

## CONTRIBUTORS



**John Paul Catungal** is Assistant Professor in the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice and Co-Director of the Asian Canadian and Asian Migration Studies Program at the University of British Columbia. A queer, first-generation Filipinx Canadian settler living in unceded Coast Salish territories, JP is an interdisciplinary scholar trained in the nexus of critical human geography and intersectional feminist theorizing. His research, teaching and public facing work concern the community organizing and cultural production practices of migrant, racialized and LGBTQ+ communities, with particular interests in sexual health, education and social services. He approaches his work indebted to and in conversation with Filipinx and Asian diaspora studies and queer and trans of colour theorizing. JP was co-editor of the *Filipinos in Canada: Disturbing Invisibility* (2012, University of Toronto Press) and has served on the editorial collective of *ACME: International Journal of Critical Geographies* since August 2017.

**Liza Constantino** is a dance scholar enrolled at York University's PhD program in Dance Studies. Her present research revolves around the pole dance community in Metro Manila, which she has been part of since 2015. She has also taught literature at Ateneo de Manila University, where she completed her MA in Literary & Cultural Studies.

**Lisa M. Davidson** is a sociocultural anthropologist with teaching and research interests in multiculturalism, racialization, migration, and Christianity. Her current research considers the intersectionality of ethics and migration to understand how a sense of unity and belonging is intertwined with in/tolerance and living a "good" life and how this phenomena is experienced, negotiated, and produced between multiracial and multiethnic Christian communities in Canada. As an extension of this work, her research involves Filipinos in Protestant congregations, who are working to create and sustain a sense of place and belonging and the kinds of programs they are developing to support political and spiritual connections within their own communities and with newly arrived immigrants, second and third-generation Canadian Filipinos, and multiracial Filipinos. She is an Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream, in the Department of Anthropology at York University (Toronto, Canada).

**Ariel M. Dela Cruz** (they/he) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Performing and Media Arts at Cornell University. Their doctoral research operates at the intersections of queer studies, trans studies, Filipinx diasporic studies, performance studies, and studies of care ethics and is grounded in their experiences as a queer, trans, and Filipinx community and care worker. Their doctoral research examines how Filipinx tomboys utilize performance

to negotiate gendered spaces across the Filipinx labour diaspora and engage in alternative modes of care work. Their doctoral research is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship. Ariel holds a B.Sc. degree with Honours in Neuroscience and Psychology and an M.A. in Women and Gender Studies from the University of Toronto.

**Ella Gonzales** is a Filipina Canadian artist working between painting and Computer-Aided Design programs, led by her interest in space making. Born in Saudi Arabia, she ruminates on narratives of migration that inform the Filipino diaspora. She has recently shown work at The Power Plant, Toronto; Unit 17, Vancouver; Galerie Nicolas Robert, Toronto; Stewart Hall Art Gallery, Pointe-Claire; Xspace Cultural Centre, Toronto; Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge; AXENÉO7, Gatineau; and Modern Fuel Artist-Run Centre, Kingston. Gonzales holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Western University and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Guelph.

**Dennis D. Gupa** is a theatre director, performance maker, and Assistant Professor at the University of Winnipeg's Department of Theatre and Film. He has an MA degree in Theatre Arts degree (University of the Philippines), an MFA degree in Theatre (University of British Columbia), and PhD in Applied Theatre (University of Victoria). As a former Vanier scholar, Dennis wrote his dissertation on sea rituals, climate change, and Indigenous ecological knowledge in island communities in the Philippines impacted by climate crises. His essays were published by *Text and Performance*, *Canada Theatre Research*, *Asia-Pacific Journal of Human Development and Family Studies*, *Frontiers in Marine Science*, *Arts Praxis*, *Global Performance Studies*, *Routledge*, *Bristol University Press/Policy Press*, *Methuen Drama*. He is a Dwight Conquergood Laureate Awardee of the Performance Studies international (PSI). He also received the The Ada Slight Drama in Education Award and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts' Doctoral Award.

**Marissa Largo** is an Assistant Professor of Creative Technologies in the School of Arts, Media, Performance & Design of York University. Her research and creation focus on the intersections of community engagement, race, gender and Asian diasporic cultural production. Her forthcoming book, *Unsettling Imaginaries: Filipinx Contemporary Artists in Canada* (McGill Queen's University Press) examines the work and oral histories of artists who imagine Filipinx subjectivity beyond colonial logics. Dr. Largo has received numerous awards and grants for her research and creative 168 practice. Her 2021 curatorial project *Elusive Desires: Ness Lee & Florence Yee* at the Varley Art Gallery of Markham (September 2021 to January 2022) was recognized by the Galleries Ontario/Ontario Galleries (GOG) awards for best exhibition design and installation, and best curatorial writing text between 2000 – 5000 words). Dr. Largo also collaborates with community organizations that connect policy engagement with creative and social practice.

**Kad Mariano** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Politics at York University. His research interests include the politics of nationalism, the politics of memory, the politics of recognition/reconciliation, settler colonialism, transnationalism, and migrant studies. His master's thesis examined the role of collective memory in settler-colonial nation-building practices, specifically during a time of proclaimed reconciliation. It suggests that the inclusion of Indigenous elements into Toronto's Nathan Phillips Square recasts Canada's settler history through the lens of multiculturalism. Kad's doctoral research comparatively investigates national conceptions of reconciliation through the transnational lives of migrants to analyze how and to what extent memory moves between locations. He also presented his work at various international conferences and received a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship award.

**Casey Mecija** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication & Media Studies at York University. Her research and creation examines sound as a mode of affective, psychic and social representation, specifically in relation to diasporic experience. Drawing on sound studies, queer studies and Filipinx Diaspora Studies, her research considers how sensorial encounters are enmeshed and disciplined by social and psychic conditions. Her work suggests that cultural production enables diasporic people to create forms of belonging that defy racialized ascriptions born from racism, colonialism, and their gendered dimensions. She is also a musician and filmmaker, whose work has received a number of accolades and has been presented internationally.

**Bianca Weeko Martin** is a writer and independent researcher with a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Waterloo, where she also received the RAIC Honour Roll and the Alpha Rho Chi Medal for her thesis research on her ancestral home. Bianca is the author of the book *Architectural Guide Manila*, published by Berlinbased DOM Publishers in 2024 and presented with partners in Manila, Naples, and Toronto. Currently, Bianca is the lead researcher of a Canada Council for the Arts Seed Grant funded project called "Publishing Across Diaspora," which explores alternative models for publishing and distributing books by emerging artists. Bianca collaborates on a variety of projects with designers, public artists, academics, curators, and business owners in Toronto, Canada.

**Rey Rosales** is chair of the Department of Communication at MacEwan University in Edmonton, AB, Canada. Rey recently completed a master's degree in education leadership from Harvard. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Journalism from Southern Illinois University and an M.S. degree in Radio-TV from Arkansas State University. A Fulbright scholar with over 20 years of teaching experience, he has held roles including Associate Dean at MacEwan University. He completed a fellowship at MIT and programs at Harvard and Educause. His research and teaching interests focus on innovation, digital media, online journalism, and digital storytelling. He is currently exploring data journalism and the applications of AI and machine learning in journalism and education.