

FEMINISTAS UNIDAS

*A Coalition of Feminist Scholars in Spanish,
Spanish-American, Luso-Brazilian,
Afro-Latin American, and U.S. Latina/o Studies*



*Barbara Lucero Sand
"La Danza Series"*

COVER ART
ARTIST

Barbara Lucero Sand is originally from Taos, New Mexico and has been involved in the arts for most of her life. She is currently finishing a MFA graduate program in Photographic Studies at Arizona State University with an emphasis in Latin American Art and Contemporary Mexican Photography. She recently received the Museum Studies Certificate from Anthropology at ASU with a concentration in gallery and museum management.

For the past two years Barbara has been the graduate administrator for Northlight Gallery, the fine art photographic gallery on campus. After a number of years as a *danzante* (Aztec dancer) with the Arizona group *Yoloincuatli* she returned to New Mexico where she began the Series *La Danza*. At present, she is involved in a long term collaborative project with another Northern New Mexican indohispano writer, artist and *danzante*. The project combines imagery and text about *danzantes* throughout the Southwest and Mexico.

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LETTER from the PRESIDENT

Dear Feministas,

I am happy and honored to begin a two-year term as the President of our organization. My goal is to keep up the good work we have been doing these last (almost) twenty years as well reach out to new groups with interest in women's and gender studies. I hope you will e-mail me with ideas and suggestions for a vibrant Feministas Unidas poised for the next century.

In the hope of more participation throughout the year by a large number of members, we have modified our organizational structure and returned to our tradition of committees with specific tasks. For the next two years, I will serve as president, Victoria Garcia Serrano will be vice-president and Amy Kaminsky will join us as past-president. One of our goals is to clarify the duties of each of these roles for ourselves and the next group of officers.

We have set up three committees:

Committee for our literature/culture panel and pedagogy workshop for the 1998 MLA.
Members will collect suggestions and work with you to clarify and develop the ideas before they are presented to the full membership at the Business Meeting at the 1997 MLA. Members are : Rosemary Feal, Elizabeth Horan, Alicia del Campo and Victoria Garcia - Serrano.

Committee on the Newsletter.

As we move to have more rapid and immediate communication with members through electronic mail and a web site, we want to ask what the newsletter might include to be of even more service to members. Members of this committee will take suggestions and make recommendations to our editor, Cynthia Tompkins. Members include Cynthia, Amy Kaminsky, Dara Goldman and Silvia Nagy-Zekmi.

Committee on the Feministas Unidas Award for the best essay of feminist scholarship in Spanish, Spanish-American, Luso-Brazilian, Afro-Latin American and U.S. Latina/o Studies. This year we approved an award for the best essay to be given to members who at the advanced graduate-student, instructor and assistant-professor levels. Committee members will read submissions and decide on the winning essay. The award will be given at our annual business meeting. Members are: Margarita Vargas, Linda Fox and Lou Channon-Deutsch.

We also hope to arrange allied status with the regional MLA organizations and to hold panels at their conferences. Our representatives are Diane Marting for SAMLA, Elizabeth Horan for PAMELA, Laura Beard for SCMLA, Linda Fox for MMLA and Mary Jane Treacy for NEMLA. Please contact me if there are other regional associations with Feministas members who could establish contact and get our presence known.

I want to thank all the members who helped Feministas have a spectacular year at the 1996 MLA: the coordinators set up panels that attracted many people, the panelists gave superb papers and members brought good cheer (and new people) to our annual party. Even the Hilton cooperated with a huge suite. Thanks to Amy for her hard work and good ideas, to Linda for sitting in as our secretary and to Lynn for keeping our noses to the budget. And special thanks to Cynthia for taking on the large job as secretary/editor without whom this Newsletter is impossible. I look forward to seeing all of them and all of you at our next Feministas meeting.

Mary Jane Treacy
mtreacy@simmons.edu

LETTER from the EDITOR

Mis queridas colegas:

Con el ansiado arribo de las vacaciones les llegaré el *mean/lean* May issue. El *slim look* se debe tanto a las sugerencias de Mary Jane Treacy, respaldadas por la poderosa razón del costo, como al cimbronazo de la muerte de mamá y al posterior proceso de reflexión, memoria y balance...

Ante todo, y para exorcizar las furias de la gramática, quisiera que los colegas [fisiológica y/o psicológicamente, etc.] de sexo masculino no se sientan discriminados por el "queridas colegas," ya que al afiliarse a la organización se convierten automáticamente en "feministas" honorarias.

Cambiando de tema, tenemos mucho que festejar: la re-estructuración de la organización, las sesiones del MLA 1998, el trabajo de nuestras colegas, la aparición de "web-page" y una nueva sección del "Newsletter" dedicado a Reseñas (ver muestra en la página 11). Estimamos que esta sección será de gran utilidad en nuestro campo y las invitamos a dirigirse a Elizabeth Horan tanto para el envío de material a ser reseñado como para ofrecer sus servicios en este rubro.

Quisiera pedirles que no dejen de renovar la membresía y aprovechen la nueva opción de 1,2, ó 3 años. Por favor escríbanle a Lynn Talbot en caso de cambio de domicilio y/o e-mail [Talbot@ac.roanoke.edu].

Por favor envíenme el material a diseminar por el *Website*...

Además, quisiera invitar la participación que artistas que quieran compartir su obra mediante nuestras tapas.

¡Gracias Mary Jane y Linda por haberse encargado de los *Minutes of the Feministas Business Meeting at MLA!*

¡Gracias Lynn por las nuevas listas de membresía [con e-mail] y los benditos *labels!* Finalmente, le estoy muy agradecida a todas las compañeras que me brindaron su *feedback* sobre el número de Diciembre.

Quisiera agradecerle a Stacey Burgess, [Graduate Assistant, Women's Studies, ASU West] nuevamente, el haberse encargado de la sección artística.

A Bárbara Lucero Sand, le agradezco especialmente el haber compartido con cosotras una fotografía de *La Danza-Series*.

A Deborah Stack, *via internship*, le debo el esfuerzo que materialmente ha llevado la preparación de este número, y muy especialmente, la puesta en marcha de nuestro *Web page*, cuya dirección es: <http://www.west.asu.edu/femunida>

Deseándoles un fructífero verano,

Cynthia Tompkins
ASU-West

BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES :

Feministas Unidas held its annual business meeting on 12/29/96 in the Feministas Suite at the Washington Hilton from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. and then a reception followed. The incoming President, Mary Jane Treacy, of Simmons College, conducted the meeting (with the stalwart support of Amy Kaminsky, outgoing President). Mary Jane's term will run 1997 and 1998, as will the term of the incoming vice-President, M. Victoria Garcia Serrano.

Structural issues were the first topic of business:

It was suggested that past officers be included in a Council of Past officers, to serve as resources. Also suggested was that the incoming President preside over the MLA proceedings the December BEFORE the official start of her term (January 1st).

Committees were the next topic of discussion. The former committee structure has been revived with three new committees: MLA Panel and Workshop Committee to bring a list of suggestions to the December business meeting; Newsletter Committee to discuss changes in the newsletter, including moving towards electronic newsletter and a web site; Feministas Unidas Award Committee to select the best essay of feminist criticism by a member who is at the advanced graduate student, instructor or assistant professor levels.

We need to hold a membership drive to continue recruiting new members (our coffers are pretty low at this point). Lou, when she was president sent a letter to chairs across the U.S. mailing labels were available from MLA.

Another idea approved was a 3-year membership option, which should be reflected in the next Newsletter. Lynn Talbot said she would send dues reminders; time-consuming but necessary. We also need to stress voluntary contributions as well. PLEASE, please correct your e-mail address if it has changed and send to Lynn Talbot.

Treasurer's report: our resources are very low, although checks arriving after December 1st are not included. New ways to rebuild our accounts

throughout the year were discussed. The officers decided that the dues would not be raised at this time, but suggested that those members who are able to do so contribute somewhat more to the organization.

There was a discussion about whether advertising should continue to be "free" - no consensus was reached. Perhaps some people wish to explore this issue at greater length -it was stated that jobs, books, information of interest to our membership and BY our membership should not be charged. Others felt that non-member advertising should perhaps have a charge.

The two Feministas Unidas sessions for MLA 97 in Toronto are:

Literature panel: mujer, cine, teatro: Women, Theatricality, Performance Co-organizers: Margarita Vargas and Alicia del Campo

Pedagogy session:

Teaching women, Building, Nations
Co-organizers: Elizabeth Horan and Nora Erro Orthmann

The next topic of discussion dealt with the **Scholarship Fund**. We had no applicants for 1996. In lieu of trying to pay such a meager amount of the expenses for MLA, the idea of a yearly award for the best unpublished essay/article of feminist scholarship about Hispanic / Luso-Brazilian women by a non-tenured member was discussed. Debra Castillo and Linda Fox said they would contact *Letras Femeninas* to see if there could be an agreement worked out with the Asociación de Literatura Hispánica Femenina to publish the winning essay in the journal. All present really liked this idea.

The Feministas Award for the Best Essay in Feminist Scholarship will be offered annually, provided there are suitable submissions. Interested members should send five copies of the essay to the **Award Committee Chair, Lou Charnon-Deutsch** by September 1, 1997. She and other members of the Award Committee will review the submissions, consult with members in the fields addressed whenever necessary and select the winner. The award will be given at the December business meeting.

The meeting ended, and the reception followed.

**TREASURERS
REPORT**

FEMINISTAS UNIDAS 1996
ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

STARTING BALANCE	\$1,941.50
Dues received	2,933.00
Interest on checking account	<u>39.18</u>
	\$ 4,913.68

DISBURSEMENTS:	
Scholarship (MLA - Dec. 1995)	\$ 475.00
Hotel Room (MLA - Dec. 1995)	432.52
January mailing	200.00
April Newsletter	1,100.00
December Newsletter	1,774.21
Total:	\$3,981.73

BALANCE AS OF DEC. 1, 1996 \$ 931.95

SCHOLARSHIP FUND BAL. 1996: \$ 662.00

Submitted by: Lynn K. Talbot, Treasurer
Date: December 1, 1996

1997
Feministas Award
for Best Essay in
Feminist Scholarship

**RESEARCH
IN
PROGRESS**

Grossi, Verónica. Allegory in Sor Juana

Dr. Verónica Grossi is studying the importance of Medieval allegory in the works of Sor Juana, ie. the political, ideological, and feminist implications of Sor Juana's manipulation of the allegorical trope.

**RECENTLY
PUBLISHED**

Umpierre, Luzma "Whose Taboos: Theirs, Yours or Ours?" Letras femeninas Vol.XXII 1,2:165-68 [1996].

This article addresses the manifesto of forces opposing a latina open Lesbian identity in the academy. [Biography]

Lagos, María Inés. La palabra en vilo: Narrativa de Luisa Valenzuela.

Santiago: Paratexts, 1996.

Co-editor Gwendolyn Diaz. *This is a collection of essays on the work of Luisa Valenzuela. [Fem. Crit.]*

Mangini Shirley "Las vanguardias y el discurso del deseo" Breve Historia Feminista de la Literatura Española:

En Lengua Castellana III La Mujer en la Literatura Española; Modos de representación desde el siglo XVIII a la actualidad. Puerto Rico: Anthropos, 1996. [Fem. Crit.]

Nagy-Zekmi, Silvia Paralelismos Transatlánticos: Postcolonialismo y Narrativa Femenina en América Latina y África del Norte. Providence, RI: EDITIONES INTI, 1996.

Analiza la manifestación literaria de la triple marginalización de la mujer en el llamado Tercer Mundo: racial, económica y sexual.

Nagy-Zekmi, Silvia "El Viaje sin Vuelta: La narrativa del exilio" Visiones y andanzas de viajeros literarios.

Editora: Petra Iraides Cruz Leal. Tenerife: Centro de la Cultura Popular canaria, 1997.

Aborda la manifestación literaria de la experiencia del exilio, causado por eventos políticos, en la obra de Marta Traba, Alicia Partnoy y Adriana Lassel.

Nagy-Zekmi, Silvia "Palabras cruzadas: Dialogismo e intertextualidad en Querido Diego, te abraza Quiela de Elena Poniatowska" El género auto/bio/gráfico.

Ed. Luis Pena. Mexico: 1997

Analiza el dialogismo resultante de los varios niveles de lectura en Querido Diego, partiendo de la subversión hecha de la imagen de Quiela presentada en el libro de B. Wolfe.

Chavez-Silverman, Susana y Frances R Aparicio editors. Tropicalizations: Transcultural Representations of Latinidad. University Press of New England. July 1997.

Tropicalizations is part of a Dartmouth College series; Re-Encounters with Colonialism. A new conceptual lexicon challenges the colonizing discourses that traditionally represent Latinas/os.

Tropicalization, as the editors define it, "means to trope, to imbue a particular space, geography, group, or nation with a set of traits, images, and values" that are circulated and perpetuated through official texts, history, literature, and the

media. With bold strokes, this collection outlines how dominant Anglo cultures have, through traditional colonizing discourses, constructed Latin American and Latinas/os in the US.

It also examines how Latina/o writers and artists have internalized, appropriated, and transformed these hegemonic definitions.

Focusing on literary and aesthetic production, essays explore topics such as the imbalance of power in the transcultural relationship, gender-based myths about Latin America and Latina/o sexuality, tensions inherent in contact zones between cultures, and the Tropicalization of Cuba from within the US.

Chavez-Silverman, Susana "The Autobiographical as Horror in the Poetry of Alejandra Pizarnik." Critical Essays on the Feminist Subject. Ed. Giovanna Covi. I Laberinti: Trento, Italia, 1997.

Chavez-Silverman, Susan "Chicanas in Love: Sandra Cisneros Talking Back and Alicia Gaspar de Alba Giving Back the World" Chasqui: revista de literatura latinoamericana.

Chavez-Silverman, Susan "La osadía del imaginar femenino: eros y estética en Noche estrellada de Marjorie Agosin" Las ciudades del cuerpo: aproximaciones a la obra de Marjorie Agosin. Santiago de Chile: Ed. Cuarto Propio, 1997.

Cróquer, Eleonora. Ediciones excultura: un proyecto editorial alternativo.

La editorial excultura cuyo nombre juega con la posibilidad de crear un espacio alternativo frente a la literatura y la cultura latino-americanas, surgió como un proyecto editorial hace ya dos años en Caracas, Venezuela. Después de una

primera idea casi delirante, dadas las difíciles condiciones económicas del país, y en cuyo planteamiento participó también originalmente el Dr. Javier Lasarte, las cuatro mujeres que integran el equipo editorial con apoyo del CONAC, organismo del Estado venezolano, continuaron con una labor que se ha ido construyendo poco a poco y que cuenta con dos títulos publicados.

El primero de ellos, Paradojas de la letra, reúne artículos sobre ciertos espacios de lo literario en los que se hace posible una función no hegemónica de la discursividad en la articulación de la cultura latino-americana en un período que va desde finales del siglo pasado hasta nuestros días. Sobre un eje de problematización en el cual se articulan lengua, identidad y poder, el autor, Dr. Julio Ramos de la Universidad de Berkeley, ya conocido por su interesante reflexión, Desencuentros de la Modernidad en América Latina, replantea la lectura del intelectual y de sus difíciles relaciones con el otro. El segundo, Polémicas de la escritura en América Latina, contiene una serie de ensayos a través de los cuales la Dra. Mabel Moraña de la Universidad de Pittsburgh se desplaza desde los Villancicos sorjuaninos, y su composición híbrida y polifónica hasta el replanteamiento del papel del intelectual frente a las políticas del olvido que atraviesan los procesos de reorganización democrática de los países posdictatoriales de esta Latino-américa finisecular. Pasando por puntuales reflexiones en torno a Mariategui, Angel Rama y Gabriel García Márquez, Moraña explora los lugares a veces disidentes, a veces hegemónicos, del intelectual en la historia del pensamiento tanto Latino-americano como latino-americano.

En este orden de ideas, María Julia Daroqui, Raquel Rivas, Lourdes Sifontes y Eleonora Cróquer, integrantes del consejo editorial y responsables de la casi totalidad del proceso de edición, trabajo paralelo a su labor como académicas y latino americanistas, bajo un diseño de Tamara Marrosu, pintora y diseñadora gráfica, intentan proponer un espacio para la difusión de las ideas que aparecen como nuevas propuestas para conocernos como América Latina. Asimismo, tratan de hacer que, con los poquísimos recursos de los que se dispone, los libros de la colección sean también asequibles a estudiantes y profesores que comparten un mismo interés por el área en cuestión.

Naturalmente, el trabajo conjunto de autores, editoras y colaboradores de distinta índole que han creído en este proyecto comienza a recoger sus primeros frutos. En discusión y negociaciones se encuentran textos de autores como John Beverly, Raul Antelo y Daniel Balderston que, probablemente, aparezcan como próximos números de la colección. En vista del difícil acceso a redes de distribución más abarcales, los textos pueden ser solicitados directamente a:

María Julia Daroqui
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ecroquer@bemamet.es
Calle Dr. Vila Barbera, No 14, Puerta 10,
46007
Valencia España
FAX 346-386-4492

B Beard, Laura J. "A is for Alphabet, K is for Kabbalah: The Babelic Meta-text of Luisa Futoransky" Intertexts 1:1 Spring 1997.

Examines the ways that Luisa Futoransky uses proper names and the alphabet to put issues of writing, identity and marginalization into play.

Tompkins, C. M. "Historiographic Metafiction or the Re-writing of History in Carmen Boulosa's Son vacas, somos puercos." (85-98) The Other Mirror: Women's Narrative in Mexico 1980-1995. Kristine Ibsen (ed.). Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Pub., 1997.

Tompkins, C. M. "Intertextuality as Différance in Julieta Campos's El miedo de perder a Eurídice: A Symptomatic Case of Latin American Post-Modernism." (153-168) The Postmodern in Latin and Latino American Cultural Narratives.

Claudia Ferman (ed.). New York: Garland Press, 1996.

Tompkins, C. M. "La re-escritura de la historia en Doña Inés contra el Olvido de Ana Teresa Torres" (103-123)

Escritura y desafío: narradoras venezolanas del siglo xx. Edith Dimo and Amarilis Hidalgo de Jesús (eds.) Caracas: Monteávila, 1996.

Niegel, Anna. Trans. Hagiography of Narcisa the Beautiful. Columbia, LA: Readers International, 1996.

This mock hagiography chronicles the life and death of Narcisa, martyr to the petty bourgeois society of Cuba in the 40s and early 50s.

Iarregui, Gladys M. Oficios y Personas: Guía para Perplejos. VA: Los signos del tiempo Editores, 1996.

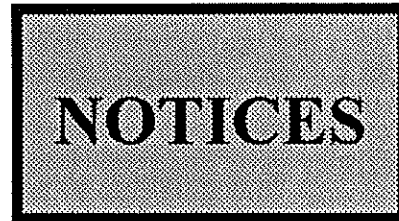
La primera obra presentada en este libro, recibió el "Premio Federico García Lorca 1994" otorgado por la Embajada de España en los Estados Unidos de América. "Guía para Perplejos" es una colección inédita, que completa este volumen con un poemario que recorre varias etapas discursivas y poéticas.

González, Ester Gimbernat. Boca de dama: la narrativa de Angélica Gorodischer. Miriam Balboa Echeverría, co-editor. Buenos Aires: Feminaria Editoria, 1995.

Ibsen, Kristine, ed. The Other Mirror: Women's Narrative in Mexico, 1988-1995. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997.

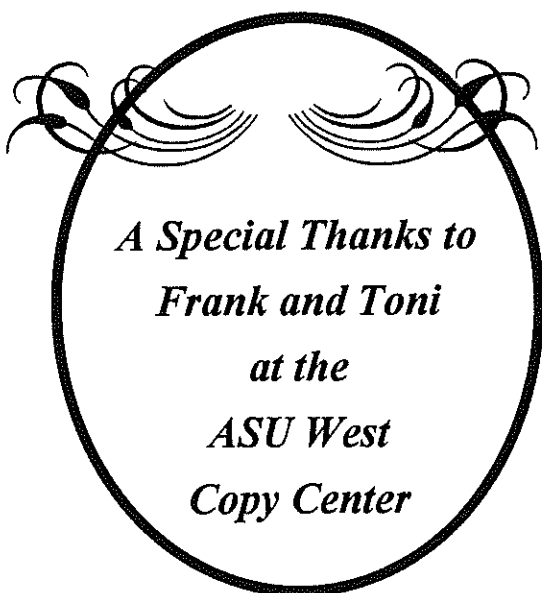
During the last decade, women's narrative has become a recognized force in Mexican letters. The essays in this collection explore the recent work of nine contemporary Mexican women writers. Many of the works have been translated

into English; some, like Laura Esquivel's Like Water Like Chocolate have become international best sellers. The unprecedented commercial success of these novels has generated mixed reactions: at the same time that the secondary status afforded women's narrative has come to be questioned in many academic circles, some authors are dissociating themselves from "women's writing." The essays in this volume address these issues, providing a much needed contribution to the study of women's narrative.



Feministas Unidas is on the WEB. The page is currently under construction so please bear with us. You can locate us at:
<http://www.west.asu.edu/femunida>

Dear Colleagues:
The conference of the **Asociación de Literatura Femenina Hispánica** has been postponed one week. The new dates are: 1997 October 16, 17, and 18. For further updates check out our WEB page at:
<http://www.emory.edu/SPANISH/CALENDAR/conference.html> Victoria García-Serrano



The Feministas Award for the **Best Essay in Feminist Scholarship** will be offered annually, provided there are suitable submissions. Interested members should send five copies of the essay to the **Award Committee Chair, Lou Channon-Deutsch** by September 1, 1997

Laura J. Beard is currently working with co-editor Susan Isabel Stein on the inaugural issue of Intertexts a new comparative literature journal.

The first issue of Intertexts is being dedicated to Latin American and Latina women writers. Look for articles from Feministas Unidas members: Rosemary Geisdorfer Feal, Verónica Grossi, Debra Castillo and Mary Jane Treacy.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 2, 1997

Guatemalan and U.S. Women Take On Giant Phillips-Van Heusen

A group of Guatemalan women are taking on the huge multinational corporation Phillips-Van Heusen, and women in the United States are mobilizing in their support. The Guatemalan women work for PVH in their two Guatemalan clothing assembly or "maquila" plants, where they are paid poverty level wages and endure violations of basic labor rights. These women are seeking to become the first Guatemalan maquila workers to organize their own union and win a union contract.

In the U.S., a national network of women, STITCH, is campaigning in support of the Guatemalan women's organizing efforts. STITCH members have leafleted PVH outlets and written letters to the company as part of the corporate pressure campaign coordinated by the US/Guatemala Labor Education Project, and STITCH is sending a delegation of women to Guatemala in February to meet with workers to offer material and moral support. STITCH is asking women's groups across the country to write letters of support to the STECAMOSA union and to send buttons, T-shirts, and other emblems, as well as financial contributions. For more information about the corporate campaign, contact Hannah Frisch, at US/GLEP, 773-262-6502. For information about the STITCH delegation, contact Liz O'Connor, 312-292-0306.

The decade old clothing assembly industry in Guatemala employs about 70,000 workers who sew clothing for export to brand-name U.S. companies. Management has successfully resisted the establishment of unions. Only a handful exist, and none has a contract. The PVH workers gained legal recognition of their union in 1992 after a two-year international campaign of support, but PVH has refused to negotiate. Workers decided last summer to begin a new campaign to push for contract negotiations in order to improve wages and end mistreatment.

A seamstress at a PVH factory in Guatemala makes less than \$1 an hour, an amount which leaves her family below the poverty line, unable

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to meet basic needs. Workers say that PVH managers have responded to the union's efforts with threats, intimidation, discrimination, capricious demands regarding speed and quality of work, and pay cuts discriminately applied to union supporters. PVH has been cited by the Guatemalan Labor Ministry for failing to pay legally required bonuses and holiday pay and for inadequate safety and sanitary facilities.

Workers in the Camisas Modernas plant, owned and operated by PVH, wrote an open letter to PVH CEO Bruce Klatsky:

"You do not know us and probably will never meet us, but for many years we have worked for your company in Guatemala making shirts which have earned millions of dollars in sales in the United States. In exchange, we have earned salaries which have become lower and lower each year ... We cannot continue to live in the conditions of poverty which our salaries force us to accept. We have done everything the law requires in order to exert our right to organize, and demand a contract, and still you and your company management refuse to recognize these rights and sit down to negotiate ... All we ask is that you comply with the law, hear our demands, and give us a chance to negotiate solutions."

The PVH campaign is an example of a new focus on international cooperation to improve economic conditions for women. Multinational corporations often hire young women and girls because they believe that they will be a docile workforce. Women, however, are fighting back, and they often rely on the strategies and networks they've developed to survive sexism in other arenas. "When you get the women leaders fired up, you get the best leaders," said Liz O'Connor, a union organizer with the Service Employees Union's "Justice for Janitors" campaign and coordinator of the STITCH delegation. "Women hold unions together the same way they hold families and communities together. We can and must learn from each other if any of us are going to make gains against these huge multinational corporations."

MARCH 21, 1997
VICTORY! Union Workers & , International Solidarity Bring PVH Management to the Table

The men and women who work at Phillips-Van Heusen's two Guatemalan factories are celebrating this week. Six years after beginning their fight to win a union contract and improve

wages and working conditions, workers finally have forced management to the bargaining table. When completed, this will be the only collective bargaining agreement in Guatemala's apparel-for-export or "maquiladora" industry.

PVC CEO Bruce Klatsky delivered a personal message this week to members of the STECAMOSA union that the company will negotiate. The company reversed its position after Klatsky reviewed an advance copy of a report by Human Rights Watch [HRW] that criticized the company for anti-union discrimination and intimidation against union members. Klatsky is a member of the board of HRW.

The HRW report also stated the Guatemalan government had failed to fulfill responsibilities for handling the union's request for contract negotiations. The Labor Ministry failed to make a ruling on whether the union had achieved the 25% support among workers that is necessary under Guatemalan law to force management to bargain. HRW found that the union's level of support exceeded the 25% minimum.

"This is an extraordinary victory," said Liz O'Connor, an organizer with the Service Employees Union in Chicago who led a women's delegation that visited the STECAMOSA workers in February. "These women surprised their bosses by standing up to them and sustaining a long, difficult campaign. They've sent a message of hope to exploited workers throughout Guatemala and the US."

International solidarity played a vital role in forcing PVH to the table. Stephen Coats is executive director of the US/ Guatemala Labor Education Project, which coordinated corporate campaign activities. US/GLEP also led the first international PVH campaign in 1991-92, when the STECAMOSA union first won legal recognition. "We congratulate Mr. Klatsky and his company for doing the right thing," Coats said. "With Mr. Klatsky's decision, PVH has moved to the front of the corporate responsibility line in Guatemala .

"Thanks go to Human Rights Watch also," added O'Connor. "With PVH CEO Klatsky sitting on the HRW board, it must have been hard, but they put out a fair report and helped PVH move in the right direction."

The situation also created difficulties for the Guatemalan and US government. The Guatemalan government came in for sharp criticism by HRW for its failure to rule on the union's petition to bargain. Currently, the US

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Trade Representative is considering a proposal to end more than four years of probation of Guatemala's duty-free trade benefits. The PVH case is an important test. US unions and human rights groups seeking to extend the probation say it demonstrates the government's failure to enforce the law.

Regardless of whether the government improves its efforts, the PVH case can be a model for others. There's nothing stopping other companies from doing the right thing and respecting basic worker rights, like PVH," said Hannah Frisch, another member of the STITCH delegation in February, "and there's a real victory to inspire other workers to organize to improve their work lives, too."

STITCH c/o Hannah Frisch
4933 S Dorchester
Chicago IL 60615
773-924-5057

New video: 1996

Yo Soy Hechicero [I am a Sorcerer]

Directed by Ron Stanford
Produced by Ivan Drufovka

What can an outsider ever hope to understand about Santería, the widespread but little known Afro-Caribbean religion which is mysterious by its very nature? In an attempt to unlock the mysteries of this mixture of Christianity and Yoruba religion, the producers are drawn to Juan Eduardo Nuñez, a Cuban refugee who came to the US in the 1980 Mariel Boatlift.

The viewer meets Eduardo in his inner sanctum, a South Jersey backyard garden shed in a subdivision near Atlantic City. Eduardo enters numerous trances; a gunshot victim seeks treatment; Eduardo, possessed by a spirit named Miguel, tells us that he was captured as a slave in 1490; a young woman seeks romantic advice; Eduardo's wife, a Pentacostal, tells us that her husband is an instrument of Satan.

Yo Soy Hechicero views its subject on its own terms. It captures the intensity and confusion of the producers own experience as welcomed outsiders at a variety of rituals, spirit

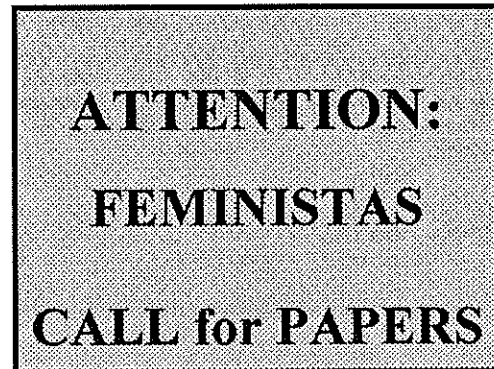
possessions, animal sacrifices, love advice, healing, ancient songs and chants, and mythic storytelling.

48 minutes

Spanish with subtitles

\$300 [Institutional price]

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**CONVERSATIONS WITH
EACH OTHER: FEMINIST
CONSCIOUSNESS IN SPAIN**

This compilation of essays will trace the development of a feminist consciousness in Spain. The purpose of the volume is to uncover and reconstruct the transhistorical conversation that has taken place and continues to take place as women intellectuals negotiate their own position in the public sphere of writing and as they establish connections with similar-minded women who might be either their contemporaries or their predecessors. In all, this volume promises to historicize Spanish women's intellectual and creative history and to analyze how women use each other as sources of legitimation, inspiration, and authorization.

Specifically, we are soliciting articles [20-25 pp., MLA style] on women authors and thinkers from any period who:

- ♦ position themselves wither as feminist or as in favor of women's rights/liberties to some degree AND/OR

- ◆ have an explicit connection with other women writers/thinkers either of their own time or of previous periods. These points of contact might include: mentor relationships, friendships, writing about women, editing women's work, promoting women's cause in the social/political realms, etc....

In these essays on individual women or on certain groups of women, the following topics might be considered:

- ◆ Convent literature [friendship, leadership, literary production in convents]
- ◆ Changing feminist politics over time [setbacks and gains]
- ◆ Women's reactions to the literary and political establishments
- ◆ Contemporary feminism and the problematics of the term "feminist"
- ◆ Points of contact between feminist and regionalist/nationalist politics [particularly minority-language literature/writing]

Please submit 2-page abstracts to Lisa Vollendorf [Dept. of Romance Languages, Wayne State University, 487 Manoogian Hall, Detroit, MI 48202; [o] 313 577-6252; [fax] 313 577-3266 by **August 31, 1997**. You will be contacted shortly after the deadline date. Completed articles will be due July, 1998.

During the summer of 1997, please contact me at the Department of Spanish, Miami University, Oxford, OH, 45056 [o] 513 529-4500; [fax] 513 529-1807].


Reviews/Reseñas

"Los Signos del Tiempo Editores"

Gladys Iñarregui has started an editorial with the intention of publishing women poets and women in general. The first collection is called "*Mujeres de Palabra*". The goal of this effort is to open a reliable, and friendly space for the words of talented women in Academia, not only in poetry but in essay and criticism too. The plan is to work with reasonable costs in a reasonable time frame, and to include comments by the authors regarding their work.

For more information contact:
Gladys Iñarregui

Assistant Professor of Language &
Cultural Studies
Trinity College
PO Box 30185
Alexandria, VA 22310
703-922-4172
FAX 703-922-3442



"Saliendo del Closet: Un Documento de Lesbianas Guatemaltecas para las que estan dentro o fuera del closet"

This is a fifty page collection of interviews with women who identify as part of the "ambiente" in Guatemala, in the South, in Guatemala City, and in Antigua. The first two interviews with people recounting histories of the gay movement in Guatemala from the 1960s and 1970s, are especially valuable, as are the analysis of how thirty-five years of war has affected the climate towards gays.

There is an interesting wide range of responses to the question "what do you think of feminism," and a general experience of loneliness and competitiveness in the lesbian communities of Guatemala. The interviewer's background in social work has served her well in keeping the interviews consistent, as well as in documenting the harassment which lesbians and friends of lesbians face, and in protecting the identities of those who agreed to be interviewed.

The compiler works under the pseudonym, "In=E9s" and the collection bears a May 1996 copyright. No press is indicated.

This collection was reviewed by:

Elizabeth Rosa Horan
Associate Professor of English and
Women's Studies;
Director of Comparative Studies in Literature.
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 82287-0302
602-965-7659

**MLA 1997
CONVENTION**

**“Teaching Women,
Building Nations: a
Roundtable on
Pedagogy”**

**Program arranged by
Feministas Unidas**

- ◇ “Internal Boundaries” Lisa Vollendorf, Wayne State
- ◇ “Gender/Sovereignty” Anna Neill, University of Kansas
- ◇ “Claiming Space” Adriana Rosman Askot, College of New Jersey
- ◇ “Working Hot” Susana Chavez Silverman, Pomona College
- ◇ “Sex/Gender” Maria Magdalena Farland, Wesleyan University
- ◇ “American Texts” Eva Bueno, Penn State
- ◇ “Postcapitalism?” Ana Maria Brenes Garcia, Thunderbird Grad School

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NEWS**

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Panel Members

“Performing Difference: Intra-ethnic Theatricalities in Milcha Sanchez-Scott’s *Latina*”

Yolanda Flores; Chapman University.

“La Búsqueda de la identidad femenina en el cine de Pedro Almodóvar.”

María A Cami-Vela; University of Florida.

“Performing Melodrama: Tango/Crossdressing/ Eva Perón.”

Silvia Pellarolo; California State University at Chico.

“Theatrical Constructions of Women’s Identities in *El eterno femenino* by Rosario Castellanos.”

Sharon Sieber; Florida State.

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