

Octavio Quintanilla
Email: oquintanilla@hotmail.com

Education

- Ph.D. Literature and Creative Writing (Poetry Concentration). University of North Texas. 2010.
- M.A. English. Creative Writing Thesis (Poetry). University of Texas Pan-American. 2003.
- B.A. English. University of Texas Pan-American. 1998.

University / College Teaching Experience

Professor of English: Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, TX
Fall 2013-Present

- English 7321: Literary Forms
- English 7356: Literary Translation
- English 7343: Latino/a Literature
- English 6311: Workshop: Creative Writing and Social Justice (Poetry)
- English 8381: Thesis
- English 7585: Graduate Field Study
- English 3368: Literature of the Southwest
- English 3311: Creative Writing (Poetry and Fiction)
- English 3321: Poetry
- English 2331: Introduction to World Literature
- English 2335: Introduction to Fiction
- English 2336: Introduction to Poetry and Drama (face-to-face and online)
- English 1313: Composition
- English 1314: Rhetoric

Full-Time Lecturer: Texas A&M University—Kingsville
Fall 2011-Spring 2013

- English 3300: Creative Writing (Poetry and Fiction)
- English 2342: Poetry and Novel
- English 1301: Composition
- English 1302: Rhetoric

Full-Time Instructor: South Texas College
2009-2011

- Introduction to Literature
- English 1301: Composition
- English 1302: Rhetoric

Teaching Fellow: University of North Texas
2006-2009

- English 3150: Intermediate Poetry Workshop
- English 3100: Introduction to Creative Writing (Mixed Genre—Poetry, Fiction, Non-Fiction)
- English 2220: World Literature 1620 to Present
- English 1310: Composition I
- English 1320: Composition II

Part-Time Lecturer: University of Texas Pan-American
2003-2004

- English 1302: Rhetoric

High School Teaching Experience

- Mid-Valley Academy
2009-2010
- South Texas ISD
Summer 2008
- Texas State Technical College, Upward Bound Program
Summer 2006, 2007, 2009
- Harlingen High School
1999-2006

ACCREDITATIONS

- Texas Teacher Certificate (Secondary)

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in Spanish

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Poetry Collection: Forthcoming fall 2024, *The Book of Wounded Sparrows* (Texas Review Press, 2024).

Poetry collection: *If I Go Missing* (Slough Press, 2014)

Book Translation: Collection of poems, *Textos en Miniatura*, by Colombian poet, Vanessa Torres. Published by Arte Poetica Press, 2020 (NYC).

Editor:

Puro Chicanx: Writers of the 21st Century, editors: Octavio Quintanilla, Beth Alvarado, Carmen Tafolla, Luis Alberto Urrea, Edward Vidaurre (Cutthroat, A Journal of the Arts, 2020).

Hostos Review/Revista Hostosiana, the Hostos Community College/Latin American Writers Institute's peer-reviewed journal: a special issue on borders titled, "Contemporary Nepantlas: Writing on Crossing Borders from the Americas." Co-editor, with Keila Vall De La Ville, (Fall 2022).

Translations

Three poems by Dominican poet, René Rodríguez Soriano: "Your thing was something else, Champ," "grandmother," and "Thirst in Thirst" published in *The Windward Review* (vol 16, 2018).

Co-translation from Serbian with Danijela Trajković of her story "The End of Childhood," published in *SETU Journal* (2018).

Two poems by Mexican poet, Héctor Carreto: "Cyclops" and "Caligula's Brother-in-Law" published in *Pilgrimage Literary Journal* (Spring 2017).

Poem by Steve Davenport: "True Confessions," translated from English into Spanish, *Midway Journal* (Spring 2013).

Selected Poetry in Literary Journals/Alternative Platforms

- Six visual poems, “Abstract Borderland 29, 43, 78, 82, 90, 105,” in *The Southampton Review*, Vol. XVII, Issue 31, Winter/Spring 2023
- Four Frontextos (visual poems) “Pasaporte 2,” “Pasaporte 11,” “Pasaporte 36” and “Pasaporte 45,” in the fall issue of *The Talon Review* (fall 2023).
- Poem, “Summer Elegy,” in *Christianity and Literature* (fall 2023).
- Co-editor, with Keila Vall De La Ville, the Hostos Community College/Latin American Writers Institute’s peer-reviewed journal: *Hostos Review/Revista Hostosiana*, a special issue on borders titled, “Contemporary Nepantlas: Writing on Crossing Borders from the Americas.” We selected the work, the cover, and wrote the introduction (Fall 2022).
- Two poems in *El Mundo Zurdo 8: Selected works from the 2019 Meeting of the Society For the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa*: “La Columna Vertebral de Gloria Anzaldúa” & “La falda de serpientes.” Edited by Adrianna M. Santos, et al.
- Five poems in *Action, Spectacle*: “Pasaporte 1,” “Pasaporte 4,” “Pasaporte 10,” “Pasaporte 24,” & “Pasaporte 26” (Winter 2022).
- Two Poems: “Los días oscuros 116,” and “Los días oscuros 315” (cover) in *Yellow Medicine Review* (Spring 2022).
- Three poems: “Country of Words, a Lipogram,” “Remember,” & “The Poetics of Displacement: A Micro-Essay” in the *Southampton Review*, Vol XVI, issue 30 (Summer, Fall 2022).
- Three poems, “Los días oscuros 44,” “Loners on the Road,” & “Los días oscuros 29” in the anthology, *Yellow Flag Poems*, edited by Jasmina Wellinghoff. Word Design Press, 2022.
- Poem, “Carreta Wheel” published in the Witte Museum website to celebrate National Poetry Month (April 2022).
- Poems: “En los selfies que me mandas,” “Estoy en tus manos,” “Los torturados” & “Cuervo” (a reprint) in *Pilgrimage*, Vol 43, Issue 2, Spring 2022.
- Two poems in *Ethel Literary Journal*: “Field of Cotton” and “Wrath” (Jan 2021) (print and online).
- Poems in the Turkish Journal, *Edebiyat Ortami*. Frontexto #254 from “Los días oscuros” on cover; “Sürgünler” (Exiles), “İç Beni” (Drink Me), “Kırılganlık” (Vulnerability), “Hayatımın Aşkı” (Love of My Life), “Mezmun” (Psalm), “Hep Bir Şehir Olacak” (There will always be a city) (Spring 2020). (Translated by Aycan Gürlüyer).
- Six poems and profile in *Mason Street Magazine*: “Los días oscuros” #152, “Los días oscuros” #101, “Los días oscuros” #267, “Los días oscuros” #128, “Los días oscuros” #288, “Los días oscuros” #230 (collaboration with former U.S. Poet Laureate, Juan Felipe Herrera) (Spring 2021).
- Five poems in *Midway Journal*: “Los días oscuros” #72, “Los días oscuros” #83, “Los días oscuros” #126, “Los días oscuros” #230, “Los días oscuros” #170 (Spring 2021).
- Poem, “Essay on Loss” on Poetrybay (Winter 2021).
- Featured poet in issue 52 of *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review* (hardcopy and online). Hard copy issue includes the following Frontextos (visual poems) and lineated poems: Cover art: “Los días oscuros” 99; “Los días oscuros” 14, “Los días oscuros” 34 “Los días

oscuros” 89, “Los días oscuros” 95; “Line & Metaphor,” “You take a picture of your father,” “Civility.” The online issue includes the following Frontextos (Visual poems): “Los días oscuros” 48, “Los días oscuros” 57, “Los días oscuros” 74, “Los días oscuros” 75, “Los días oscuros” 87, “Los días oscuros” 96, “Los días oscuros” 103, “Los días oscuros” 107, “Los días oscuros” 109 (Fall 2020).

- Featured artist/writer, Luminaria Artist Foundation Fall Series. Literary activities/publications included: Virtual exhibit in the San Antonio Public Library Website of the following Frontextos (visual poems) from “Los días oscuros” series: #117, #122, #128, #152, #163, #176. These Frontextos were accompanied by writing prompts. The San Antonio Public Library also printed and distributed postcards made of these Frontextos to their patrons. Furthermore, a virtual discussion of creative process was part of the programming (interviewer, Jim LaVilla-Havelin) (fall 2020).

Selected Poetry in Anthologies

- Three poems (with Spanish translations) in the anthology, *In Xóchitl in Cuicatl: Floricanto (Cien años de poesía Chicana/latinx (1920-2020): “At the Foot of San Esteban Convent,” “The Image in the Absence of Words,” & “At Night, I Poison Myself.”* Editors, Gabriella Gutiérrez y Muhs, Juan Velasco Moreno and Armando Miguélez (Editorial Polibea, 2021, released 2022).
- Two poems, *Nepantla Familias: An Anthology of Mexican-American Literature on Families Between Worlds: Why You Never Get in a Fight in Elementary School,”* and “You’re tired of your life” (Texas A&M University Press: Editor, Sergio Troncoso, 2021).
- Three poems, “Poder” “Under my fingers,” and “The Graves,” in the anthology, *Contra: Texas Poets Speak Out* (FlowerSong Press, 2020).

Nonfiction

- Essay, “A Micro-essay on the ‘Micro-essays on Poetics’” in *Who Are You Without Colonialism? Pedagogies of Liberation*, edited by Clelia O. Rodríguez (Information Age Publishing, 2023).
- Essay, “Selena Quintanilla Pérez,” in the anthology, *Women Across Time: Mujeres A Través del Tiempo,”* Edited by Susan L. Roberson (Texas A&M University Press, 2022).
- Micro Essay, “Memory Machine” in *Ilanot Review* (fall 2021).
- Essay, “Frontexto (ing): Border (ing) Text: An Essay,” and three Frontextos (visual poems) from “Los días oscuros,” #265, #292, #318 in Naoko Fujimoto Poetry & Graphic Poetry website (fall 2020).
- Poet Laureate Investiture speech, “Poetry’s Power,” in *Southwestern American Literature* (spring 2018).
- Essay, “Why I Write: Memory & Mystery,” *Langdon Review of the Arts in Texas* (fall 2019).

Fiction

- “Small Confessions.” *Ottawa Arts Review* (Fall 2006).
- “Patricide.” *Dicey Brown* (Summer 2003).
- “Wolves.” *Gallery* (Spring 1998).

Selected Art Exhibits / Collections

- Two Frontextos in UTSA’s permanent collection (2022).
- Group exhibition, “Sweet Sour, Bitter Savory” at Blue Star, curated by Vikky Jones. Dates of exhibit Nov 2 to Nov 16.
- Group art exhibit, “24 Hours of Wonder,” an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural artist collaborative in Russellville, Arkansas. Curated by Sabine Senft and Leticia Bajuyo (Aug 2023).
- Group exhibit, “Members Gallery Exhibit,” at San Antonio Art League & Museum (April 3rd-June 30th).
- Group exhibit, “Drawing, Drawing, Drawn,” at Clamp Light Studios and Gallery (reception 03/12/21)
- Part of the *Nepantla Familias* anthology photo exhibit at the Wittliff Collections at Texas State University (June 30-April 2).
- Solo exhibit, “Nepantlarte” at the Brownsville Museum of Fine Art (July 14-Aug 28).
- Art Exhibit (group) and poetry reading at UTRGV-Brownsville Campus (spring 2020).
- Art Exhibit of a visual micro-memoir and reading Equinox Gallery (at la Villita)—(reception Nov 2, 2019).
- Art Exhibit, Southwest School of Art (fall 2019).
- Art exhibit, Presa House Gallery, “Invisible Fires: The Art of Gaby Rico, Andy Villarreal, and Octavio Quintanilla” (summer 2019).
- Art exhibit, “Frontexto: A Return Home,” at the Weslaco Museum (Dec 2018).

Selected Critical Reviews

- “Foreword” for Katrina Robert’s visual poetry collection, *Likeness* (Finishing Line Press, 2022).
- Visual review of Tomas Morín’s poetry collection, *Machete*, published in RHINO (fall 2022).
- Visual review of Eduardo Corral’s poetry collection, *Guillotine*, published in RHINO (spring 2021).
- “The Long Valley: A Review of Emmy Perez’ *With the River on Our Face*,” published in Texas Books in Review (spring 2018).

Selected Interviews Conducted

- Interview with *Poetry* magazine's editor, Don Share, published for *American Microinterviews & Reviews* (spring 2017).
- Interview with poet and translator, Chloe Garcia Roberts for *American Microinterviews and Reviews* (spring 2017).

- Interview with poet, Cynthia Atkins for *American Microinterviews and Reviews* (fall 2017).
- Interview with poet, Alma Luz Villanueva, for *Voices de la Luna Literature & Arts Magazine* (spring 2015).
- Interview with poet, Reyes Cardenas, for *Voices de la Luna Literary Magazine* (summer 2014).

Selected Photography

- Two photos of the late Rosemary Catacalos published in Texas Public Radio's program, *Fronteras*, "Her work will last—Former Texas Poet Laureate Rosemary Catacalos is remembered by the people she touched," (06/01/22).
- Various photos of U.S. Poet Laureate, Juan Felipe Herrera, have been published in *Green Mountains Review* (spring 2017).
- Various photos of U.S. Poet Laureate, Juan Felipe Herrera, have been published in *Voices de la Luna Literature and Arts Magazine* (summer 2017).

Editorial

- Assistant Editor, Mongrel Empire Press (spring 2016-current).
- Poetry Editor, *The Journal of Latina Critical Feminism* (fall 2016—current).
- South Texas Regional Editor, *Texas Books in Review* (Fall 2014-current).
- Poetry Editor, *Southwestern American Literature* (2016-2021).
- Poetry Editor, *Voices de la Luna* (spring 2017-2023).
- Interviews editor, *American MicroReviews & Interviews* (2016-2020).
- Assistant Editor, *La Tolteca Zine* (founded by Ana Castillo) (2016-2017).

Selected Conferences / Presentations /Workshops

- Featured Writer, "Boldface Conference for Emerging Writers," sponsored by *Glass Mountain*, the undergraduate literary journal of the University of Houston (May 22-May 26).
- Poetry Curator for San Antonio park, "Poet's Pointe," which was part of my Poet Laureate Legacy Project. One of my poems is engraved on the wall, along with six additional poets I selected for the project. (05/13/23).
- Poetry Workshop, "Frontexto(ing) As Creative Process: A Visual Poetry Workshop" at the 21st Annual Poetry at Roundtop Festival (April 28-30, 2023).
- Moderator, "The Power of Poetry," with poets, Mahogany L. Browne and Joshua Burton at the San Antonio Book Festival, (04/15/23).
- Featured author, "Scissortail Creative Writing Festival" at East Central University-Ada Oklahoma. Also featured, poets, Major Jackson, and Allison Amend (April 6 through April 8, 2023).
- Featured reader, "XXI Binational Conference Letras en el Estuario," Texas Southmost College, Brownsville, TX (02/10/23).

- Poetry Curator for the month of December at *Zócalo Public Square*, An ASU Media Enterprise. Visual poets I selected: Rodney Gomez, Katrina Roberts, Carolina Ebeid, & Kylie Gellatly (January 2023).
- Panelist, Mundo Zurdo 2022 (UTSA) in the roundtable with Keila Vall de la Ville & Inmacula Lara-Bonilla : “Composing Hostos Review/Revista Hostosiana no. 18: New Writings on Borders and Borderlands During the Global Pandemic as Coyolxauhqui Process.” I presented my paper: “The Nepantla of Virtual Space: Bridging Word-Borders.” (11/04/22).
- Panelist/Presenter at “A Poetry Declaration” documentary viewing of “The Price of a Dream,” held at UIW. Presenters: Mayor, Ron Nirenberg; Senator, José Menéndez; County Commissioner, Rebeca Clay-Flores, and more (09/08/22).
- Panelist, “Compounding the Line: Visual Poetics in a Word Doc World.” Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). Panelists: Douglas Kearney, Jennifer Sperry Steinorth, Diana Nguyen. (Spring 2021).

Selected Poetry Readings

- Featured reader, and Poetry Workshop Facilitator, “125 Lines of Poetry” at St. Phillips College (04/26/23).
- Featured reader and Panelist, “A Poetry Declaration and Language Celebration” at the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. Sponsored by DreamWeek and the Office of the Immigration Liason. (02/17/23).
- Reader and Presenter of Inmaculada Lara Bonilla’s poetry collection, *decir bóveda* at Librería Juan Rulfo, Madrid, Spain (Summer 2022).
- Featured reader, “Jamming Poético,” hosted by Ateneo de Caracas (Venezuela). Virtual panel included: Manuel Lopez, Belkys Arredondo Olivo, Blanca Elena Pantin. Pedro Larrea (5/29/22).

Selected Boards and Committees

- Advisory Committee, San Antonio Book Festival (current).
- Advisory Committee, Gemini Ink’s “Zoeglossia: Retreat for Writers with Disabilities” (2021-2023).
- Board Member, *Voices de la Luna Literature and Arts Magazine* (2018-2020).
- Artistic Advisory Committee, Luminaria Arts Festival, 2016.

Honors / Grants

- Arts & Letters Award for Artistic Merit from the Friends of the Library (11/06/21).
- Recipient, 2020 Luminaria Artist Foundation Grant (Literary Category).
- San Antonio Poet Laureate 2018-2020.

Professional Affiliations

- Association of Writers & Writing Programs
- Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers

Selected Community Involvement

- Poetry Judge, “2023 Anhinga Prize for Poetry” (to be published by Anhinga Press) (May-early Fall).
- Chaired committee for the selection of the Sergio Troncoso Award for Best First Book of Fiction of 2022, sponsored by the Texas Institute of Letter. Co-judges: Heath Dollar and Jenniffer Ziegler (Dec 2022-March 2023).
- Served in Committee to select the Th Theodore Roethke Prize (summer 2022).
- Poem and five art works part of the City of San Antonio’s Labor Plaza (fall 2022).
- Founder/Publisher of Alabrava Press: Chapbook titles, *Zoomglossia: A Reading Series by Disabled Poets, edited by Sheila Black* (Alabrava Press, 2022); Chapbook titles for 2021: “Al Norte” by Juan R. Palomo; “Hibiscus Tacos” by ire’ne lara silva.

Selected Impact on Field

- Profile, “Octavio Quintanilla: Frontextos, Fragmentación del Arte” in Mexican newspaper, *Expreso/La Razón* from Cd. Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico (07/09/23).
- Essay by Jim LaVilla-Havelin on Frontextos, “At the Edges, Texts on the Frontier: The Visual Poetry of Octavio Quintanilla.” *Pilgrimage*, Vol 43, Issue 2, Spring 2022.
- Four poem reprinted, “[Through plaster walls I hear the wailing],” “Grace,” “God’s Hands,” “Psalm 2,” anthologized in *A Fire To Light Our Tongues: Texas Writers on Spirituality*, published by TCU Press (Summer 2022).
- Literary and Art review of Frontextos in *Expreso-La Razón* newspaper from Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico (Fall 2021).

Teaching Interests

- Creative Writing (Poetry, Fiction, Nonfiction)
- Visual / Experimental Poetics
- Literary Translation
- 20th Century American Literature
- Mexican-American Literature
- Spanish and Latin American Poetry
- Rhetoric and Composition

REFERENCES

- Helena María Viramontes
Cornell University

Department of English
Goldwin Smith Hall, room 367
250 Goldwin Smith Hall,
Ithaca, New York 14853
phone: (607) 255-8573

- Dr. Corey Marks, Director of Creative Writing
University of North Texas
Department of English
P.O. Box 311307
Denton, TX 76203-1307
Phone: 940.565.2126
Email: coreymarks@att.net
- Bruce Bond, Regents Professor
University of North Texas
Department of English
P.O. Box 311307
Denton, TX 76203-1307
Phone: 940.565.4139
Email: bond@unt.edu