

CONTRIBUTORS



Eric Abalajon is currently a humanities lecturer at the University of the Philippines Visayas, Iloilo. His creative works have appeared in *Ani*, *Katitikan: Literary Journal of the Philippine South*, *Cha: An Asian Literary Journal*, *The Tiger Moth Review*, and *Dx Machina 3*, a special issue of *Likhaan: Journal of Contemporary Philippine Literature*. He is a member of the Society of Filipino Film Reviewers. He lives near Iloilo City.

Michael Arcega is an interdisciplinary artist working primarily in sculpture and installation. His research-based work is informed by historic narratives, material significance, and geography with subject matter that deals with circumstances where power relations are unbalanced. Michael has degrees from the San Francisco Art Institute and Stanford University. His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. He was awarded a 2012 Guggenheim Fellowship in Fine Arts. Born in Manila, Philippines, he currently lives and works in San Francisco, California where he is an Associate Professor of Art at San Francisco State University.

Paolo Asuncion grew up in Manila, and the son of a popular actor, was immersed in the film industry from a very early age. This translated into making corporate films as part of his visual arts career that led to documentaries. Being an avid motorcyclist, his work uses the motorcycle subculture as a springboard to explore subjects like religion, craft, family legacy, as well as death and sex trafficking. His films have garnered awards in the New York, Lisbon, French Riviera, Toronto, and Tokyo motorcycle film festivals, and he is currently working on his first feature film. He lives and works in the San Francisco bay area.

Lucy Burns is an Associate Professor at UCLA's Asian American Studies Department. She is the author of *Puro Arte: On the Filipino Performing Body*, published by NYU Press. Current inquiries include representations of the future in performance through the figure of the robot, and "commonwealth" as an American identity. Burns is also a dramaturg, whose recent collaborations include David Rousseve's *Stardust*, and R. Zamora Linmark's *But, Beautiful*, and TeAda Productions' *Global Taxi Drivers' Project*. She has participated in several projects focusing on Asian American theater and performance, including attending the 2007 World Social Forum as a member of a U.S. artist delegation and as a reviewer for the National Asian American Theater Festival (2009, 2011).

Eleonor G. Castillo, Ph.D., has 19 years of teaching experience as a preK-12 teacher and in higher education. In addition to her work in classrooms, her education policy experience includes leading a statewide grassroots coalition, the Filipino Language Movement, working with lawmakers toward the successful passage of Assembly Bill 420 – historic legislation ensuring the preservation of the teaching of Filipino Language and Culture classes in California preK-12 public schools. In 2021, she was honored by the San Diego Union-Tribune as one of twenty-three Phenomenal San Diego Women in Education. Dr. Castillo serves as an assistant professor in the School of Education at Westminster College. In this role, she leads the Learning With, Learning From: Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Utah, an initiative that seeks to debunk the Model Minority Myth through collaborative engagement with students, faculty, and staff of the college and members of the larger community.

Jacqueline Colting-Stol (she/her) is a PhD Candidate at the School of Social Work, McGill University. Her research interests, community organizing, and social work practice meet at the intersections of collaborative efforts from the “ground-up” – where we grow and challenge our collective and historical knowledges, skills and relations to be more transformative and sustainable. Her research aims to critique and strengthen possibilities for community-based and participatory approaches in academia and amongst grassroots and social service organizations. She is inspired by and engages with the everyday community-building and collective action of Filipino/x/a, migrant, diaspora and 2SLGBT+ communities.

Valerie Francisco-Menchavez is an Associate Professor of Sociology at San Francisco State University. Dr. Francisco’s academic interests include: global and transnational sociology, migration and immigration studies, diaspora with a special interest on the Philippine migration, gender and the family, racial and ethnic relations in the U.S., labor, transnational social movements with regard to migrant workers, and international political economy. Her political and academic work has focused on Filipinas working as domestic workers in New York City and as caregivers in the San Francisco/Bay Area. Her book, titled *The Labor of Care: Filipina Migrants and Transnational Families in the Digital Age*, explores the dynamics of gender and technology of care work in Filipino transnational families in the Philippines and the U.S. In journals like *Critical Sociology*, *Working USA*, *The Philippine Sociological Review* and *International Review of Qualitative Research*, Dr. Francisco also writes on the transnational activism that emerges from the social conditions of migration, separation, and migrant labor.

Dani Magsumbol is a doctoral candidate at the Department of Politics at York University. She holds a SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral for her research on care/work, citizen/ships, nation/alisms,

and the political economy of emotions in the Filipino labour diaspora in Canada.

Annelle Maranan Garcia (Nelle) is a rising M.A. student of Asian American Studies at San Francisco State University. Their academic interests include transnational Filipina/x/o American movements, race, and the intersections of activism, Ethnic Studies, and communal care. As a 1.5-generation Filipinx/a American and activist-organizer-scholar, Nelle's work is informed by their involvement in grassroots organizations, transnational movements, and community-based research within and outside of the academy. Drawing from their experience with the colonial psychiatry and the carceral mental health system, Nelle seeks to uplift and center forms of communal culturally-relevant care. Currently, Nelle works with the Asian American Research Initiative at SFSU conducting research on Asian American Studies education.

Wayne Jopanda is a fourth-year Cultural Studies doctoral candidate at UC Davis, researching the history of U.S. imperial education in the Philippines and its connections to current trafficked Filipino teachers and the neoliberal university's commodification of Filipinos as bodies of labor. Wayne also studies how current Filipino students at U.S. universities respond to these histories of westernized colonial education in the Philippines through community building, collective activism, and creating spaces of belonging. Wayne is a cofounder and acting Associate Director for the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies. He also serves as the founding Director of the Bulosan Center Internship Program. Wayne aims to support Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies through his community engaged research and continuing his journey as a scholar activist in training.

Josephine Faith Ong (she/her/hers) is a Ph.D. student in Gender Studies at UCLA. As a Chinese-Filipino scholar-activist that grew up in Guåhan/Guam. Motivated by her experiences living and organizing under U.S. military occupation of Guåhan, Josephine's research focuses on Asian American and Pacific Islander histories, Indigenous and Women of Color Feminisms, Carceral Studies, and Feminist Archival Studies. As a recent graduate of UCLA's Asian American Studies Masters program, Josephine published a Masters thesis about the Filipino revolutionary hero Apolinario Mabini's incarceration in Guåhan and Filipino settlers' efforts to memorialize him. Currently, Josephine is working on a project about Chamorro-Filipino feminist solidarities and activist histories in Guåhan. With regards to her community work, Josephine has been an active member of Independent Guåhan's Research Committee, and has been interviewed by the local newspapers *Marianas Variety*, *KUAM*, and *Guam Daily Post* for her activism.

Pahinga Collective views rest, stillness, ease, play, pleasure, and reflection as vital to our collective care. Founding members are Filipina/x/o faculty, graduate students, community organizers, and service providers representing migrant, queer, and feminist grassroots organizations in Tkaronto. We are (in alphabetical order): Jhona Binos, Conely de Leon, Jann Tracee C. Ko Din, Jessica Loyola, Joelle Navarro, Mycah Panjaitan, and Mauriene Tolentino. Through digital kwentuhan, soundscapes, and other forms of creative expression we reflect on what it means to embody rest as a form of resistance and refusal.

Robyn Magalit Rodriguez is the founding director of the Bulosan Center for Filipinx Studies, the first of its kind at a major research university in the United States. The center leads research, educational, and community-engaged projects on the Filipinx diasporic experience. She is also a widely published scholar with expertise on Philippine migration. Her first book, *Migrants for Export: How the Philippine State Brokers Labor to the World* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010), received an honorable mention for best social science book by the Association for Asian American Studies. In late 2019, she published *Filipino American Transnational Activism: Diasporic Politics among the Second Generation* (Brill). Presently, she is coauthoring a book on Filipino immigration to the United States since the early 2000s; the book is under advance contract with the University of Hawai'i Press. Alongside her scholarly work, Rodriguez works as a community organizer. She has long worked with Migrante International, the National Alliance for Filipino Concerns (NAFCON), the Filipino American Educators Association of California (FAEAC), among other organizations.

Joy Sales is an Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies at California State University, Los Angeles. She studies social movements, migration, labor, race, and diaspora, specifically the history of local and transnational activism in the Filipino American community, including the movement against dictator Ferdinand E. Marcos and the leadership of Filipinos in the United Farm Workers. Her book manuscript is tentatively called, *We Are Revolution: Empire, Diaspora, and Transnational Filipino/a Activism*. Dr. Sales earned her B.A. in History from Grinnell College, where she was a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, and her M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Northwestern University. She has published in *Amerasia Journal*, *Diplomatic History*, and the anthologies, *Our Voices, Our Histories: Asian American and Pacific Islander Women* and *Filipino American Transnational Activism: Diasporic Politics among the Second Generation*.

Mark John Sanchez is an Assistant Professor of Asian Studies at Vanderbilt University. He earned his Ph.D. in History with a graduate minor in Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining Vanderbilt, he taught in the Committee on Degrees in History & Literature at Harvard University and served as

an Advising Fellow for the Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights. Mark is currently working on a book manuscript, tentatively entitled “Conditional Solidarities: The Making of a Transnational Opposition to the Marcos Dictatorship, 1972-1986.” The book traces the foundations of the international opposition to the Marcos regime in the Philippines, focusing on religious human rights workers, international law activists, activist educators, journalists, and political detainees. The project draws upon archives and oral histories in the United States, the Netherlands, and the Philippines. Mark is also working on a project on gambling and Asian diasporic migration. Through this project, he is interested in exploring the connections between capitalism and migrant engagements with the idea of chance.

Thomas Xavier Sarmiento (they/he), PhD, is an Associate Professor of English and affiliated faculty member of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies at Kansas State University. They specialize in diasporic Filipinx American literature and culture, queer theory, and cultural representations of the US Midwest and teach courses on Asian American literature and culture, Midwestern literature and culture, film adaptation, queer cinema, television, and feminist and queer theories. Their research appears in the journals *Amerasia*; *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States*; and *Women, Gender, and Families of Color* and in the edited collections *Asian American Feminisms and Women of Color Politics*, *Curricular Innovations: LGBTQ Literatures and the New English Studies*, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Asian American Literature and Culture*, *Q & A: Voices from Queer Asian North America*, *Race in American Television: Voices and Visions that Shaped a Nation*, and *Sparked: George Floyd, Racism, and the Progressive Illusion*.

GJ Sevillano (he/him/his) is a doctoral student in the Department of American Studies at George Washington University. He received his M.A. in American Studies from George Washington University in 2021 and B.A. in Politics and Certificate in American Studies from Princeton University in 2019. He was born and raised in Historic Filipinotown, Los Angeles, California where his curiosity and love for Filipinx food was cultivated in the kitchens and dining rooms throughout the community. His research at the nexus of Filipinx-American studies, critical food studies, and cultural theory examines the multiple articulations of Filipinx-American identity within diasporic foodways.

Mary Talusan (Mary Talusan Lacanlale) is an Assistant Professor of Asian-Pacific Studies at California State University, Dominguez Hills. She has a Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles and specializes in Filipino and Filipino American music and culture. Her book *Instruments of Empire: Filipino Musicians, Black Soldiers*,

and *Military Band Music during U.S. Colonization of the Philippines* is published by University Press of Mississippi. She performs music and dance of the southern Philippines with the Pakaraguian Kulintang Ensemble.

Antonio T. Tiongson, Jr. is an Associate Professor in the Department of English at Syracuse University. Professor Tiongson is co-editor of *Positively No Filipinos Allowed: Building Communities and Discourse* (Temple University Press, 2006; co-edited with Edgardo V. Gutierrez and Ricardo V. Gutierrez), author of *Filipinos Represent: DJs, Racial Authenticity, and the Hip-hop Nation* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013); co-editor of a special issue of *Critical Ethnic Studies* exploring the perils and possibilities of comparative critique (Fall 2015; co-edited with Danika Medak-Saltzman); and co-editor of the anthology titled *Filipinx American Studies: Reckoning, Reclamation, Transformation* (Fordham University Press, 2022; co-edited with Rick Bonus). His fields of research are American studies, critical ethnic studies, cultural studies, Asian American studies, and Filipinx American studies. His areas of expertise include comparative racializations, women of color feminism, queer of color critique, popular culture, contemporary youth activism, interdisciplinarity, archives and knowledge production.

Gina Velasco is an Associate Professor and Director of the Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies at Haverford College. She holds a Ph.D. in the History of Consciousness and Feminist Studies from the University of California at Santa Cruz. She is the author of *Queering the Global Filipina Body: Contested Nationalisms in the Filipina/o Diaspora* (University of Illinois Press, 2020). Her research and teaching explore how gender and queer sexuality inform notions of nation, diaspora, and transnational belonging in a contemporary context of globalization.

Mark Redondo Villegas is an Assistant Professor in American Studies at Franklin & Marshall College. His book, *Manifest Technique: Hip Hop, Empire, and Visionary Filipino American Culture*, was published in 2021 with the University of Illinois Press. In 2021, he was a postdoctoral fellow for the Inclusion Imperative's Visiting Faculty Fellowship Program at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. He has published in the *Journal of Popular Music Studies*, *Biography: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly*, *Amerasia Journal*, the *Journal of Asian American Studies*, the *Journal of the Critical Ethnic Studies Association*, the *Sage Encyclopedia of Filipina/x/o American Studies*, and the *St. James Encyclopedia of Hip Hop Culture*. He is co-editor of the pioneering anthology *Empire of Funk: Hip Hop and Representation in Filipina/o America* (Cognella Academic Press 2014).