

scholarship
in ACTION



Horizons
Fall 2005



Salve Regina



Mater misericordiae, Vita dulcedo et spes nostra salve. Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevae. Ad te suspiramus gementes et flentes, in hac lacrimarum valle. Eja ergo advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte. Et Jesum benedictum fructum ventris tui nobis post hoc exsultum ostende. O clemens, o pia o dulcis Virgo Maria,

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As a robust network of scholars gathered in Austin early this year for the national conference of the Inter-University Program for Latino Research, I considered how fortunate we are to be in Latino studies. Ours is a vital charge: to advance the knowledge and understanding of the Latino population and its role in shaping the future of our country and hemisphere.

The exuberance at the conference reflected a dynamic, expanding field. As scholars in Latino studies we have expertise in the social sciences, theology,

anthropology, the arts, public health, and other disciplines as they pertain to the Latino experience in American society and connections to countries beyond our borders, especially in the case of newly arrived immigrants.

In this issue of *Horizons* we focus on the Institute for Latino Studies' scholarly efforts from our home here at the University of Notre Dame and our satellite offices to address key questions affecting Latinos. What, for example, are the triumphs, struggles, and needs of Latinos? Where is the crucial Latino vote going nationally? How are Latinos living their religion? How can literature and the arts help us understand and even shape these new realities?

Scholarship reaches into the classroom at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. This issue profiles Notre Dame's dedicated Latino doctoral candidates in theology

and other fields. It enters the classrooms of Institute faculty in the social sciences and humanities, who teach undergraduates to "read the data with heart" and give something back to the communities they study.

Scholarship inspires and illuminates the arts, and the Institute recently cemented two important partnerships that recognize this fact. First, we were privileged to offer a home to Momotombo Press, which publishes works of poetry and prose by emerging Latino writers. Second, the Institute joined a binational arts recovery initiative spearheaded by the Museum of Fine Arts of Houston, where our focus will be on documenting the history and proliferation of Latino arts in the United States.

Undeniably, Latino studies scholars are producing research on the major issues of our time. Theirs is a meaningful contribution that has tremendous bearing on their respective disciplines and on the nation's well-being. Notre Dame and its partner institutions can be very proud of this new scholarship and its role in preparing Notre Dame students to be leaders in America's future.



Left to right: Evelyn Boria-Rivera and Belkys Torres with Director Gil Cárdenas (See pages 19 and 20.)



IUPLR en el Siglo XXI

In January 2005 the Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR) hosted the first major conference of the 18-member consortium of Latino studies research centers since its headquarters moved from Texas to the Institute. More than 250 scholars from across the country gathered in Austin for “Siglo XXI: Latina/o Research into the 21st Century,” which provided an opportunity to showcase IUPLR’s successes: its collaborations with institutions such as the Smithsonian Center and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the variety of new research from its members including working groups actively pursuing research in the fields of Latino politics, health/mental health, spirituality, the Census, and the US-Mexican border and families.

“IUPLR has embraced new paradigms for Latino research,” said IUPLR co-founder and Institute Director Gilberto Cárdenas in a speech on the consortium’s direction. “It has become a national catalyst and facilitator of in-depth, policy-relevant research on issues of concern to Latinos and the broader society.” Cárdenas drew from IUPLR’s strategic plan in naming four research topics to guide work over the next five years: Latino families and communities, health, arts and culture, and education.

Hosted by the University of Texas at Austin’s Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS), the conference featured over 20 sessions and panels with themes on economics, immigration policy, health, education, social justice, politics, art, and sexuality. Participants applauded the community’s increase in political influence while acknowledging the continuing challenges of economic stagnation, elevated school drop-out rates, and the need for more Latinos in higher education.

“The staff of CMAS really went all out in putting the conference together. In particular José Limón, Dolores Garcia, and Richard Flores are responsible for a conference that has been one of the most talked-about events of its kind in many years,” said Institute Associate Director Allert Brown-Gort.

Institute Presenters

Father Virgilio Elizondo, Notre Dame Professor of Pastoral and Hispanic Theology and Institute Fellow, spoke on *mestizaje* and religion in the twenty-first century: “We are descendants, biologically, culturally, and spiritually, of fascinating traditions combining to form a new human group. A profound sense of community animates and interconnects us in an infinite way to one another.”

continued on next page



Art for the conference poster commissioned from Malaquias Montoya, 2005

IUPLR en el Siglo XXI *{continued}*

Edwin Hernández, director of the Center for the Study of Latino Religion, examined the religious affiliations of foreign- and US-born Latinos of different national origins and went on to describe variations among these groups in political and cultural views.

Among other Institute presenters were: Sung Chun (Research), who analyzed problems with the official Census counts of Latino national subgroups; Martha Zurita (Metropolitan Chicago Initiative), who suggested that predominantly Latino schools tend to be underfunded by Title I; Wei Sun (Research), who discussed the under-representation of Latinos in pension programs; and Timothy Ready (director, Research), who compared and contrasted the educational attainment of US- and foreign-born Latino residents of metro Chicago.

Other IUPLR Activities



- IUPLR policy briefings in Washington have addressed the effect on the Latino community of the Hopwood decision concerning college admission policies; Latino participation in the global economy; and the impact of high-stakes educational testing on Latinos.

- The Latino Leadership Opportunity Program (LLOP) provides training and internships for

Latino undergraduates interested in public service careers and public policy. Every year it serves about twenty students from five to ten institutions of higher learning at its summer program in Washington DC.

- Since 1994 the Smithsonian Institution and IUPLR have offered the “Smithsonian Institute for the Interpretation and Representation of Latino Cultures” for two weeks each summer; the Institute has been integrated into the Smithsonian’s Center for Latino Initiatives’ annual programming.
- In its capacity as an official Census Information Center the Institute annually hosts the IUPLR Census Information Workshop, providing training in Census-based research methods for up to twenty participants. This year’s workshop was held at the Institute in July and was aimed at promoting research projects on health care access, border health, infant and child health, and HIV/AIDS.

Participants from across the country heard presentations by experts from the National Center for Health Statistics, the Pan American Health Organization, and other research centers.

For more information about IUPLR go to www.nd.edu/~iuplr/.

Survey of Immigrant-Serving Organizations

Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Immigrant Organizations Project joined Notre Dame researchers with colleagues from Baruch College of City University New York and the Universities of Illinois at Chicago and California, Los Angeles, to conduct a survey to determine the effectiveness of immigrant-serving organizations in Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York. Sylvia Puente, director of the Metropolitan Chicago Initiative, heads the Institute’s efforts in this project.



Commemorating a death on the US-Mexican border, © Fr. Daniel Groody, 2003

2006 Guadalupe Conference

The Institute’s Center for the Study of Latino Spirituality and Culture is partnering with Notre Dame’s Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism for a November 2006 conference entitled “Guadalupe: Madre del Sol, Madre de América.” On the 475th anniversary of the Guadalupe apparitions to Juan Diego this conference will feature artistic and scholarly presentations that explore Guadalupe’s extraordinary significance in the clash of cultures that gave rise to the new people of America. (Further information will be posted by March 2006 on www.nd.edu/~latino/.)

Research Publications

The Institute generates and disseminates current scholarship about Latinos through its monographs, research reports, policy and research briefs, online publications, and a book series with the University of Notre Dame Press.

Research publications during the past year include:

Monographs

Measuring the Minority Education Gap in Metropolitan Chicago, funded by the Joyce Foundation

The Roof Over Our Heads: Hispanic Housing in the United States, by Eileen Diaz McConnell and Timothy Ready, produced for Esperanza USA with support from the Council of Federal Home Loan Banks

Latino Research @ ND

"Anti-Castro Political Ideology among Cuban Americans in the Miami Area: Cohort and Generational Differences," a research brief by Sung Chun and Guillermo Grenier, with Jonathan Kwon, Joo Young Park, and Joshua Rah

See pages 23 and 24 for articles about the Institute's literary publications and a prize-winning volume of poetry in the Institute's book series with the Notre Dame Press.



Research Reports

"Latinos' Low Pension Coverage and Disenfranchisement from the US Financial System," by Wei Sun and Teresa Ghilarducci

"Hispanic Clergy and the Task of Ministry in Urban America," by Milagros Peña, Edwin I. Hernández, and Melissa Mauldin

"MALDEF and the Evolution of Civil Rights," by David A. Badillo

"Latino-Origin Populations Revisited: Estimating the Latino-Origin Group Populations at the National Level and for Selected States, Counties, Cities, and Metro Chicago," by Sung Chun, with Jonathan Kwon, Cara Williams, and Edward Yu

"Latino Demographic Growth in Metropolitan Chicago," by Rob Paral, Timothy Ready, Sung Chun, and Wei Sun

"The Economic Progress of US- and Foreign-Born Mexicans in Metro Chicago: Indications from the United States Census," by Rob Paral and Timothy Ready





Online Resource Material

“Mexican Women in Chicago,” a report to the Secretaría de Desarrollo Social de México by Allert Brown-Gort, John Koval, and Timothy Ready

“No Place Like Home: The State of Hispanic Housing in Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York,” by Eileen Diaz McConnell, a statistical companion to the monograph *The Roof Over Our Heads*

“Hispanic Access to Health Services: Identifying Best Practices for Eligibility and Access to Medicaid and SCHIP Programs,” by Adela de la Torre, Lorena Garcia, Jessica Nuñez de Ybarra, and Marisol Cortez, with Robert Santillano and Michelle Amaral, funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services via the Office of Minority Health

“Identifying and Preserving the History of Latino Visual Arts: Survey of Archival Initiatives and Recommendations,” by Tracy Grimm, produced for the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center

“SOPEMI Report for Mexico,” by Jorge A. Bustamante

To view or download PDFs of Institute publications or to join the mailing list go to www.nd.edu/~latino/research/publications.htm.



Metro Chicago

The Institute has made a major commitment to policy-relevant research in the greater Chicago area, which it serves through the Metropolitan Chicago Initiative (MCI).



Chicago Fact Finder: A Resource for Researchers

Chicago Fact Finder is a web portal developed and maintained by the Institute, with support from The Chicago Community Trust and the MacNeal Health Foundation. It contains a searchable database with 1990 and 2000 Census information about the city of Chicago and each of its 77 community areas, 59 towns and villages in Cook County, the 6 Illinois counties of metro Chicago (individually and collectively), the state of Illinois, and the United States. The data can be juxtaposed in various ways and disaggregated by race and ethnicity for each geographical area.

Located at www.nd.edu/~chifacts, Chicago Fact Finder also contains links to Institute publications pertaining to metro Chicago, as well as to information produced and maintained by others. The Institute has provided workshops to introduce and demonstrate Chicago Fact Finder to representatives of Chicago-area

community-based organizations and other community leaders.



Chicago-Area Survey A Rich Source of Information about Latinos' Lives

“Chicago is the capital of the Latino Midwest and is the second largest Mexican city in the country.”

The Institute's Chicago-Area Survey offers scholars a broad, unprecedented look at trends and beliefs in Chicagoland's Latino community. Funded by a grant from the MacNeal Health Foundation, researchers conducted interviews of more than 1,500 Latino households in six Illinois counties. Among the survey topics were consumer behavior, language use, political participation, health, education, religion, and interethnic relations. The survey also queried 400 African Americans and 400 non-Latino whites on their views of and interactions with Latinos.

“This research sheds important light on a group that was not well studied until now,” says Institute Associate Director Allert Brown-Gort. “Chicago is the capital of the Latino Midwest and is the second largest Mexican city in the country,” he adds, “and previous studies focused more on the population's size than its aspirations, contributions, and daily experience.”

A sampling of survey findings reveals key facts about Chicago's Latino population, including differences between the foreign-born (first generation) and US-born Latinos—those with foreign-born parents (second generation) and those with US-born parents (third generation and higher):

- Both English and Spanish are spoken in the great majority of Latino households. Even among third and higher generations, both English and Spanish are spoken in four out of every five homes.
- More than half (51 percent) of respondents worked in only three job categories—production (e.g., factory work), food preparation and serving, and construction. First-generation respondents were most likely to work in production, while third- and higher-generation respondents were most likely to work in food preparation and serving.
- Second-generation respondents are more likely to be involved in a community or civic organization than either the first or later generations.
- Two-thirds of all respondents said they believed that public officials cared little, if at all, about what people like themselves think. Yet 82 percent stated that they watched television news almost every day.
- Among respondents 26–35 years of age 72 percent of the foreign born were married, compared to 45 percent of the third and higher generations. In contrast, later-generation respondents were more than three times as likely to be single and five times as likely to be divorced.
- Among second- and later-generation respondents 60 percent and 73 percent, respectively, identified with the Democratic Party, compared to only 6 percent of both groups who identified with the Republican Party. Among first-generation respondents only 35 percent identified with either party; those who did have a political preference preferred Democrats by a margin of five to one.
- The majority of Latinos in the area, 83.1 percent, identify as Catholic.

An overarching report on the survey's findings will soon be available at www.nd.edu/~latino/research/publications.htm. Institute researchers have already delved into the data to write papers on remittances, bilingualism, and questions of ethnic identity, which will also be made available on the Institute's website.



Product shelves at a Mexican grocery store

More information on the Chicago Area Survey and access to data can be obtained from Institute Director of Research Timothy Ready at 574-631-2974 or tready@nd.edu.



The Center for the Study of Latino Religion (CSLR) serves as a national center and clearinghouse for ecumenically focused social-scientific study of the US Latino church, its leadership, and the interaction between religion and community. Highlighting the ways in which religion strengthens and improves the quality of public life, the Center examines the impact of religious beliefs, leaders, churches, and faith-based organizations on Latino urban communities. For more information go to www.nd.edu/~latino/units/cslr.htm.

*Our Lady of Tepeyac,
Little Village, Chicago*

Survey Profiles Chicago's Latino Congregations

For the last two years the Center for the Study of Latino Religion (CSLR) has conducted an unprecedented survey, examining Latino congregations in the greater Chicago area. In collaboration with scholars Guillermo Grenier of Florida International University, Milagros Peña of the University of Florida, and David Sikkink of the University of Notre Dame, CSLR's director, Edwin Hernández, has managed the large-scale initiative underwritten by The Pew Charitable Trusts, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the Louisville Institute.

Researchers focus on 618 Christian congregations with a Latino population of at least 50 percent if Protestant and 30

percent if Catholic. The congregations studied include Roman Catholic and mainline and Evangelical Protestant communities and reflect the wide range of traditions found in Latino churches.

When completed in the spring of 2006, the survey will be the most comprehensive of its kind and will provide a complex portrait of Latino churches in the Chicago area and a thorough examination of their impact on communities and surrounding neighborhoods.

It will provide insights into how churches in the Latino community provide companionship and community for their parishioners, offer social services and advocacy for those in need, and foster the social and civic inclusion of recent immigrants.



Charting the Next Wave Scholars Launch Survey to Document Latino Political Diversity



“Rather than focusing on national-level data, what is needed is a way of carefully examining the impact of demographic trends...”

Latinos now comprise between 6 and 8 percent of the national electorate, a small number given their growth to nearly 14 percent of the population. Notre Dame political scientist and department chair Rodney Hero claims that when it comes to Latinos and US politics, “You can’t understand one without understanding the other.” To do so he and five colleagues are launching the Latino National Survey (LNS), a major study that will highlight differences in Latino political attitudes and behaviors. The LNS will interview close to 8,000 individuals in 15 states and the District of Columbia to offer a nuanced, in-depth look at Latino

political experiences. The authors hope to provide a valuable update to the last national study of Latino political attitudes, conducted in 1989.

“Rather than focusing on national-level data, what is needed is a way of carefully examining the impact of demographic trends in a way that recognizes significant variations,” the authors of the survey say. The LNS will pay particular attention to the fact that the Latino population is increasingly an immigrant one, diverse in national origin and scattered across the United States in big cities, suburbs, and small towns.

For example, the political experiences of a recent Mexican immigrant to rural



Political Diversity

Iowa differ dramatically from those of a third-generation Cuban American in Miami or, say, a Salvadoran restaurant worker in suburban New Jersey. And while the economy and education remain the top issues for Hispanic voters across the country, the LNS will attempt to explain what impact the local environment has on Latinos' participation in and perceptions of the political system. The project will add place-specific data about education, income, race relations, social incorporation, and other issues to contextualize the findings from survey interviews.

With close to \$700,000 in major funding from the Russell Sage, Irvine, Carnegie, and Joyce Foundations and the Institute, the LNS engages leading scholars from six states and universities. The team includes Hero, senior researchers Gary M. Segura (Iowa) and Valerie Martínez-Ebers (Texas Christian University), and affiliated researchers Luis Fraga (Stanford), John A. García (Arizona), and Michael Jones-Correa (Cornell)—all political scientists by training.

The group began collaborating on the project in 2003, thanks to early support from IUPLR. They expect to start sharing results in the form of reports, a monograph, and scholarly papers by 2006. Remarkably, policymakers and others who are interested in the survey data will have free access to them on the Internet. "A lot of the publications that come out of this won't even be ours," Hero says. "Our thinking and indeed our hope is that the information will be available, from the beginning, to anyone who wants to use it."

Latino leaders summit with Senator Lugar, R-IN (center)



Civic Engagement

A National Science Foundation-funded study is examining civic and place engagement in three Latino ethnic enclaves: Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood, Miami's East Little Havana, and Phoenix's Garfield neighborhood. The two-year study is a collaborative effort of the University of Notre Dame and DePaul, Florida International, and Arizona State Universities. Institute Director of Research Timothy Ready is co-principal investigator.

Going Further Afield Historian Highlights Latinos in Wisconsin

Latinos in



Jesus Salas, left front, and Salvador Sanchez lead march leaving Wautoma for Madison, August 15, 1966. © David Giffey



Notre Dame Professor Marc Rodriguez offers a new course on Mexican American history, “a welcome additions to the curriculum,” comments Institute Director Gilberto Cárdenas. Rodriguez sees Latino studies moving in the direction of comparative and interdisciplinary work and as key to today’s political and social scene. “It’s an exciting time to be in the field,” he says.

Few people would immediately think of Wisconsin in relation to the mid-twentieth-century struggle for migrant farm workers’ rights, but Notre Dame history professor Marc Rodriguez offers a different perspective. “What was happening in Wisconsin and other Midwest states has been largely neglected,” he argues.

Rodriguez joins other Latino studies scholars in discovering and communicating some of America’s previously untold histories. A Milwaukee native and son of a migrant worker, he pursues his research into Wisconsin’s socialist and liberal past, linking the state’s progressive tendencies with the Chicano and farm labor movements of the 1960s.

For his forthcoming book *Migrants and Citizens* Rodriguez examines archives in Wisconsin and Texas and tracks the patterns of thousands of migrants as they traveled south to work winter cotton fields and north to Wisconsin cities and counties for cherry, beet, and other summer harvests.

Nationally César Chávez was the face of the migrant farm workers’ movement; in Wisconsin there was Jesus Salas. Having moved from Texas to Wisconsin as a teenager,



Wisconsin

Salas rose to lead approximately 15,000 Wisconsin migrants, according to Rodriguez.

In the summer of 1966 Salas and other migrants, emulating Chávez's march to Sacramento that same year, marched to Madison to shed light on the problems of Wisconsin's migrant workers. "Salas and the group of young Wisconsin activists sought to demonstrate that the plight of Wisconsin's migrants ran parallel to the movement of their brethren in California and the national civil rights movement," Rodriguez says.

Rodriguez estimates that today's Wisconsin migrant population hovers around 12,000, most of them Mexican born and having arrived in the last thirty years. Among the challenges for the Latino community in Wisconsin today, says Rodriguez, is getting their voices heard on the issues that affect their lives, such as tensions between citizens and noncitizens. "Many of the folks who don't have citizenship status have a limited voice in the nation."

For excerpts from an interview with Jesus Salas go to www.nd.edu/~latino/research/publications.htm#Horizons.



Jesus Salas at the end of the first day of the 80-mile march from Wautoma to Madison, August 15, 1966, © David Giffey

Latina Scholars Push the Frontiers of Knowledge

The 2,000-mile border between the United States and Mexico is the most crossed in the world, with more than 300 million people making the passage each year.

Under the auspices of the Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR) and with support from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a group of scholars is working collaboratively to draw attention to the border and its families.

Known as Las Fronterizas in recognition of their own roots on the US-Mexican frontier, these scholars represent institutions on both sides of the border, including the University of Texas at Austin and San Antonio, the University of California Merced, and El Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana. “Our goal is to get out current and accurate information for policymakers, agencies, community activists, and all others who need it,” says group coordinator Raquel Marquez, a sociology professor at San Antonio.

The group is completing its first book entitled “Transformations of *La Familia* on the US-Mexican Border Landscape,” a combination of demographics, research, and personal stories of life on *la frontera*, soon to be submitted to the Institute’s series with the University of Notre Dame Press. They argue that expanding traditional definitions of the region captures



*Immigrant family looking up for the ‘American Dream’,
© Fr. Daniel Groody, 2003*

“What we’ve found is that people are very resourceful in the way that they make use of opportunities on both sides of the border.”





People waiting for the right moment to cross into the United States, © Fr. Daniel Groody, 2003

important dynamics from as far north as San Antonio, Texas, to as far south as Monterrey, Mexico.

“What we’ve found is that people are very resourceful in the way that they make use of opportunities on both sides of the border,” says Harriett Romo, a sociology professor at San Antonio. Families selectively access health care, retail services, and educational options in Mexico and the United States, basing choices on what is most advantageous.

With funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, Romo and Marquez are conducting a study of the increasingly transnational character of families in San Antonio through interviews with people in Monterrey, San Antonio, and Laredo. The group proposes to continue studies focusing on children, poverty, and health at the border.

For more information go to www.nd.edu/~iuplr/Fronterizas.



Face of an Immigrant, © Fr. Daniel Groody, 2003



Students Engage with Current Research

Institute researchers and associated faculty frequently tap into up-to-the-minute scholarship in their undergraduate classes to keep course content current and expose students to the leading edges of information.

In Applied Demographics of US Latinos, Senior Research Analyst Sung Chun of Notre Dame's Sociology Department has been introducing students to statistical methods by using recent Census data and research publications and by encouraging students to see the trends behind the numbers. "Read it with heart," Chun tells students. "Consider the human realities and multiple meanings behind the data."

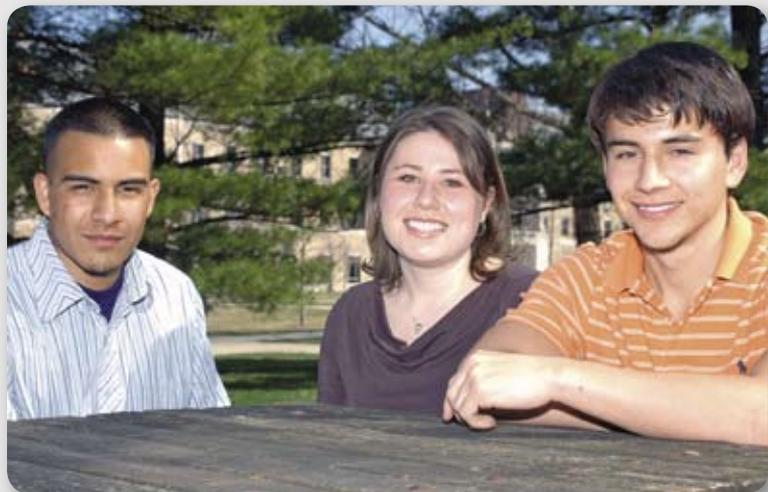
Latino Studies Supplementary Major to Debut at Notre Dame

In the fall of 2005 Notre Dame joins a select group of universities offering a major in Latino studies.

Like Notre Dame's minor in Latino studies, the major program will be housed in the College of Arts and Letters and administered by the Institute for Latino Studies and will offer undergraduate students an interdisciplinary and comparative approach to the study of US Latinos within the context of American society and its institutions. As such, the major is supplementary and will be paired with one or more other fields of study.

"The major is recognition of the need for students from across the colleges at Notre Dame to understand Latinos today," says Institute Director of Academic Affairs Yolanda Lizardi Marino.

According to Mark Roche, I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, "The new supplementary major will meet student needs and help increase awareness of this important area of study, which is one of Notre Dame's signature strengths."



Current Latino studies minors have diverse academic interests: Tamara Levan '06 (center) pursues pre-professional studies and plans to be an optometrist; Trey Rodriguez '06 (right) majors in accountancy in Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business; and Elias Moo '07 (left), a sociology major, aims to be a community leader and possibly go to law school.



Course Gives Undergrads a Taste of Field Research

In the groundbreaking course Mexican Migration and Transnationalism in South Bend, Assistant Professor of Anthropology Karen Richman gives Notre Dame undergraduates a taste of participant observation in South Bend's growing Latino population (approximately 48,000 as of 2002—up nearly 300 percent from the 1990s). The course, which fulfills the practicum requirement for the Latino studies minor, sends students into the community to experience anthropological work in the field by undertaking research and volunteering at local migrant-serving institutions. Students interview service providers and clients and present their analyses to the class.

Field research gives students an active understanding of the forces shaping the migrant experience in the area. Christina Velasquez '05 conducted her research at Plaza Comunitaria, a service that prepares Mexican migrants to earn a GED by tutoring them in computer skills, reading, and math. Velasquez surveyed Mexican stay-at-home moms and probed motivations for advancing their education. "They want to set a good example for their children and they want their children to realize how important education is," Velasquez says. She goes on to outline the 'immigrant bargain' reflected in the women's attitude: The first, often low-income, generation in a host country will work hard to provide opportunities for the next generation, who must use those opportunities to

advance the family. "Both generations must sacrifice; that's the bargain," Velasquez explains.

The course offered students the opportunity to volunteer and work on a wide range of topics. For his research junior Trinidad Arredondo '06 clipped *South Bend Tribune* articles on the area's Latino population from the last 40 years, tracking failed and successful initiatives for collaboration between area institutions and Latino advocates to offer migrants support. Sarah Schneider '05 and Katie Chenoweth '05 researched and volunteered with Memorial Hospital's Hispanic Initiative, a program in which interpreters and midwives help to ease linguistic and cultural barriers and give ESL patients more decision-making power in childbirth and general healthcare.

Transnationalism became a major course theme, as students discovered how millions of Latinos maintain close links to their homeland and travel back and forth between home and host countries in an elliptical flow. They studied trends in globalization and the deindustrialization of the US economy as an impetus for the phenomenon and how today's technology makes transnationalism easier to maintain than in years past.

"The content of the course engages what's happening in Latino studies right now," says Richman. "There's tremendous interest in how people are both assimilating and leading transnational lives at the same time; we are figuring out that it's not necessarily an either/or question."



Christina Velasquez '05 (left) with Cristina Rios, who runs the Plaza Comunitaria educational service in South Bend. Rios is a professor of secondary education at Indiana University South Bend.

Karen Richman

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology
- Member, Institute for Latino Studies Steering Committee
- PhD, University of Virginia
- Author of *Migration and Vodou*, which explores the relationship between religion and transnational migration among Haitians

Richman's work in the 1980s with migrant workers on the Delaware-Maryland border led to her fascination with "blended societies, dynamic societies, societies born out of clashes." Her appreciation of Haitian culture and a renewed focus on Latino migrants influence her study of comparative transnationalism.

A New Generation of Latinos in Theology at Notre Dame

“You don’t do theology just to talk about God; you do theology because it helps you to transform the world according to God,” says Salvadoran Ernesto Valiente, one of an accomplished group of Latino/a theology doctoral students at Notre Dame. Some in the group concentrate on a faith of action, a tradition fostered at Notre Dame by noted Latin American theologian Rev. Gustavo Gutiérrez. Others explore historical aspects, tying the past to the present in a scholarship of connections and contemplation. All have an eye on the cultural dimensions of faith, as they expand the field of US Latino theology pioneered by Rev. Virgilio Elizondo, member of the Institute’s Center for the Study of Latino Spirituality and Culture and recently named Notre Dame Professor of Pastoral and Hispanic Theology.

Anthony Suárez, a Cuban American from Miami who for a brief time played professional baseball, aims to use his training to be a voice of reconciliation between Cubans and Cuban Americans.

Monica Mata of El Paso specializes in patristics, the study of the Church fathers, working with Notre Dame’s top patristic scholars John Cavadini, Brian Daley, and Robin Darling Young. “I have a special interest in how the Church fathers have contributed to the Latino understanding of miracles, sacraments, and the Virgin of Guadalupe,” Mata says.

Valiente and Michael Lee, a recent graduate now teaching at Fordham University, are both interested in contemporary Latin American theologians such as Spanish-born Jesuits Jon Sobrino and Ignacio Ellacuría, who was slain in El Salvador in 1989. Valiente articulates what he sees as the mission of theology today: “In a world broken by sin and injustice with most of the people suffering as a consequence, we have to address the issue of justice. We must also address the issue of religious pluralism.”

Recent graduate AnnaMaria Cardinalli-Padilla comes from a Spanish family living in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her dissertation focused on the history and flamenco-like religious music of los Penitentes, a group of Catholics who came from Spain in the 1600s and settled in northern New Mexico.

Timothy Matovina, associate professor of theology and director of Notre Dame’s Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, believes that a good mix of book work and life experience is essential to a deep theological understanding. “The challenge for young theologians today is to keep in touch with the base—the people—and still do the critical intellectual work,” he says. “Our students are steeped in ministerial experience and hungry to learn the best of our theological and ecclesial traditions. I am confident they will meet this challenge.”



What Is Latino Theology?

Latino religion, born of indigenous, African, and European roots, is an evolving *mestizo* reality. As Reverend Elizondo explains:

“It’s not that we have a different doctrine or dogma from those of other Catholics, [but our] Latino expressions of religion tend to be much more personal and relational. For us it’s not so much Christ, it’s Jesus.

“The way we understand the one God is as *papacito*—it’s a paternal God. It’s not just God way up there but God as very intimate in our lives, and we find it easy to converse directly with God.

“We also have a personal relationship with Mary. We can visit with Mary and see her as a real *mamá* who’s here to protect us, to console us, to guide us.

“Latino religion is very much religion of the heart, of *el corazón*.”





Unexpected Source Allows Research to Bloom

The Institute for Latino Studies attracts talented graduate students to Notre Dame through quality programs and research opportunities such as the Gaia Fellowship, a university-wide offering that provides four years of funding to selected graduate students conducting their dissertation research in Latino studies.

Administered by the Graduate School in consultation with the Institute, the program is the result of a generous gift from Joseph Gaia, an engineer who earned a degree from Notre Dame in 1929. A frugal bachelor who lived most of his life in a Michigan YMCA, Gaia invested his money patiently and donated half of his estate to Notre Dame.

Thus far Gaia's gift has advanced the scholarship of three Notre Dame doctoral students: Robert Portada, in political science, and Evelyn Boria-Rivera and Belkys Torres, both of whom are pursuing PhDs in English. (See related story on page 20.)

Portada, a Cuban American from New York, describes his work as mostly "focused on the relationship of Cuba's dissidents to the current regime, US relations with Cuba, and religion in Cuba," he says. His dissertation



Robert Portada

project will examine the dynamics of the two dominant religions in Cuba, Catholicism and Santería, and their political implications.

Boria-Rivera, from New York and Atlanta, specializes in Latino literature of the Caribbean diaspora, with a focus on Puerto Rican feminist movements.

Examining the abuse that occurred in Puerto Rico from the 1930s to the 1960s when more than a third of the women of child-bearing



Joseph Gaia

age were sterilized, her dissertation will deal with "issues of maternity and reproduction and the ways in which the Latina's body is recolonized by patriarchal manipulations of these functions."

Torres, a second-generation Cuban from Miami, is concentrating on Latina

feminism and pop culture. Her specific focus is on how the telenovela—the TV soap opera that is a staple of interest in households across Latin America—is referenced by writers such as Sandra Cisneros and Ana Castillo to demystify dominant cultural stereotypes about Latin American women and US Latinas.

"The Gaia Fellowship is part of the Institute's drive to form closer ties with graduate students throughout the University in fields such as political science, arts and letters, business, and architecture," says Institute Director Gilberto Cárdenas. Students like Portada are thankful for the fellowship, particularly for its provision of service-free years and summer funding that ensures continuity in studies. "It's an incredible package," he says.



Course Focuses on Caribbean Voices

Turbulent histories, convoluted relationships with the United States, and complex cultures are essential elements in the writing of Judith Ortiz Cofer, Achy Obejas, Loida Martiza Perez, and other authors of Caribbean origin.

In spring 2005 three Notre Dame doctoral students from the English Department worked with Institute Director Gil Cárdenas to coordinate and shape a graduate-level course exploring these rich literary traditions. Second-year student Evelyn Boria-Rivera, fourth-year candidate Marion Rohrleitner, and first-year Belkys Torres helped craft the syllabus for Transculturation and Migration to focus on the cultural hybridity specific to US-Caribbean migration. “Designing this course has allowed Evelyn, Marion, and me to mold the curriculum here at Notre Dame in ways that other grad students aren’t privileged to do,” says Torres.

With Cárdenas’s help, the students enlisted a group of scholars to host informal seminars and public lectures. The roster included Associate Professor Cyraina Johnson-Roullier and Assistant Professor Ivy Wilson from the Notre Dame English Department and Associate Professor Ben Heller and Instructor Marisel Moreno-Anderson of Romance Languages and Literatures. Arte Público Press founder Nicolás Kanellos from the University of Houston and renowned Puerto Rican studies scholar Juan Flores from CUNY’s Hunter College flew in to facilitate sessions

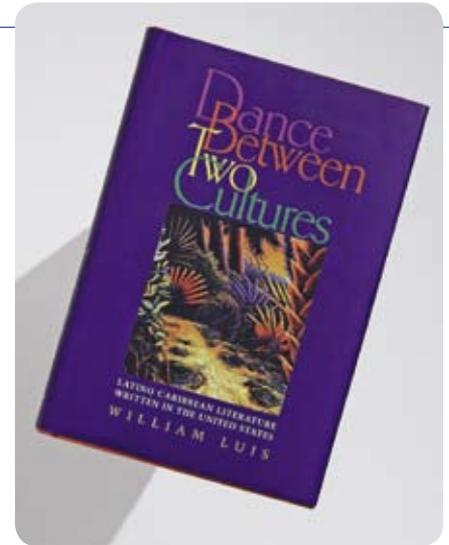
and deliver lectures, and the class traveled to Chicago to meet with Frances Aparicio, professor and director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program at the University of Illinois.

“The purpose of the course was to understand the literature of the Caribbean in situ and in exile,” says Torres. “We looked at modern transculturation—when one culture blends with another—and the resulting hybrid cultures.” “All points of contact between home and host cultures and among US Latinos/as and other cultural groups become transformative points of exchange,” adds Boria-Rivera.

The course emerged against a background of growth in the field of Latino/a literature. “In the ’80s and ’90s Latino literature, particularly by women writers, took off and hit the mainstream,” says Torres. Notre Dame Assistant Professor Theresa Delgadillo, who teaches contemporary Latino/a fiction, agrees: “Latino literature is growing at the university level and reaching a national audience as well.” Writers such as Sandra Cisneros and Julia Alvarez now appear on high school reading lists around the country.

Students first tackled Caribbean and Latino/a critical theory, reading works by Edouard Glissant, Gustavo Pérez-Firmat, and Sylvio Torres Saillant. Building on this base the class spent a month on authors descended from each Hispanic Caribbean island.

The Puerto Rican section had the class explore issues of neocolonialism as they



read Rosario Ferré’s *Sweet Diamond Dust* and Judith Ortiz Cofer’s *The Latin Deli*, along with criticism by Juan Flores, Jorge Duany, and William Luis. Meeting with Flores, students examined issues of national identity on the mainland versus the island.

In the Cuban and Cuban American segment Heller engaged students with his reflections on Cuban poet and journalist José Martí’s 1891 essay “Nuestra América” as the class considered Martí’s work against modern Cuban American authors like Reinaldo Arenas.

Lastly, the course turned to Dominican and Dominican American literature and addressed issues of race, pan-Caribbeanism, and migration patterns. Students were then prepared to conclude their discussions of diaspora, exile, and competing nationalisms by meeting with Aparicio to analyze Latino/a identity as represented in popular US culture.

“The course these students came up with was compelling and well organized, and a stellar cast led the sessions. This type of quality, student-designed content is unusual, and it’s really exciting,” says Heller.



Who's Who in Latino/a Literary Studies at Notre Dame

Recent faculty hires in the Department of English and its Creative Writing program have provided exemplary support and encouragement for the Institute's efforts to spearhead several initiatives in the field of Latino/a literature at Notre Dame.

Francisco Aragón

Aragón is an Institute Fellow who received his MFA at Notre Dame in 2003. His work as a poet, editor, and teacher of undergraduate poetry workshops in the English Department has been crucial in fostering the Institute's enthusiasm for Latino/a literature. In addition to overseeing Momotombo Press, which he founded (see related story on page 23), he is editing an anthology of Latino/a poets.

Aragón's poems and translations have appeared in various publications, including six anthologies and *Poetry Daily* (www.poems.com). In 2005 Bilingual Press published his first book, *Puerta del Sol*. One reviewer comments, "Whether confronting terrorism on Spanish soil, memories of his late mother, or lamenting love lost, Aragón allows his images to travel from one continent to another, between English and Spanish, from hard present-tense reality to amorphous malleable memory."

Theresa Delgadillo

Delgadillo, an assistant professor in the English Department since 2002 and an Institute Fellow, received her PhD from UCLA and previously taught women's studies at Arizona State University. Her research interests in Chicano/a

and Latino/a literary and cultural studies, including issues of memory, gender, feminism, race, spirituality, transnationalism, and globalization, are reflected in her courses.

With support from a prestigious Mellon Fellowship, she is currently working on her manuscript "Spiritual *Mestizaje*: Religion, Race, Gender, and (Trans)Nation in Contemporary Chicana Narrative." Her publications include "Film and the US Latina and Latino Religious Experience: Representations of Religion in the US-Mexico Borderlands," in *Introduction to the US Latina and Latino Religious Experience* (2004), and "Angelitos Negros' and Transnational Racial Identifications," in *Rebellious Reading: The Dynamics of Chicana/o Cultural Literacy* (2004).

Orlando Menes

Menes joined the English Department in 2000 with a PhD from the University of Illinois at Chicago. In 2004–2005 he completed his anthology of contemporary Latino/a poets engaging with spiritual issues, *Renaming Ecstasy: Latino Writings on the Sacred* (Bilingual Press, 2004), and he published several poems in journals such as *Prairie Schooner* and *Crab Orchard Review*. His latest book, *Furia* (Milkweed Editions, 2005), reflects the transnational act of

cultural translation. One commentator writes that *Furia* "speaks to Afro-Cuban heritage, magic, syncretic religion, and legacies of displacement and assimilation."

Menes has taught courses in Latino/a and West Indian poetry, Latin American writers seminars, and poetry workshops. The range of his teaching highlights his interest in literary studies as a transnational and, at times, multilingual endeavor.

Javier Rodriguez

Rodriguez earned his PhD in American literature at Harvard University and joined the English Department as an assistant professor in 2002. He is currently working on a book provisionally titled "Literature and Nationalism during the Mexican War, 1846–1848," an expression of his larger research interest in the comparative study of US and Mexican forms of nationalism. Another project focuses on the significance of South Texan Mexican American literatures to Latino/a studies. He is also writing a series of papers on the representation of Mexico and Mexicans in US American fiction.

Rodriguez is cooperating with the Illinois Humanities Council to organize a retreat on intersections and challenges in Latino/a and African American literature and study. He teaches classes on American war literature, Latino/a literature and theory, and an introduction to Latino/a Literature.

Saving a Latino Arts Documentary Heritage



Untitled serigraph by Calixto Robles

The Institute has always given the visual arts a prominent role in its efforts to increase understanding of the US Latino heritage. Through its archives it has also preserved many of the unique documentary sources that tell the story of Latinos in the Midwest.

The Institute has now combined these priorities through several initiatives and partnerships to document Latino visual arts:

- The new Oral History Program invites visiting artists to create oral histories of their lives and work.
- The Chicago Latino Arts Documentary Heritage Project seeks to identify and preserve primary source materials (such as artists' correspondence, diaries, and records of sale) that detail the working lives of Chicago-area Latino artists. Most of these important materials are not currently in archival repositories but in the private hands of artists and nonprofit organizations.
- An Interactive Website Guide to searching for primary source materials in the Latino arts is under development. The site will provide scholars and students with links to available bibliographic search tools for archival materials and will preserve and provide access to useful resources such as bibliographies, current initiatives, archival holdings, and a discussion forum. Visit www.nd.edu/~latino/arts/research_guide.htm.
- Together with Mari Carmen Ramirez of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Institute Archivist Tracy Grimm, IUPLR National Coordinator Olga Herrera, and Assistant Program Manager Brookes Ebetsch are participating in Documents of 20th-Century Latin American and Latino Art: A Digital Archive and Publications Project. The project involves recovering, translating, disseminating, and publishing sources for modern and contemporary Latin American and Latino art criticism and theory.
- Joining an initiative led by Chon Noriega, director of UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center, the Institute is supporting the development of a national council,

under the auspices of IUPLR, to address the preservation of a Latino Documentary Heritage. The council aims to foster collaboration among archivists, librarians, artists, curators, historians, and their institutions on projects of mutual interest.

"Scholars' demand for these sources is increasing," says Grimm. "Most of the projects cross disciplines, bringing artists, archivists, and scholars together in a common effort to preserve and promote the Latino visual arts through documentary sources that until now have been scattered and undervalued."

"Institutions that get involved in preservation are laying the groundwork for compelling new scholarship in American art history—especially when it looks at the contribution of Latino artists to building community," according to Herrera.

For more information go to www.nd.edu/~latino.

Mujer Tierra,
gouache on
bark paper,
by Esperanza
Gama, 2005





Commitment to Latino Studies Research Collections

The presence of a professional archivist on the Institute's staff demonstrates an ongoing commitment to preserving Latino studies sources. Tracy Grimm was hired in 2000 to evaluate and manage the Julian Samora Library, located in McKenna Hall, and its Archives and Special Collections of rare and out-of-print volumes.



Tracy Grimm

The archives, which are particularly strong in art history and immigration studies, currently include the personal papers of Gilberto Cárdenas, lectures delivered by Latino scholars at Notre Dame in the 1970s, and records of the Institute, Galería América @ ND, and IUPLR.

Working in conjunction with Notre Dame Libraries, Grimm and the Institute staff continue to build the Samora Library's holdings, which provide a valuable resource to scholars and students.

Fresh Voices Momotombo Press Forms the Core of a Letras Latinas Unit



As Notre Dame's Latino studies scholars are researching and teaching the history, appreciation, and critical theory of Latino/a literature, Latino writers are finding a home at Momotombo Press. Newly headquartered at the Institute for Latino Studies, the press acts as a launching pad for talented writers who do not yet have a full-length book

publication. Momotombo publishes two chapbooks—short, soft-cover collections of poetry or prose—per year and is the core of the Institute's incipient Letras Latinas unit, whose mission is to produce and promote a wide range of literary and arts initiatives. This fall Momotombo will team with the Latino/a Reading Group, an interdisciplinary graduate student and faculty group that meets monthly to discuss Latino/a literature and scholarship, to host and promote Sheryl Luna's *Pity the Drowned Horses*, the winner of the Institute's Andrés Montoya poetry prize.

In founding Momotombo, Institute Fellow Francisco Aragón drew inspiration from Chicano poet Gary Soto, who launched his seminal Chicano Chapbook series in the 1970s which featured the then-emerging voices of Sandra Cisneros, Alberto Rios and, in 1999, Aragón himself. An e-interview with Soto is available on the Momotombo Press website.

Just out from Momotombo is *From the Tongues of Brick and Stone* by Brenda Cárdenas, a Milwaukee native whose family hails from the Mexican states of Jalisco and Michoacán. Cárdenas calls her chapbook a declaration of love for print, and that affection is evident in her lyrical, rhyming, and narrative styles and in her respect for the *corrido*, a Mexican ballad form developed in the 1800s.

Also forthcoming from Momotombo is Chicago poet Paul Martínez's chapbook *Pepper Spray*, an unapologetically political collection steeped in the working-class experience and focused on Latinos' tenuous relationship with the police. Martínez notes, "What Momotombo is doing in promoting diverse Latino writers is very important. It's needed."

For more information and web-exclusive author interviews go to www.momotombopress.com.

continued on next page

Letras Latinas Events and Activities

• Momotombo Press announces a public reading featuring Brenda Cárdenas, Paul Martínez, and Michelle Otero, scheduled for April 6, 2006, at the Regis Philbin Studio Theatre in Notre Dame's Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

• The Institute's budding Letras Latinas unit has teamed with the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership at Saint Mary's College to create *Poetas y Pintores: Artists Conversing with Verse*, a creative collaboration of visual art and poetry. The project pairs twelve visual artists with the work of twelve Latino poets to create original works of art based on the poetry. Supported, in part, by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the resulting poems and works of art will form a traveling exhibition to be displayed in South Bend, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York.

• The Andrés Montoya Poetry Prize in the Institute's book series with Notre Dame Press is awarded every other year in conjunction with Notre Dame's Creative Writing Program and is open to any Latino/a poet who has yet to publish a full-length book of poems. The deadline for the competition is January of 2006. Sheryl Luna, winner of the 2004 prize, and the prize's final judge, poet Robert Vasquez, appeared for a special reading on October 4, 2005, at the Regis Philbin Studio Theatre.

She says my hair smells
like corn tortillas.

I raise an eyebrow.

After all those honeysuckle
and papaya shampoos,

I can't believe my scalp
hasn't soaked up

the scent of blossom

or the perfume of rainfall.

No, she's my mother,

and she insists

that even as a little girl,

my whole bedroom breathed
corn tortillas.

Cornflowers

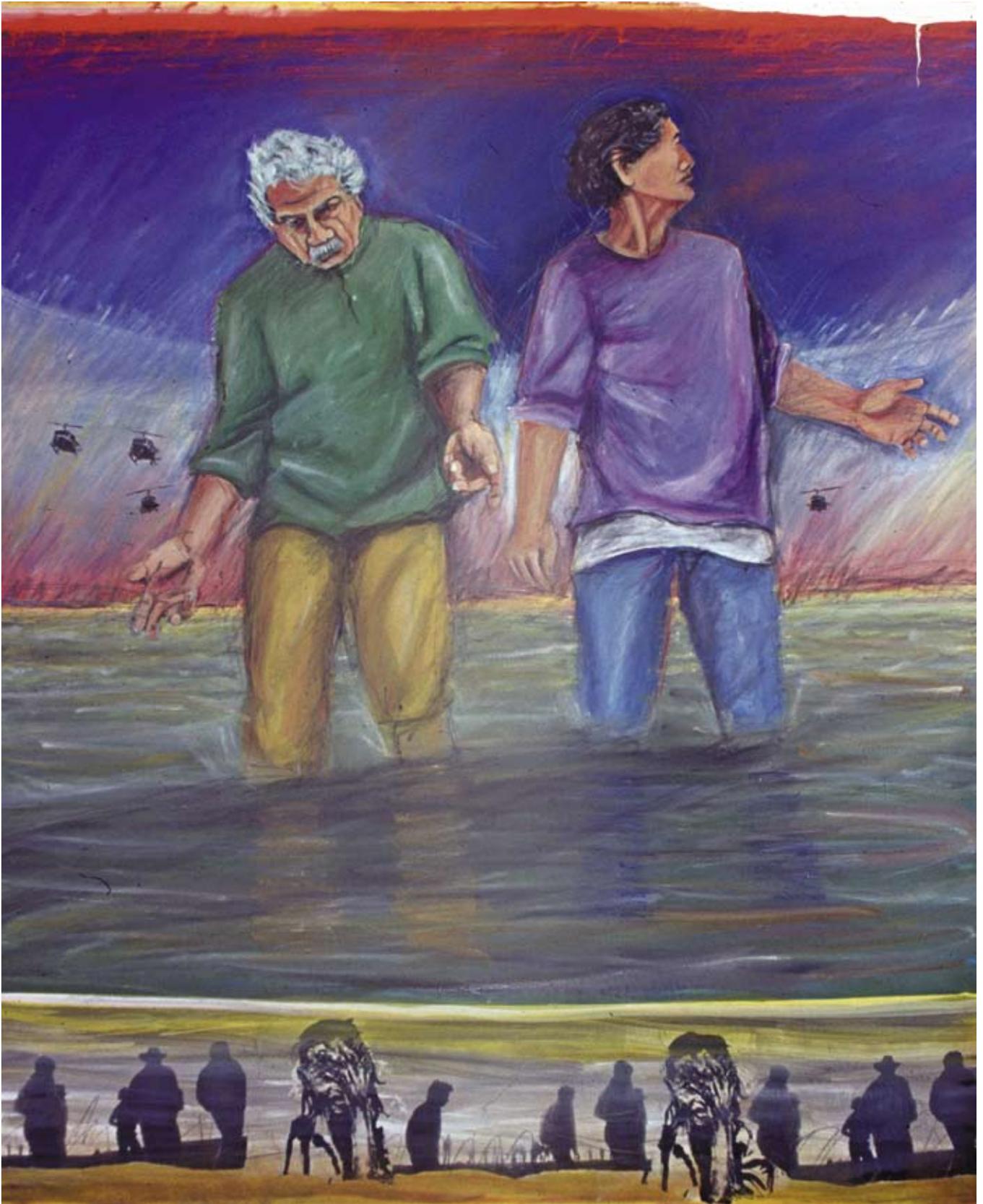
by Brenda Cárdenas

Pressing nose to pillowcase,
I search for masa,
reach back before
molcajete and plow
to a dusky meadow,
its bed of soil flecked
with teosinte,
ancestor grasses.

Up through the dark
follicles of my skull
covered in sun-cracked husks,
push the black-brown silk strands,
cocooning thirsty kernels.
Maíz sprouts into fields of thought
bearing hybrid rows of words
that fall like teeth
from the mouths of the dead.

*This poem first appeared
in Riverwest Review.*





Cover art from Sheryl Luna's *Pity the Drowned Horses*, the collection that won the 2004 Andrés Montoya Poetry Prize. The artwork was produced by the distinguished Chicano artist Malaquias Montoya, father of Andrés, a promising young poet who died in 1999.



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