Hermosa Room  
251 Charles E. Young Drive, West  
Los Angeles, CA 90095




Translational encounters in the theatre engage different artists and audiences as well as different bodies, languages, cultures, and expectations. Two current book projects -- one, an edited volume of playscripts, interviews, photographs, and other primary documentation by and about Argentine theatre artist Lila Arias; and the other, a monograph on translating for the contemporary stage -- highlight these encounters as well as my ongoing concerns regarding translation and circulation. Translation in performance, precisely because of the complexities brought about by its linguistic, cultural, aesthetic, and technical engagements, has great potential for complicating the often-assumed unidirectional destiny of a given translation and for exposing the dangerous asymmetries contained within the increasing globalization of English. To illustrate my key points regarding linguistic, cultural, and performance translation and its circulation, I will examine selected productions by Argentine theatre artists, including Arias, as I encourage the audience to radically rethink the possibilities and impossibilities of translating for the contemporary stage.

## 2017-2018- Arturo Madrid, Trinity University

THE UCLA DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH  
& PORTUGUESE INVITES YOU

### 2017 Distinguished Alumni Lecture



**Dr. Arturo Madrid**  
Trinity University  
11/2/17  
4:00 pm  
UCLA Faculty Center  
Hacienda Room

#### What We Did (and Why We Did It): 50 Years of Institution Building

From the mid-20th Century through the first decades of the 21st Century members of the Chicano/Latino Academic communities of the US have had as their project to develop the intellectual resources and the institutional mechanisms to advance the interests of the Latino community. A significant percentage of that leadership came out of Departments of Spanish and Portuguese. Over the course of the past half century we have witnessed the creation of programs, centers, publishing entities, associations, and organizations dedicated to that end. The advances have been substantive and significant, but they have been met with great resistance, have come at considerable cost, and are ever vulnerable to economic, ideological, and political attacks.

Arturo Madrid is the Norine R. and T. Frank Murchison Distinguished Professor of the Humanities, Emeritus, Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas. He is a scholar with a national profile in Mexican American and Latino issues. He was the Director of the Ford Foundation Graduate Fellowships Program for Mexican Americans, Native Americans and Puerto Ricans, 1975-1984 and Founding President of The Tomás Rivera Center for Policy Studies on Latino Issues, 1984-1993. His numerous awards include The Distinguished Scholar Award of the National Association of Chicano Studies, 1991, The Charles Frankel Prize, the National Endowment for the Humanities, 1996, and The John Hope Franklin Award, Diverse Issues in Higher Education, 2009.


## 2016-2017- Rosa Beltrán, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

UCLA Spanish and Portuguese Department Presents

### The 2017 Annual Distinguished Alumni Lecture

#### "MUJERES QUE IMPORTAN"

Rosa Beltrán, Director of Literature,  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México



Thursday  
February 16  
4:00-6:00PM  
UCLA Faculty  
Center  
Cypress Room

Rosa Beltrán es novelista, cuentista, ensayista, traductora, fundadora de varias colecciones literarias. Es autora de las novelas: *La corte de los ilusos* (Premio Planeta 1995, que en 2015 celebra 20 años, con una edición conmemorativa), *El paraíso que fuimos*, *Alta infidelidad*, *Efectos secundarios* y *El cuerpo expuesto*. De los volúmenes de cuentos: *Optimistas* y *Amores que matan* y de los libros de ensayos *Mantis: sentido y verdad en la cultura literaria posmoderna* y *América sin americanismos*. Ha sido traducida al inglés, francés, italiano, holandés y esloveno y sus cuentos aparecen en numerosas antologías de distintos países. Ha recibido varias distinciones: el reconocimiento de la American Association of University Women (AAUW), el Premio Universidad Nacional para Jóvenes Académicos en el área de creación y el Reconocimiento Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz por la UNAM. Ha sido calificada como "una voz original cuya ironía punzante y mirada aguda inciden sobre la tradición para subvertirla".

Ha sido conferencista invitada y ha impartido cursos en diversas universidades, entre ellas, Ramon Llull, Universidad Hebrea de Jerusalén, Universidad de Colorado y UCLA, donde cursó el doctorado en Literatura Comparada.

Publica en varias revistas y suplementos culturales en México y fuera del país. Mensualmente colabora con la columna "Los raros" en la Revista de la Universidad Nacional. Es directora de literatura de la UNAM y es miembro de número de la Academia Mexicana de la Lengua.

[www.rosabeltran.net](http://www.rosabeltran.net)

2015-2016- Ricardo Sternberg, University of Toronto

**UCLA DEPARTMENT OF  
SPANISH & PORTUGUESE PRESENTS  
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI  
LECTURE**

**"A Sovereign Self:  
The Novels of Raduan Nassar"**

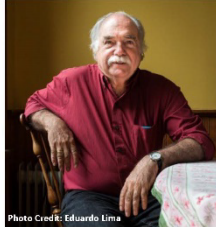


Photo Credit: Eduardo Lima

Ricardo Sternberg was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1948 and moved to the United States with his family when he was fifteen. He received a B.A. in English literature from UC Riverside and a M.A. and Ph.D. from UCLA. Between 1975 and 1978, he was a Junior Fellow with the Society of Fellows at Harvard University. His poetry has been published in magazines such as *The Paris Review*, *The Nation*, *Poetry* (Chicago), *Descant*, *American Poetry Review*, *The Virginia Quarterly* and *Ploughshares*. Vehicle Press (Montreal) published *The Invention of Honey* (1990, republished 1996), *Map of Dreams* (1996) and McGill-Queen's University Press published *Bamboo Church* (2003, republished 2006). Cyclops Press released a CD of his readings, *Blindsight*, in 1998. *Some Dance*, his fourth collection, was published by McGill-Queen's University Press in April of 2014. He has written a book on the poet Carlos Drummond de Andrade, *The Unquiet Self*, and has published widely on Brazilian and Portuguese literature.

**A LECTURE BY:  
RICARDO  
STERNBERG**  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

**WHEN**  
**April 28,**  
**2016**  
**4pm - 6pm**

**WHERE**  
**UCLA Faculty**  
**Center:**  
**Cypress**  
**Room**  
480 Charles Young  
Drive, Los Angeles, CA  
90095

[www.spanport.ucla.edu](http://www.spanport.ucla.edu)

2014-2015- Nicolas Shumway, Rice University

The UCLA Spanish and Portuguese Department Presents

**Distinguished Alumni Lecture**  
**Borges and God**

**A Lecture by Nicolas Shumway**  
Dean Humanities, Rice University  
Frances Moody Newman Professor of Humanities



**Monday, April 20th, 4:00pm**

UCLA Faculty Center Cypress Room

A native of Arizona, Nicolas Shumway graduated with highest honors from BYU in 1969 with majors in Spanish and Music. He completed his MA in 1971 and PhD in 1976 at UCLA with concentrations in Hispanic literatures and linguistics. After receiving his doctorate, he taught at Pepperdine University, Indiana University Northwest, Yale University and the University of Texas at Austin. At Yale he chaired the Latin American Studies program for three years and directed the Spanish language program for eight. In 1987, he received tenure at Yale and was promoted to Full Professor in 1992. After fourteen years at Yale, he accepted an appointment in 1995 at the University of Texas at Austin as the Tomás Rivera Regents Professor of Spanish. Two years later he became director of the UT Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, a position he held for eleven years. From 2008 to 2010, he served as Chair of the UT Department of Spanish and Portuguese. In July of 2010, he became Dean of Humanities and the Frances Moody Newman Professor of Humanities at Rice University. In 2013, he received an honorary doctorate from the Universidad de San Pablo in Tucumán, Argentina.

His scholarship explores Latin American history and culture with particular emphasis on Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. His best known book, *The Invention of Argentina*, was selected by *The New York Times* as "a notable book of the year" and received Honorable Mention for the Bryce Wood Book Award of the Latin American Studies Association. The book is currently available in English, Spanish and Portuguese. In 2011, he published a second book on Argentina titled *Historia personal de una pasión argentina*.

Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Shumway has held visiting appointments at the Universidade de São Paulo in Brazil and at two Argentine universities, the Universidad de San Andrés and the Universidad Torcuato di Tella, both in Buenos Aires. Shumway has received two Fulbright appointments, one as a Researcher/Teacher in Brazil and another as a Senior Specialist in American Studies in Argentina. A popular speaker, he has lectured at universities throughout the Americas and Europe and has been featured several times by the Houston World Affairs Council and the Houston Forum.

In addition to his academic life, Shumway performs as a singer, pianist, organist, and choir director. During his time as a graduate student at UCLA, he sang with the Los Angeles Master Chorale.



2013-2014- Micheal K. Scheussler, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Cuajimalpa

**UCLA** *Spanish and Portuguese*  
COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE  
Humanities

**Randal Johnson**  
Distinguished Professor  
Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
invites you to attend the  
**2014 Distinguished Alumni Lecture**

**Michael K. Schuessler**  
Professor of Humanities at the  
Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Cuajimalpa, in Mexico City



**Transcultural Modernists:  
U.S. Women and the Mexican Cultural Renaissance**  
Tuesday, May 13, 2014  
4:00 p.m. Lecture  
5:00 p.m. Reception  
UCLA Faculty Center, Downstairs Lounge  
Parking is available in Lot 2 for \$12

RSVP to Yarell Castellanos by May 6  
[y.castellanos@support.ucla.edu](mailto:y.castellanos@support.ucla.edu)  
(310) 825-0913

Michael K. Schuessler is Professor of Humanities at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Cuajimalpa, in Mexico City, where he teaches courses dedicated to Latin American art and literature, pre-Columbian Mexico and colonial Mexico, etc. He received his Ph.D. in Hispanic Languages and Literatures from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he specialized in the literature and arts of colonial Latin America. He is the author of many articles devoted to the interpretation of Latin American literature and culture.

2012-2013- Gonzalo Navajas, University of Irvine, California


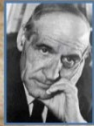


The UCLA Department of Spanish & Portuguese Presents

**The 2012 Distinguished Alumni Lecture**

**“EL PERIÓDICO Y LA PEDAGOGÍA DE LA NACIÓN.  
UNAMUNO, ORTEGA Y GASSET, AZAÑA, D'ORS”**

**By Gonzalo Navajas**  
University of California, Irvine

**Friday, October 19, 2012**  
**4:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**UCLA Faculty Center**  
**Sequoia Room**




From Unamuno to Ortega y Gasset and D'Ors, a majority of the most influential Spanish thinkers of the first half of the twentieth century used the newspaper as a preferred medium to convey their ideas to their audiences. The lecture explores the reasons for this development that is grounded in the shift that takes place in the European epistemological paradigm of the turn of the century from systematic to fragmentary thought and the specific circumstances of the Spanish national discourse at the time. The lecture also analyzes the public profile of these figures as civic mentors and the complex set of relations that emerged between them and their readers as a consequence of the expanded role of the intellectual in the social and political scene. The lecture will also provide a contrasting view of the current public role of the intellectual in the postnational age.

Gonzalo Navajas is Professor of Modern Spanish Literature and Film at the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of many books on modern and contemporary literature, film, and theory of culture. His latest books are *La utopía en la narrativa contemporánea* (Novela/diagramas), *La modernidad como crisis*, and *La narrativa española en la era global*. (Imágenes/Comunicación Visual). Professor Navajas has lectured and taught at many universities and other cultural institutions in the US and abroad.

2011-2012- Kristine Ibsen, University of Notre Dame

UCLA Department of Spanish & Portuguese *Presents:*




**The 2011  
Distinguished  
Alumni Lecture**

**"Nationalism, modernity and the  
visual turn in Mexican Studies"**

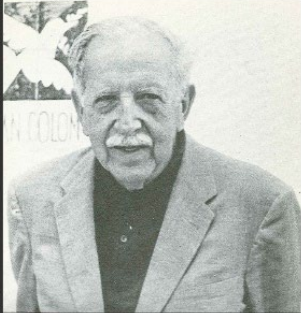
**BY Kristine Ibsen**  
Michael P. Grace II Professor of Latin  
American Studies  
**University of Notre Dame**

**Thursday, October 20, 2011**  
**5:00 pm – 7:00 pm**  
**UCLA Faculty Center**  
**Hacienda Room**



2009-2010- E Michael Gerli, University of Virginia

ucla | department of spanish and portuguese *presents*



THE  
2009 DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNI LECTURE

**Américo  
Castro:  
HISTORIAN**


friday, november 6th, 2009  
4:00 pm  
young research library  
presentation room

a lecture by  
**MICHAEL GERLI**

2007-2008- Maria Herrera Sobek, University of California, Santa Barbara

THE **UCLA DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE**  
PRESENTS:

**" BARBED WIRE POLITICS:  
THE DEVIL'S ROPE AND MEXICAN  
TRANSNATIONAL MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS IN  
CHICANO/A ARTISTIC CULTURAL PRODUCTION"**



A LECTURE BY


**PROFESSOR MARIA HERRERA-SOBOK**  
(LUIS LEAL ENDOWED CHAIR AT UC SANTA BARBARA AND  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR CHICANO STUDIES)  
**2007-2008 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENT**

In this presentation Herrera-Sobek analyzes the various ways barbed wire is used in Chicano/a paintings as a visual metaphor to represent the United States' repressive policies against Mexican transnational migratory movements. She utilizes the critical theory paradigm she developed for analyzing artistic works and which she denominates as "aesthetic activism." Aesthetic activism implies the use of artistic expressions such as art and literature for effecting/promoting social justice and change. Chicano/a visual artists such as Malaquias Montoya, Rupert Garcia, Consuelo Jiménez Underwood, and others utilize barbed wire as an icon and semiotic code to represent various concerns related to crossing the US-Mexican border.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1 AT 4:00 P.M. IN ROYCE 306

2006-2007- Edward Stanton, University of Kentucky

THE **UCLA DEPARTMENT OF  
SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE**  
PRESENTS:



**" GOYA'S LANGUAGE"**

A LECTURE BY

**PROFESSOR EDWARD F. STANTON**  
2006-2007 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENT  
DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2006 AT 3:00 P.M.  
THE DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE  
AT THE FACULTY CENTER

PLEASE JOIN US.

2005-2006- Roberta Johnson, University of Kansas



The UCLA Department of  
Spanish and Portuguese presents:

**"Literary Epiphanies, the Pleasures of  
Recognition and María Zambrano"**

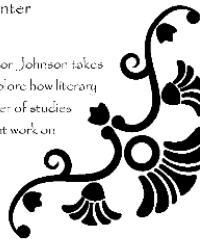
A lecture by

Professor Roberta Johnson  
2005-2006 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient  
Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Friday, November 4, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.  
The Hacienda Room at the Faculty Center

In a bit of a departure from her past writings, Professor Johnson takes Zambrano's hermetic prose as a launching pad to explore how literary language works cognitively. She will refer to a number of studies in contemporary cognitive science and to some recent work on cognition and literature by literary scholars.

Please join us.



2004-2005- Shirley Arora, UCLA

**The UCLA  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese**  
presents

**"Agustín Yáñez and the  
Strategies of Proverb Use"**

a lecture by

**Professor Shirley Arora**  
2005 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Friday, January 28, 2005 at 3:00 p.m.  
Royce Hall Room 314

*Reception to follow*


Professor Emerita Shirley Arora received her Ph.D. degree from the Department in 1962 and shortly thereafter joined its faculty as an Assistant Professor. She retired in January 2000 after an exceptional scholarly and administrative career.

Prof. Arora served the Department and the university in many capacities and leadership roles, including vice-chancellor in key campus-wide organizations, such as the Committee on Academic Personnel, the presidency of the Faculty Center, and the chairship of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese for an unprecedented seven-year term. Prof. Arora's main research areas have been on verbal folklore, particularly legends, and proverbial speech in the Spanish-speaking world. Her publications have a wide geographic and chronological scope, ranging from medieval times to the present and from Peninsular Spain to the Spanish-speaking regions of the Americas, including Southern California. She was elected in 1992 as a Fellow of the American Folklife Society, the highest recognition in the U.S. awarded for contributions to folkloric studies. Her main publications are: *Proverbial Campesinos in Ricardo Palma's Tradiciones Peruanas* (UCLA Press, 1966), *Proverbios Comparativos and Related Expressions in Spanish Dialects* in Los Angeles, California (UCLA Press, 1977), and *América de Células: La Temática del Mito en la Ciudad de México, 1520*, co-edited with Luis Miguel Vicente and Juan José Ruiz Fariña. She is also the author of a highly acclaimed novel, *Wings, then, Return!* (UCLA Press, 1994), which has been translated into Swedish, German, Dutch, French, and several other languages, and made into a film.



2003-2004- Harvey Sharrer, University of California, Santa Barbara

*The Department of Spanish & Portuguese  
proudly presents the*



**2003 Distinguished Alumni Lecture**

*"Research Across Borders:  
Textual cultures in the Medieval Iberian Peninsula"*

**Professor Harvey L. Sharrer**  
*Chair of the UCSB  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese*

Friday, November 21, 2003  
3:00 p.m.  
Kerckhoff State Room  
Reception to follow

Professor Sharrer received his Ph.D. from UCLA in 1979. He studies Medieval Literature: Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan, Comparative Literature: Arthurian romance, Catalan language and culture. He is the author of many monographs and edited books, among them: *The Legendary History of Britain in Lope Garcia de Salazar's "Libro de las buenas efortunas"* (1979), *Hispanic Medieval Studies in Honor of Samuel G. Armistead* (1992), *Estudios galegos medievais* (2001), and *Fragmentos de Textos Medievais Portugueses da Torre do Tombo* (2002).

2002-2003- Sara Castro-Klarén, John Hopkins University

**The Department of Spanish and  
Portuguese**

*presents a*

**2002 Distinguished Alumni Lecture:  
"Changing Fields, New Perspectives"**

Sara Castro-Klarén  
*Director of Latin American Studies Program  
Johns Hopkins University*

Friday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 pm.  
306 Royce Hall

Reception to follow

2001-2002- Ivan Schulman, University of Illinois

2000-2001- Joseph Ricapito, Louisiana State University

1998-1999- Ron and Joan Arias