Volume XXVII. Issue I ■ Spring 2017

THE CULTURAL JOURNA



Photo: Dr. Michael Bitz Traditional Ethiopian instruments at the museum exhibit, January, 2017, Ethiopia, Africa.



The Cultural Journal **Spring 2017**

The Culture Club, Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies, and Africana Studies

The Cultural Journal is a non-profit magazine devoted to sharing experiences with an emphasis on culture. Contributions of prose, poetry, literary criticism, short stories, essays, poems, anecdotes, drawings, photos, and recipes concerning culture, perceptions and interactions of people from different countries are accepted. Submissions can be in any language provided they are accompanied by an English translation. Text should be typed and if possible submitted on a flash drive along with a printout. We also accept online submissions.*

Editors: Niza Fabre

> Karl Johnson Joe Moncada

Consultants: José Hernández

Karl Johnson

Layout and Graphic Design: Joe Moncada

Giuseppe Sorrentino

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^{*}From the editors: Accepted submissions will be published in the order received as space permits. Articles will be edited at the editors' discretion. Opinions expressed by contributors do not reflect the editors' points of view.

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President Peter P. Mercer's

Message to Campus.

Dear Students, Colleagues, and Friends I look forward to celebrating with you the achievements of the Ramapo College Class of 2017!

The Ceremony on May 11 at the Prudential Center will feature the largest graduating class in our history.



Photo: Published with permission of Ramapo Marketing and Web Administration

1,625 graduates will earn their bachelor's or master's degrees. Among the graduates are 92 Educational Opportunity Fund Program participants; nine veterans representing the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the National Guard; 124 graduates that have affiliated with our Office of Specialized Services; and 30 graduates who earned their degrees through the Adult Degree Completion program. Our graduates will be joined by faculty, staff, friends, and family (all of whom helped contribute to their success). Ramapo Web/ Administration/Office of the President / President's Post #110: 201.

Dr. Beth Barnett,

provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.**Right:**

Dr. George Gonpu,

assistant professor of economics, ASB, posed at the closing banquet of the 49th Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association



Photo: Niza Fabre

Association hosted at Ramapo College, **March 30 –April 1**, **2017**.

Letter of the Dean

On a finnote, this will be my last "Letter of the Dean," as I am stepping down from this position and returning to the faculty after June 30. I have been honored to serve as Dean of the Salameno School for the past four years and happy to have had a chance to further Ramapo's commitment to the humanities and to global studies. More than ever, we recognize today the need for the kind of understanding and empathy that these areas of study lead us to. I look forward to many more years in the classroom.

Dr. Stephen P. Rice, Dean of SSHGS

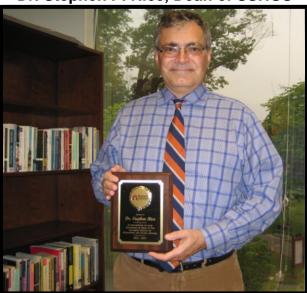


Photo: Niza Fabre

Dr. Stephen Rice displays the award he received in recognition of his leadership as Dean of the Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies, 2013-2017.

For the complete "Letter from the Dean" go to the SSHGS Perspectives, Newsletter of the Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies, Spring 2017, pp. 1-2, edited by Hugh Sheehy, assistant professor of creative writing.



Photo: NYU's Photographer

The Global South Cinema of the Americas, Faculty Resource Network Seminar, New York University, NYU Summer 2017.

Dr. Henry Davis,

professor
of history Medgar
Evers College,
CUNY, made a
presentation
titled "From
Slavery to
Incarceration:
Blacks and the
American Justice
System."
This presentation
was enhanced
with visual
images of
historic events

was ennanced
with visual
images of
historic events
involving African
Americans and
the justice
system of USA.
This event, in
celebration of
African
Ancestry
Month, took
place on
February 27, 2017,
it was sponsored

by The Culture Club, Africana Studies, and Brothers Making a Difference, BMAD.

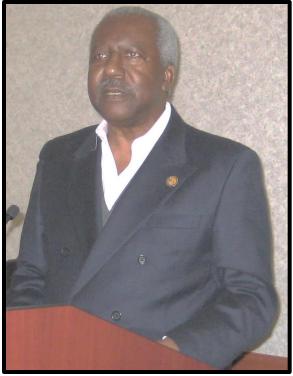


Photo: Niza Fabre

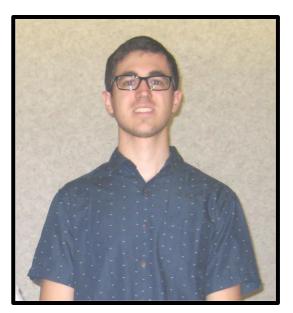
Left to Right: Ryan Greff '20, business administration major, Drs. George Gonpu, Henry Davis, and professor Mitch Khan,

> at Dr. Davis' speech,

held on February 27, 2017.



Photo: Niza Fabre



hoto: Niza Fabre
Andrew Herrera, Culture Club president, environmental studies major,
class 2018, made a presentation titled

"Conservation as Discrimination? Putting the Maasai / Protected Area Conflict Into Context"

Andrews' presentation focused on the "wicked problem" of park management and land rights, particularly in the southeastern African countries of Kenya and Tanzania. They are famous for their spectacular, imperiled wild life, but the indigenous Maasai herdsmen who live with them in the savanna are at risk as well, of losing their way of life. The Maasai have continually had their property rights and thus their ability to live as pastoralists constrained by new laws and business. Mwangi (2009) traces this problem to its beginnings with the arrival of the British, but it has continued through Tanzania's independence to present.

Native Tanzanians want to farm land that Maasai may inhabit, and this leads not to gunfights but to legal battles that often portend dire consequences for the Maasai's independence, as discussed by Askew, Maganga, Odgaard, Lund, and Boone (2013). But this is not merely the familiar conflict between indigenous peoples and settlers: The Maasai often must contend with wilderness conservation groups that force them off of their land or exclude them from the management process. Goldman (2011) discusses the strife that develops as Maasai are denied the right to work with conservationists, with the animals they know so well, a conflict that sometimes disrupts the ecological sustainability of a protected area.

This research has synthesized a hypothesis that while the ecotourism industry should (and may slowly be) changing to benefit and include the Maasai, this gulf between Maasai concerns and conservation interests is reflective of inequalities and disconnections rooted through the governments of the East African Community at multiple levels and within the major actors in the growing conservation industry.

This presentation took place on April 26, 2017 for Ramapo College's Fifth Annual Scholars' Day. Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Ashwani Vasishth.

Dr. Michael Bitz,

professor of Teacher Education, School of Social Science and Human Services, gave a talk on "Exploring Creativity and Literacy i n Ethiopia." The presentation explored the trip undertaken to Ethiopia in January 2017 by professors Bitz and Sineshaw. Through the Provost's Sub- Saharan Africa Travel Grant. Bitz and Sineshaw traveled to Ethiopia to work with school teachers, university faculty, and graduate students. The theme focused on the cultural connection established



Photo:Stephen Rosado

in Ethiopia. Professor Bitz described the efforts of helping Ethiopian students undertake a creative pathway to literacy through writing, designing, and publishing original comic books. He explained some of the lessons learned as well as described efforts to return to Ethiopia to continue the work in the future. This presentation took place on April 10, 2017. It was sponsored by The Culture Club and Africana Studies.

Dr. Rosetta D'Angelo,

professor of Italian in the Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies, chaired panel IV on "The Diaspora, Institution-Building and Reconstruction" at the 49th Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association, hosted at Ramapo College, March 30 - April 1, 2017.



Photo: Niza Fabre

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Franklin Ben-Weller II, University of Liberia and

Liberia, and

Dr. Karl Johnson,

associate professor of African American studies, Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies, posed at the 49th Annual Conference of The Liberian



Photo: Niza Fabre

Studies Association hosted at Ramapo College, March 30- April 1, 2017.

Dr. David Colman.

associate professor of African American history, Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies. convener of Africana Studies. gave the Introductory speech at the 49th Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association, Hosted at Ramapo College. March 30-April 1, 2017.



Photo: Niza Fabre

Dr. Virgina Gonsalves Domond.

professor of of psychology, School of Social Science and Human Services. made a presentation on "Security Sector reforms: Microlevel Blueprint and

Recommendations for a Sustainable Peace and Democracies in Liberia and Haiti," at the 49th Annual Conference of

The Liberian Studies Association,
hosted at Ramapo College, March 30 - April 1, 2017.



Photo: Niza Fabre

Dr. George Gonpu, assistant professor of economics, Anisfield School of Business.

made a presentation

on "Governance Quality Institutional Credibility and the Flow of Remittances to Liberia," at the 49th Annual Conference of the Liberian Studies Association, hosted at Ramapo College, March 30- April 1,

2017.

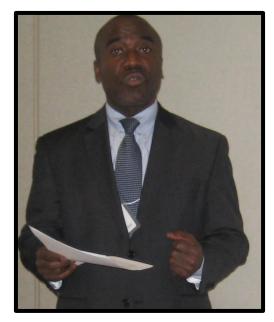


Photo: Niza Fabre

Maricel Mayor Marsán,

author, poet, playwrite, and redactor of *Baquiana Literary Magazine*, member of number of the North American Academy of the Spanish Language (ANLE), and therefore correspondent member of the Royal Academy of the Spanish Language (RAE).

Renacer en el Mar

A un niño que despertó pasiones a su paso por la ciudad

Un triángulo inseguro fue su partida, quizás desesperación,

quizás necesidad, quizás un poco de amor y aventura.

Un lobo marino teje telarañas En el vientre de una madre insepulta. El hijo no duerme tranquilo desde que ella se tornó ausente



Photo: Courtesy of Maricel Mayor Marsán

y su suerte quedó a cargo de unos delfines que coronaron el silencio en su rostro.

Maricel Mayor Marsán. Miami, poemas de la ciudad / Poems of the City. Miami, Florida: Ediciones Baguiana, ©2015, p. 33.

To Be Reborn in the Sea

To a child that stirred up passions in his passing through the city

An insecure triangle was his departure, maybe desperation,

maybe exile

maybe necessity,

maybe a little of love and adventure.

A sea lion spins webs
In the belly of an unburied mother.
The son doesn't sleep quietly
since she became absent
and his luck was left in charge of dolphins
that crowned the silence of his face.

Maricel Mayor Marsán. *Miami*, poemas de la ciudad / Poems of the City. Miami, Florida: Ediciones Baguiana, ©2015, p. 83.

Dr. Marithelma

Costa, author, Poet, and professor, Graduate School and Hunter College, City University of New York, (CUNY.)



Photo: courtesy of Marithelma Costa

La Casa Primera

Aroma de tomillo y romero envío a mi padre tras el día de su cumpleaños
Tomillo de las huertas de Palomera
Romero del manantial donde las golondrinas lo agarran en su vuelo
para que llegue íntegro a la casa primera

A la casa rodeada de orégano donde se está con paciencia porque no se puede viajar a la mía la mar océana es inmensa, los avatares multiples y papá necesitaría un golpe de dados en el tablero para llegar hasta aquí.

Author: Dr. Marithelma Costa, CUNY.

The Primary House (La casa primera) (Translation)

Aroma of thyme and rosemary I send to my father after the day of his birthday
Thyme of the orchards of Palomera
Rosemary from the wellspring where the swallows catch it on their flight
so that it arrives intact to the primary house

To the house surrounded by oregano where one stays with patience because one cannot travel to mine the ocean sea is immense, the avatars multiple and dad would need to play a dice game to get here.

Author: Marithelma Costa. Translator: Niza Fabre

†Nicola Tanelli (1963- 2013)

Nicola Tanelli, son of Dr. Orazio Tanelli. Dr. Tanelli, professor of Italian, founder and director, *Il Ponte italo-Americano* International Magazine of art, poetry and culture.



Photo: Orazio Tanelli

A Better Life Than Mine

Spring begins with a beautiful day.
Depressing thoughts must take sway.
I realize I don't miss you anymore.
Anyway, I consider it your terrible loss.
Oh to be me,
to rule over kingdoms
laughing at everyone's tremendous faults.

Nicola Tanelli. *Il Ponte italo-Americano*. 26th Anniversary, Anno XXVII No. 2, Fall 2016, p. 20.



Photo: Courtesy of Orazio Tanelli

Left to right: Orazio Tanelli, Sonia Etere, and Cav. Mattia Cipriano. Author Sonia Etere displays the II Ponte Cultural Award she received during the presentation of her book on sociology, titled: *The Wings of Fear.* Pescara, 2015.



Photot: Giovanni Pignataro

Left: Dr. Rosetta D'Angelo, professor of Italian, Ramapo College. Center: Prince Cav. Mattia Ciprinao. Right: Dr. Niza Fabre, associate professor, Ramapo College, displayed Mattia Cipriano's paintings at Forgia Restaurant, January 2017.



Photo: Courtesy of Forgia Restaurant

Left to right: Giovanni Pignataro, Giuseppe Carino, Rosetta D'Angelo, . Mattia Cipriano,, Niza Fabre, Giuseppe Petriello,and Gaetano Forgione, at the "Welcome to USA Lunch." In honor of friends from Italy. Forgia Restaurnat, January 2017.

Cecile Carty '17,

political science major, vice president of the Culture Club, shares her experience in Italy.

Exploring Rome

I spent most of my time at Ramapo wishfully dreaming of one day studying abroad and every time I would get discouraged and think that it would never be a possibility for me. But ultimately everything worked out for the best and I was able to spend a month this summer studying abroad in Rome and it was one of the



Photo: Courtesy of Cecile Carty

most unforgettable moments of my life.

I was somewhat nervous before my

I was somewhat nervous before my trip given the fact that I do not speak Italian and I thought that it would be challenging to overcome the language barrier but it ended up being a lot less challenging than I was expecting. Many of the people in the town of Trastevere where I was based actually spoke English, but they infused some Italian whenever I spoke to them, so I was able to learn some Italian words while I was there. The area is full of life and at night everyone is out on the streets talking in the local entertainment and restaurants. My weekdays consisted of attending classes, my classes were mostly with other study abroad students from the United States but there was quite a few Italian and other international students as well.

Cecile Carty '17, Ramapo College.

Nothing Was, Nothing Will be

Nothing was, nothing will be Everything has reality and presence* As the river moves within me So awakens the eternal essence

Flowing, flowing Flowing past, flowing present

Intermingling souls are buoyant Absent tension; reason prevails Namaste appears resplendent Communion with all that entails Swirling currents of insight Transparent glimpses of proof Lifting spirits to take flight Alighting upon kernels of truth

Flowing , flowing Flowing past, flowing present

IV
Flowing, flowing

Flowing past, flowing present Nothing was Nothing will be

© Marshall S. Harth. March 18, 2017 1500 @ Antiqua

"He saw that the water continually flowed and flowed and yet it was always there; it was always the same and yet every moment it was new." pg. 83. Inspired by Hermann Hesse, Siddhartha, 1951, New Directions, New York. Chapter: "The Ferryman" pp. 82-94.

* Nothing was, nothing will be, everything has reality and presence," p.. 87

Something soothing

Something soothing I shall sing. Words of comfort I will bring. Let my voice be calming and comforting

John C. Kenselaar. Poetry Today. Monroe, NY/Mahwah, NJ. Ying Yang Press, 2011, P. 8

Megan Kearney,

coordinator for Commuter Affairs. Commuter Affairs is committed to academically and socially connecting commuter students to the Ramapo College community by providing services and programs that will identify and meet needs of commuter students.



Photo: Niza Fabre

John Atti '08,

economics major, class 2008, posed with Simon, his son. Shortly after graduation John joined Ramapo College as area Director, Mackin and Bischoff desk attendant coordinator, Office of Residence Life.



Photo: Niza Fabre

13 14



Photo: Niza Fabre Randall Bembry '18, literature major

Dark Beat Light

If there was a day
The moon turned away from earth
The birds flew away from their turf
It would be in May

What if it all stayed? The snow and the sun were nerfed The birds would stay north for sure And all days would be today

Time and time again
The planet stayed sick
Of its same pigment of skin
Nobody playing in the wind
When the wind is always just
The wind
Everything's eternal
No shift in beginning
To end.

Randall Bembry '18, Ramapo College

Camo Night Vision

They're here nightly.
Savaging urban city scraps
They're all black
and they all scratch.
Neighbor to bats.
Unknown where they nap,
but I know they relax.
In the dark they attack.
I don't knock their stars.
Myself, I consider a match.
Myself, I consider a cat.

Randall Bembry '18, Ramapo College

Blanca Segarra, writer. author, poet, and prolific writer



Photo: Courtesy of Blanca Segarra

Invisible

Nos une un hilo dorado que nadie logra ver.

La luna me ha contado de tus noches de desvelos, nos une el mismo poder y nos une el mismo cielo.

También nos une la estrella fugaz a la que pedimos y la noche por ser ella reina, la hora en que nos vimos.

El mismo afán nos conforta uniendo más nuestras vidas. y la ansiedad que soporta saludos y despedidas.

invisible

A golden thread, no one is able to see, holds as together.

The moon has told me of your sleepless nights, the same power, and the same sky keep us together.

We are also joined by the shooting star to which we asked a wish and the night as the queen because in it was the time we saw each other.

The same eagerness comforts us unifying our lives more and the anxiety that puts up with greetings and farewells.

Blanca Segarra, Miami, Florida. Translation, Niza Fabre.

My Guitar

My guitar is my heart of hearts it's the place where I listen often where I get my advice from where I go when I get lost in the crazy world where I pick the strings and birth music the kind of music that heals the wounded the sick, the lonely, the distraught the weak, the lost, the survivor, the amputated, the silenced one, the changed the captured, the naive, the one in chains and my tears of songs wash and mourn oh how strongly they mourn the ones in the battles lost my tears know too well, you see what's lost is lost, only the wounded can still be healed and my guitar never seizes to play and my heart never seizes to hope that the wounded will find her way, all

Emma Cesarelia Hotar, '00 Ramapo College

Julianne De Lisi,

class of 17, literature major and contributor to Trillium, the College's literary magazine. Julianne posed at the literature luncheon and induction as member of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society.



Photo: Niza Fabre

This event took place on April 19, 2017.

Dr. Edward Shannon,

convener and professor of literature, Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies, gave an introductory speech at the literature luncheon and induction of new members of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society. This event took place on April 19, 2017.



Photo: Niza Fabre

Haiku An egret alone under the drooping willow contemplates the grass

John C. Kenselaar, *Poetry Jam.* Mahwah, Nj J Monroe, NY: Ying Yang Press, 1992, 16.



Left to right: Troy Reyes Caldwell '17, contemporary arts major, Culture Club ambassador, vice president of Brothers Making a Difference, Andrew Herrera '18, environmental studies major, Culture Club president, Cecile Carty '17, political science major, Culture Club vice president. Troy and Cecile display the award they received from Andrew, at the End of Semester Party, for their Culture Club Leadership. This event took place on April 27, 2017. It was sponsored by the Culture Club.



Photo: Cecile Carty

Cake decorated in honor of graduating Culture Club eboard members, Troy Reyes Caldwell and Cecile Carty at the Culture Club End of Semester Party, on April 27, 2017.



Photo: Cecile Carty
William Hooper '19, political science major, incoming treasurer of the Culture Club.



Left: Andrew Herrera '18, president of the Culture Club. Right: Negin Kholdi '19, accounting major, incoming vice president of the Culture Club, posed at the End of Semester Party, held on April 27, 2017.

Jarrod García '19,

literature major,

Last Look

Her father lets me into her room. He tells me to take my time. Downstairs, everyone is leaving; they've had their fill of crying and cold cuts. I shut the door and look at the beautiful wreckage of her unmade bed, trying to make out the indentation of her body. Apple hand cream and cherry lip gloss cling to the air, sweet and strong, as if she just breezed



Photo: Niza Fabre

in and wrapped herself around me.

A pair of leather boots stand in a corner the way she would, and I half-expect them to start walking around. On the dresser, a bookmark sticks out of a bad novel she wanted me to read, and I notice a curled brown hair resting beside it. The teenager in me considers taking the hair, for God knows what purpose, and I think about how she would laugh at that. The girl who gets the joke: that's how I want her remembered. Not the way they found her that morning. Not surrounded by floral arrangements. Not in the words of a priest, or in the photo collage her friends made. The last car pulls away outside, and one of her boots falls over with a dull flop. She's telling me it's okay to go home.

Author: Jarrod Garcia '19, Ramapo College

Joe Moncada '15,

business management major, international business minor. Joe served as Culture Club president, 2012-2015. He is now part of the Culture Club as a consultant and editor of the Cultural Journal magazine produced every semester by the Culture Club. Joe posed at the Culture Club's End of Semester Party held on April 27, 2017. This event was sponsored by the Culture Club.

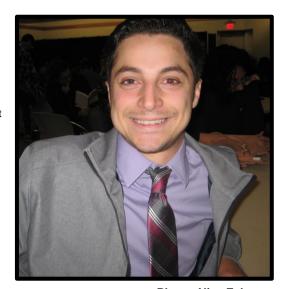


Photo: Niza Fabre

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René León,

historian, author. poet, and editor of Pensamiento Digital Literary Magazine.

Solo Una Pena

Yo tengo solo una pena en mi vida, es morir en el destierro leios de mi tierra querida

Lejos del agua mansa v clara de nuestros ríos. de nuestras montañas y valles.

De la primavera con sus colores alegres

v el trino de los páiaros De los días claros, de las tardes soleadas,

de las noches sosegadas y de nuestra brisa tropical.

De las olas del mar que baten nuestras plavas. del mar embravecido

Mi querida Cuba que llevo muy dentro de mi corazón

y sé que no volveré nunca. René León, Tampa Florida. 2017.

Dr. Antonio Corsaro,

associate professor. University of Urbino, made a presentation on, Art, Love, and Divinity in Michelangelo's Poetry. This event Took place on March 23. 2017. It was sponsored by The Italian Club.



Photo: Courtesy of René León

Just One Sorrow

I have only one sorrow / in my life, is to die in exile / away from my beloved land. Away from the crystal clear water of our rivers. away from our mountains and valleys.

Away from the Spring with its bright colours and the trill of the birds.

Away from the clear days / sunny afternoons, peaceful nights. / and from our tropical breezes.

que rompe las olas en espumas. Away from the waves of the sea

that reach our beaches,/ of the raging sea that breaks the waves in foams.

My beloved Cuba/ that I carry in my heart and I know I will never return to. Translation, Niza Fabre



Photo: Niza Fabre

Nilda Cepero,

Author, poet, singer and editor.

Lady Blue

And Joy, whose hand is ever at his lip.. Budding adieu -John Keats

Nightly she turns up poised before the piano Beset with beads and scenting like a rose this recherché dame who thrills from the talents of others cheers eagerly every tune

Her chair unoccupied at times I then miss her pomp and requests for an uncommon melody Yet we each deem It is the music man who seizes her and there she risks a tight rope for her let into her soft spot



Photo: Courtesy of Nilda Cepero

in maudlin Don Juan Juanesque / blue print he dazzles her /

I forewarn her and strive to ward her / from lesions. Overwhelmed she alights me / His quaint, intoxicating strains away her demeanor, entangling her / True to a iazz man only his tunes / are transparent.

Nilda Cepero. A Blue Cantata, Miami, Florida: LS Press, ©1999, p. 47.

The Olive Tree, Favorite Son of Nature

On a wise land, certainly invincible, on a land. God's Olympus of moving generosity, rises, like sphinx of life, the olive tree. Visible and still the sea of poverty. breaths echoes of emotions surrounded by siblings of silence that flows and spreads throughout fields with beats of lines. All its heritage of centuries perpetuates the glory of its essence for the hearts that bear fruits of doors always opened, dawns tangled with smiles, crops of happiness sunny, nuptial... The olive tree... dresses in mysteries on its twisted body. The olive tree... barn of hope. miracle brimming with dreams and reasons with fragrances of laughter without rust and hopes that shade lights of blind paradises of aureoles of suns. Oh loyalty of victorious sources! Oh revealed song to a world of renewals soaked in light to the core! The olive tree... treasure for the man who goes into its fertile labyrinths with faith to love them, look after them and protect them.

Author: Carlos Benítez Villodres. Sonata del agua viva. Granada: Editorial GS.C, 2015, Translation, Ma. Victori Beltrán Benítez, In Spanish on p. 23)



Photo: Courtesy Carlos BenÍtez Villodres

El olivo, hijo predilecto de la naturaleza

Sobre una tierra sabia, ciertamente invencible, sobre una tierra, olimpo de los dioses de generosidad conmovedora, se eleva, como esfinge de la vida, el olivo. Visible e inmóvil, como el mar de la pobreza, respira resonancias de emociones rodeado de hermanos, de silencio que fluve y se expande por campos con latidos de versos. Todo su patrinonio de siglos perpetúa la Gloria de su esencia para los corazones que dan frutos de puertas siempre abiertas, auroras enredadas en sonrisas, cosechas de ventura soleada nupcial . . . El olivo... con traje de misterios sobre su viejo cuerpo retorcido. El olivo..., granero de esperanza, prodigio rebosante de sueños y razones con fragancias de risas sin herrumbre y de ilusiones que derraman luces de paraísos ebrios de aureolas de soles. ¡Oh lealtad de fuentes victoriosas! ¡Oh canto revelado a un mundo de renuevos empapados de luz hasta la médula! El olivo... Tesoro para el hombre que penetra con fe en sus laberintos

Author: Carlos BenÍtez Villodres. Sonata del agua viva., Granada: Editorial GS.C., 2015.

(English translation on p. 22)

Eat This Poem

Your thighs of rope
Every twich
draws me closer
to hemp conciousness

I might as well \ eat this poem

Alan Britt. *Vermillion.* Fayetteville, N.Y: The Bitter Oleander Press. 2006, p. 32.

Qué bien se está en mi casa. Así los dos, mi casa que es tu casa y recorremos juntos los libros que aún amamos. Silencio...

Solo el tic-tac lo sabe.
Es una tarde larga, verde
de tulipanes rojos, amarillos
--míralos allí abaio.

--miraios aiii abajo, mira que raro es verse triste en esta tarde con las puertas abiertas -Señor de la alegría-

con cal entre las uñas

y el dolor, tan despacio...--Es la hora del trigo y zumban las abejas y la hiel de mi vida se dulcifica ahora.

Debo cantarlo, debo, decirlo a alguien:

--Hoy estoy primavera...y nos crecen las ramas--¡Qué delicioso sueño!

Author: Isabel Díez Serrano. Madrid, España.

I feel like spring, cries my heart (Translation)

How fine to be in my home.
this, the two of us, my house is your house
and together we leaf
through the books we still love.
Silence...

Only the tick-tock knows.
The afternoon is long, green with tulips, red, yellow,
-see there below

see how strange it is to be sad this afternoon with the windows open, --Lord of happiness, sitting at the table

with lime under our nails and pain, so slow...--

It' is wheat time and bees are humming and the bile of my life is sweetening now.

I should sing of it, I should tell someone.

Today I am Spring,...and our branches are growing. What a precious dream.

Author: Isabel Díez Serrano

Translator: Elizabeth Gamble Miller. Dallas, Texas, USA.

Haiku

Ah! This fine Spring day a pocketful of haiku and this gentle breeze

John C. Kenselaar, *Poetry Jam.* Mahwah, NJ. / Monroe, NY: Ying Yang Press, 1992, p.16.

Robert Hagan '17,

literature major



Photo: Niza Fabre

Swiping Right

I'm afraid of my rickety bed, it isn't built for rest, always tossing, always turning, An invitation to the restless.

Tethered to the fate of ozymandauss. I find comfort in strangers. especially in the company of my right thumb.

I advertise northern lights, satin, and a stained-glass Vatican depiction of job. Promises of reciprocity. Anything.

To haggle instead the marriage following ten minutes, an IKEA lamp, Walmart bedsheet, and the fatal attraction of months

I'm not afraid to sleep, It's staying awake that frightens me.

Robert Haggan '17, Ramapo College

First Read, Then Sung

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Spirits of the woods, made of wind and green. spirits of the woods, what music do you sing? Spirits of the woods. see how the hawk soars! Spirits of the woods: The butterfly rests at last. Spirit of the woods. Spirits of smoke and growth. What truth do you speak? What music do you sing?

John Kenselaar, Poetry Today, Monroe / Mahwah: Ying Yang Press, 1992, p. 3.

Luz Argentina Chiriboga,

is an essavist, fiction and non-fiction writer, and poet. Among other recognitions, she has been recently nominated for the Alba de las Letras Award, Ecuador, and for the National Espejo Prize of Culture. In March 2015. Luz Argentina was recipient of the "Matilda Hidalgo de Procer Medal of Honor," the highest distinction delivered by the Asamblea Nacional.

Los domingos



Photo: Courtesy of Luz Argentina Chiriboga

En la ciudad ceñida por el mar, el ague fluye junto a los barcos. Este domingo casi todos los habitantes duermen y despiertan asustados con el murmullo de una especie de discurso mal dicho. Una voz de mujer rompe el silencio. Se preguntan intrigados quién será, qué sucede: Es la primera vez que en esas circunstancias ocurre algo semejante.

Algunos se asoman a la ventana, intrigados por el murmullo y voces de alguien que canta. Algo pasa en la plaza. Impacientes, preguntan qué pasa. El canto se agiganta por momentos, la gente corre a ver. Roto así el rítmo habitual de la ciudad, los espectadores aplauden y gritan. ¡otra!. Las palabras de una mujer rebotan en el silencio de la mañana, palabras enternecedoras enraizadas en lo más noble de su existencia. La mujer tiene un rostro infantil y una forma sencilla de expresarse, lo que suscita aplausos.

Era una sorpresa para todos que ella se hubiera transformado magicamente. Con su disfraz y con movimientos a veces grotescos, su figura inspira alegría y también tristeza. La interpretación que realiza de Celia Cruz, la guarachera. Y de Angela Davis, siembra en el corazón de todos una sola verdad: expresa ternura. Recuerda a su pueblo. Te veo desde esta lejanía, veo tu río, tus verdes montañas, tus playas. Vuelve a mí, pueblo querido.

Ella llora. Algunos domingos recita poemas mezclando varios autores, aunque dice que son de su creación. Entonces, la gente se ríe, y cuando olvida la letra, recita canciones. El público, lleno de sorpresa y de risas, la aplaude. Nadie conoce a fondo la esencia de su locura, pero a ratos ella se burla de la locura inusitada de los cuerdos.

Unos dicen que se hace la loca; otros que es medio trastornada, y, algunos aseguran que está loca de remate. Como fuese, los domingos aparece La Loca Lucero ataviada de unos calzones bombachos hasta la rodilla, una falda roja muy amplia, blusa verde y una peluca carmesí encendido. Dicen quienes la conocieron que era una negra fuera de serie, es decir guapísima y que la patrona blanca le hizo daño. De repente, Lucero se sintió mal, para ella fue un tormento y un conflicto decir la verdad, pues Rogelia desviaba dinero de la empresa para el juego y comenzó a oler con el rastro de su esclavitud a los casinos. Le surgió la venganza.

Los domingos Lucero recorre calles y plazas cantando y bailando merengue y salsa. La gente se aglomera para verla bailar, le aplauden y le lanzan monedas. Otras veces se cree Angela Davis entonces da discurso y recita. Un domingo llega la hermana mayor de Lucero, le quita la peluca y la embarca en un taxi, rumbo a donde un chamán, porque esa enfermedad no la curan los médicos, sino un especialista en brujería. El chamán le da a beber por tres meses una taza de consomé de la cabeza de una paloma: dice que es muy bueno para recuperar la memoria que se le ha escurrido.

Tiempo después vuelve Lucero, esta vez para realizar su campaña pues está de cand idata a asambleísta y el público, su publico le grita: _ÍViva Lucero! _ÍLucero asambleísta! Le fue fácil ganar. Al llegar a la Asamblea se asombra de que sus compañeros se den de puños, griten, insulten, hagan componendas. Definitivamente, no entiende el mundo de los cuerdos. Comienza a extrañar su vida anterior, los días felices de su locura.

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Luz Argentina Chiriboga, Quito, Ecuador. (English Translation on p.27)

Sundays (Los domigos, translation)

In the city bordered by the sea, the water flows alongside the boats. This Sunday almost all the inhabitants sleep and wake up frightened by the murmur of a sort of discourse badly said. A woman's voice breaks the silence. They wonder who will be, what happens; It is the first time in such circumstances.

Some peep out of the window, intrigued by the murmur and voices of someone who is singing. Something happens in the square. Impatient, people ask what happens. The chanting is enlarged for moments; people run to see.

Broken thus the habitual rhythm of the city, the spectators applaud and shout, another one!. The words of a woman bounce in the silence of the morning, moving words rooted in the noblest of her existence. The woman has a baby face and a simple way of expressing herself, which gives rise to applause.

It was a surprise to everyone that she had magically transformed herself. With her disguise and with sometimes grotesque movements, her appearance is joyful and also sad. Her interpretation of Celia Cruz, the guarachera, and of Angela Davis, sows in the hearts of all, a single truth: it expresses tenderness. She remembers her town: "I see you from this distance, I see your river, your green mountains, your beaches. Come back to me, loved town," she cries.

Some Sundays she recites poems mixing several authors' poems, although she claims that those poems are of her creation. Then, people laugh, and when she forgets the lyrics, she recites songs. The audience, full of surprise and laughter, give her a round of applause. No one knows in depth the essence of her madness, but at times she mocks the weird madness of the sane.

Some say that she is crazy; others that she is half crazy, and some assure that she is totally crazy. No matter what, on Sundays, crazy Lucero shows up dressed in knee-high bombacho breeches, a very wide red skirt, green blouse and a crimson wig.

Those who knew her say that she was an out-of-range black, that is to say, very beautiful and that her white patrona did sorcery to her. Suddenly, Lucero felt bad, For her, it was a torment and a conflict to tell the truth because Rogelia diverted money from the company for gambling and began to trace it with the skills she got from the slavery experience, to the casinos. Revenge arose in her.

On Sundays Lucero walks streets and squares singing and dancing merengue and salsa. People surround around to see her dance, applauding and throwing coins for her. Other times she believes she is Angela Davis then gives speech and recites.

One Sunday, Lucero's older sister shows up, takes off her wig and embarks her in a taxi, heading for a shaman, because this disease is not cured by doctors, but by a specialist in witchcraft. The shaman gives her to drink, for three months, a cup of consommé of the head of a dove; He says that it is very good to recover her memory that has been drained.

Days later Lucero returns, this time to work in her campaign because she is candidate to Assemblywoman and the public, her public screaming: – Long Live Lucero! Lucero Assemblywoman! It was easy for her to win. When she arrives at the Assembly she is astonished that her comrades were fist fighting, shouting, insulting, cursing. Definitely she does not understand the world of sane people. She begins to miss her previous life, the happy days of her madness.

Author: Luz Argentina Chiriboga, Quito, Ecuador. English translation, Niza Fabre

Haiku

Youngsters take delight In swinging high on the swing Hearing church bells ring.

John C. Kenselaar, *Poetry Jam.* Mahwah, Nj./ Monroe, NY: Ying Yang Press, 1992, p.16.

Alan Britt

professor of English and creative writing, Towson University.



Photo: Charles P. Hayes

Birds of Smoke

A smooth fern curls Above your cabernet

Behind you a faded tapestry in which a royal family practices falconry outside the oblivious forest.

The Queen's arm extends toward heaven.
A domesticated falcon her torch.

The waiter arrives, glides over your perfumed shoulder, reveals to glistening eyes a glazed duck beneath silver.

From your coy lips trail birds of smoke

Alan Britt. The Empowerment of Poetry. Mahwah, NJ., 2009, p. 5.

Valentín

(Día del amor y la Amistad en USA 14 de febrero de 2017)

No habrá ningún ser Que desprecie el amor. Los valientes y certeros poetas saben mejor que todos amar, y están entusiamados por tener un día especial para celebrarlo con chocolates versos. abrazos y besos

que son equipos del amor; el dia de San Valentín. Que tu día sea lleno de AMOR

Valentine 2017

It will never exist someone who despises love.
But brave and well-aimed poets, know best how to love all beings with enthusiasm in having a special day celebrating with chocolates,

verses, hugs and kisses of which are the equipment of LOVE HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

Teresinka Pereira. Il Ponte Italo-Americaao. Summer, 2017, p. 9.

Lola Benítez Molina,

author and prolific writer.

El embrujo del amor

Según podemos leer en el diccionario de la Real Academia Española de la Lengua, "amor es ese sentimiento intenso del ser humano que, partiendo de su propia insuficiencia, necesita v busca el encuentro y unión con otro ser". Efectivamente, ese sentimiento vehemente, vivo y profundo, que posee cada persona, es único, aunque conlleve distintas connotaciones respecto a quién o a quiénes va dirigido. Asimismo, dice Santa Teresa de Calcuta que "el amor es el único lenguaje que todos entendemos", pero, por desgracia, en todas las épocas, incluida la presente, un sinnúmero de personas no comprende ni



Photo: Courtesy of Lola Benítez Molina

siquiera superficialmente dicho idioma universal. Es evidente que mucho se ha escrito sobre el amor, noble sentimiento, como ya expresé, que nos hace divagar por los entresijos de lo onírico, para despertar los más sublimes anhelos. Palpitaciones encendidas que alientan los sentidos y ensalzan la belleza de todo cuanto tocan con su sutil fragancia. Vehemente fuego de pasiones encendidas, exaltadas, sublime goce, que con tan solo una mirada alumbra los corazones.

¿Cuántas veces la luna ha sido carabina expectante de tal alucinación, de amores imposibles, de encuentros furtivos? ¿Por qué los amores inalcanzables suscitan tanta agonía y servidumbre, donde los ríos de tinta de los poetas se derraman igual que cascadas de lágrimas? ¿Qué embrujo despliega para que todos los poetas lo ensalcen o giman ante la innegable pérdida? Sólo San Valentín conoce la primera palabra secreta, que en los corazones aviva refulgente. Susurros que el viento lleva a su antojo y, que de nuevo, vuelve a renacer cuando el alma más desprevenida se halla, para llevarla al más recóndito infinito. El sol resplandece en eterna primavera y a hurtadillas las estrellas contemplan su grandeza. "El afán constante de todos los enamorados, refiere Octavio Paz, y el tema de reconocimiento de la persona querida.

El reconocimiento aspira a la reciprocidad, pero es independiente de ella. Es una apuesta que nadie está seguro de ganar porque es una apuesta que depende de la libertad del otro. El origen del amor es la búsqueda de la reciprocidad libremente otorgada. La paradoja del amor único reside en el misterio de la persona que, sin saber nunca exactamente la razón, se siente invenciblemente atraída por otra persona, con exclusión de las demás. El amor es, pues, atracción involuntaria hacia una persona y voluntaria aceptación de esa atracción".

Obviamente, el amor es el motor de la vida, de cada persona, de cada acción, de cada paso... Si este motor dejara de funcionar, que no lo hará nunca, la raza humana perdería su razón de ser, de existir, es decir, la vida sin amor no tendría sentido alguno. Por consiguiente, ésta se marchitaría como cualquier flor. "Un hombre sin amor, manifiesta Carlos Benítez Villodres, es un cadáver que muere a cada paso", pues tengamos siempre presente que el amor es ese manantial de energía vital que nos permite seguir viviendo. Y, ciertamente, el mundo sin amor caminaría, por la misma causa, hacia su total desaparición.

Author: Lola Benítez Molina, Málaga, España. (English Translation on p. 30)

Love's Enchantment (El embrujo del amor. Translation)

According to what one can read in the dictionary of the Spanish Royal Academy of Language: "Love is this intense feeling of the human being that, as a consequence of its own inadequacy, yearns for and seeks out the coupling and union with another being." Effectively, this fervent feeling, vibrant and profound, which possesses each person, is unique. Although it holds distinct connotations for those to whom it is directed. It is for this reason that St Teresa of Calcutta is quoted to have said: "Love is the language that we all understand." And yet unfortunately, in every era including the present, an innumerable amount of people lack an even rudimentary understanding of this supposed universal language.

It's true that much has been written about love, a noble feeling, as I have already expressed, that takes us on a meandering path through our dreams, to awaken the most sublime yearning. Electrifying palpitations which rouse the senses and intensify the beauty of all they touch with their subtle fragrance. A raging fire of burning passion, exaltation, sublime joy, which with just one glance can ignite hearts.

How many times has the moon waxed and waned in anticipation of such delirium, of impossible love, of illicit rendezvous? Why does unattainable love provoke such sweet agony and servitude, where rivers of ink from the poet's pen cascade like a waterfall of tears? What enchantment is unfurled that poets so laud and glorify it in the face of irrefutable loss?

Only St Valentine knows the first secret word to rouse and kindle hearts. Whispers on the wind arouse cravings which again, are reignited when the most unforeseen soul presents itself, to whisk one away to unfathomable depths.

The sun shines in eternal spring and the stealthy stars contemplate its greatness.

"The constant desire of all lovers, quotes Octavio Paz, and the subject of our great novelists and poets has always been the same: The desire for recognition from the loved-one. Recognition aspires for reciprocity but is distinct. Love is a game that nobody is sure of winning as it is dependent on the liberty of another. The origin of love is the search for mutual affection freely bestowed. The paradox of monogamous love resides in the enigma of the individual who, without ever knowing why, feels an overwhelming attraction to another, to the exclusion of all others. Love is thus, an involuntary attraction to another individual and the voluntary acceptance of this attraction."

Clearly love is the engine of life, of every person, of each action, of every step... If this engine were to break down, which it never will, the human race would lose all reason for being, of existence, or rather, life without love would have no meaning. And yet, love withers like any other flower. "A man without love, quotes Carlos Benítez Villodres, is a corpse which dies with each step." Thus we are aware that love is this spring of vital energy that allows us to continue living. Unquestionably, a world without love would, for this very reason, be destined for total annihilation.

Author: Lola Benítez Molina. Málaga, Spain. Translator: Alexandra H. Wigley.

Joni Mitchell

Joni Mitchell sings, textured as magnolia buds In February.

Tight, feathery, Olive.

Her twisted black branches, Iconoclastic right down to their chilly roots.

Alan Britt. *Vermillion.* Fayetteville, N.Y: The Bitter Oleander Press. 2006, p. 22.



Photo: Tony Gazzeli

Left: Niza Fabre, associate professor. Right: Lorraine Castelonia, housekeeping specialist. Lorraine and Niza posed at the retirement party in honor of Lorraine. She retired after 30 years of service. Most of her tenure, Lorraine was in charge of keeping our offices and classrooms in the B-Building squeaky clean. This event took place on March 31, 2017, it was organized by Lorraine's friends and coworkers



Photo: Facilities Staff

Left to right: Tony Gazzelli, Herbert Berry, Flor Mina, Sally Wilson, Lorraine Castelonia, Persi Martínez, Niza Fabre, Iván Velázquez, Oswaldo Tejada, Rosa Mayorga, and Jonathan LaBarbiera. They posed at the retirement party in honor of Lorraine, March 31, 2017.

Mario Andino,

Author and poet.

Gone Sister

Ruth, at thirty years of your embarking, oak leaves plagiarize your hair. Place your tired hand against these leaves: you will see your fingers marked down against that color. They are like a soul that accompanies you, as a loyal little animal (which is) out of season, warming you far beyond, like flower flourishing. Every cypress encourages its green and black, to form a bland ellipsis surrounding you. Ruth, the sun embraces you like an evangelist, it presses each vegetal hand as being your signature, adorned by a meaningful stone with your: name.



Photo Courtesy of Mario Andino

Mario Andino. Antología Poética (Bilingüe). USA: Ediciones Academia ©2004, p. 81.

Hermana ida

(Para mi hermana Ruth Ester)

Ruth, a seis lustros de tu embarque, / la hoja del arce plagia tus cabellos. / Posa tu mano gastada contra las hojas: / verás tus dedos marcados en su color ./ Son como un alma que te acompaña / cual fiel animalillo fuera de estación, que entibia el más alla, en floraciones. / Cada ciprés insta en verdinegras ramas / que harán elipsis blandas a tu derredor. / Ruth, el sol te abarca como un evangelista, / imprime cada mano vegetal cual tu firma, / Que ornamenta piedra señera con tu nombre.

Mario Andino. Antología Poética (Bilingüe). USA: Ediciones Academia ©2004, p. 82.



Photo: Niza Fabre

Left to right: Mounira Elsamra '20, visual arts major, concentration 3D animations, vice president, Muslim Association, Negin Kholdi '19, accounting major, vice president Culture Club, Kaoutar Bahaj '19, biology major, public spokesperson, and Rand Abdul-Raziq '19, nursing major, treasurer, Muslim Association, posed, at **the Muslim Woman in America event, held on April 12, 2017.**

The Years It's Been

I may not find in this icy window one uncorrupted face, one clear passage from image to architect standing apart from eye to mouth.

It was surely an exaggeration on my part and yet since I have known you, for a second, a minute, an hour. Your lifetime makes no excuses, merely peers unstained out at an impure world.

I look at you here, always in isolation, never to be doubted, like spring foliage or the honing of a silvery sea rock.

Even doing nothing more than making your own image, you thrive.

For your world's an accidental mirror. Time floats in and out.

John Grey, RI., USA

Nostalgic

Over there, the land of José Martí. Oh Hatuey, and his Valley of Yumurí.

I was born over there not far from here. Merely ninety miles away from this pier.

I made the trip by ferry over there. To the Golden Cup, a pearl with flare.

I long for Varadero, the Clup Tropicana. The fruits of El Caney, the randy cubana.

La Palma Real is more beautiful over there. Where people used to leg-pulling don't care.

But, I won't go back there, not now. A consciousness to democracy must be plow.

† G. Amado Bastos. Through The Rhythm of Love. Quebradillas, Puerto Rico: Enchanted Island Edition, 1995, p. 58.

Yellow Tile

Surrounded by walls of yellow tile.

A hive.

Paper echoes.

Am I inside or out?

Alan Britt. *Vermillion*. Fayetteville, N.Y: The Bitter Oleander Press, 2006, p. 20.

RAMAPO COLLEGE Spring 2017

CULTURAL AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

African Ancestry Month, February 2

Event: Opening and proclamation ceremony
Activity: Performance and introduction to the theme
Sponsor: The African Ancestry Month Committee

Real Men Real Talk, February 9

Theme: Masculinity, men's issues

Activity: Biweekly meeting about what it is being a man on campus

Sponsor: The Women Center

Annual Fashion Show, February 23

Theme: Coming to America

Event: Performances by special guests **Sponsor**: Equity and Diversity Programs

Photo Exhibit, March 1

Event: India Photo Exhibit

Theme: "You & Me" by Michael Pacheco

Sponsor: The Roukema Center for International Education

Student Union Banquet, March 21

Introduction: Welcome remarks

Activity: Annual Black Student Union Banquet

Sponsor: The Black Student Union

Tomamos la Palabra, April 3

Speakers: Margarita Drago and Juana M. Ramos

Theme: Testimonies of women who fought in the Civil War Sponsor: Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies

Annual World Expo, April 19

Activities: Cultural performances
Other Activities: Prizes, free t-shirt
Sponsor: The Roukema Center

Maya Cosmovision, April 24

Speaker: Caryn Maxim

Theme: Indigenous Worldview and Resilience

Sponsor: Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies

Culture Club End of Semester Party, April 27

Speaker: Andrew Herrera

Activity: Graduating e-board members recognition

Sponsor: The Culture Club

Senior Dinner, May 1

Activity: Dinner for graduating seniors

Vendor: Sodexo

Sponsor: Ramapo College

Baquiana, Revista Literaria. Director Ejecutivo: Patricio E. Palacios. Directora de Redacción: Maricel Mayor Marsán. Ediciones Baquiana, P.O. Box 521108. Miami, Florida, 33152-1108, info@baquiana.com

Recipe



Home Made Zeppoles

Ingredients:

2 cups flour

2 Tsp sugar

1 tsp baking soda

5 eggs

1 pound cottage cheese

Instructions:

In a bowl, mix the flour, sugar, baking soda, eggs, cottage cheese. Heat corn oil in a large frying pan. Add tablespoon drops of dough in oil. Fry until brown. Drain on paper towel. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Makes 36 zeppoles.

Lauren Deo, Literature major, class 2018

Books and Magazines Received

Africana Heritage. Newsletter for Schomburg Society Members. Volume 17, Nos. 2, 3. Winter / Spring, Summer 2017.

Animal Place Magazine, Spring 2017.

ASPCA, Action. Issue 1, 2017.

Baquiana, Revista Literaria. Anuario XVII, 2016.

Benítez Villodres, Carlos. *Mi Granada*. Málaga, España: Granada Club Selección. 2016.

Dime Bag. Spring 2017.

Faith, Magazine of Life Study Fellowship. Vol. 77. No. 2. April, May, July, August, September, 2017.

Global. Issue 1, Spring 2017.

Good Medicine, Winter 2017.

Guevara, Martín. A la sombra de un mito. Miami: Alexandria Library, 2014. Ironwood Pig Sanctuary News. January, February, March, May, June, Issues 74, 75, 76, 2017.

Martínez, Erica M. Daring to Write. USA: University of Georgia Press, 2016. Nature Conservancy. Spring/Summer 2017.

MLA News Letter. Vol. 49, No.1, Spring 2017.

PMLA. Volume 131, No. 5, October 2016. Vol. 132, No. 1, January 2017. *Pawprints.* Issue 2. July 2017.

Philological Sciences at MGIMO (U) Philologicheskiye nauki v MGIMO (U) No.3 (76).

Piña Rosales, Gerardo. El cine desmitificador y subversivo de Luis Buñuel. Nueva York: Circulo de Poetas Iberoamericanos, 1999.

Ramapo College Magazine. Winter, Spring, 2017.

Ramapo Unpacked. Vol.5, issue1: Spring 2017.

Ramapo College Magazine, Summer 2017.

Tanelli, Orazio. Il Ponte Italo-Americano, 27thAnniversary. Summer 2017.

Trillium Ramapo Literary Magazine, 2017.

Animal Corner Carter Mack

Carter Mack is a 2.5 year-old, 19 pound mix of Chihuahua, Pekingese, Pomeranian, and Schipperke. He is inquisitive, smart, and a snuggle bug. Carter loves to play fetch and to sleep under the covers in bed.



Photo: Tiffanie Coleman '20, American Studies major.

Honey Bee

Bee extracted nectar from a flower as pollen grains stuck to its body in the Surroundings. of the Spiritual Center grounds, at Ramapo College, Summer 2016.

Honey



Prioto. Angel. R. Otero Jr. Crew Supervisor / Locksmith RCNJ.

Animal Corner Fifi

Fifi's first 30 years of life were spent at a roadside zoo in Pennsylvania, where the Syrian brown bear was forced to stand on her hind legs and perform tricks to entertain visitors for years. When the zoo finally closed down in 1995, she and three other bears were simply warehoused in cramped cages. Two decades later, PETA learned of their plight and arranged for them to be retired to the Wild Animal Sanctuary in Colorado. Fifi was severely underweight and suffering from arthritis in her rear legs. Her coat was thin and Unkempt, and her eyes were sunken But after just a few months, she was a different bear. -today her legs are stronger. her eyes are bright, and her coat has become thick and shiny.



Photo: PETA Rescued Published with permission of PETA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Sparky

Sparky is a Brittany rescue who was adopted when he was one-year-old. He is now three years old and likes to spend his time running, napping, playing with toys, and eating treats. He is always excited to see people and has earned the nickname "Wiggles" because of the way he shakes his body when he sees someone. Like other dogs of his breed, he is very energetic and can often be found at Ramapo Reservation and at the dog's park in Ridgewood, NJ.



Photo: Julianne De Lisi '17, literature major



Photo: Dr. Michael Bitz Main road of Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, Africa, January 2017.

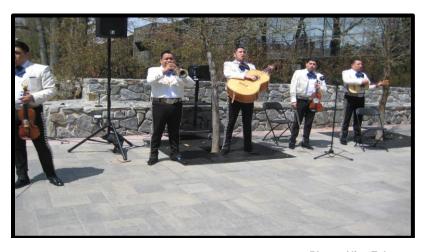


Photo: Niza Fabre

World Expo Fills the Grove with the international Music and Activities. For the fifth year Ramapo College held Annual World Expo event this spring 2017. The World Expo is an event that showcases multiple cultures. It is designed to commemorate the diversity represented on campus. World Expo encourages students to experience other cultures. This event took place on April 19, 2017, it was sponsored by the Roukema Center.

