

APUNTES

DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

MARGARA RUSSOTTO VISITS UWM

By César Ferreira

Professors Susana Antunes and César Ferreira organized the visit of Margara Russotto, an award-winning poet and distinguished scholar in Latin American and Brazilian literature and culture at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, to UWM in November. Dr. Russotto's visit included a public presentation entitled "The Poetry of Margara Russotto: A Trilingual Reading and Conversation," which was held at Golda Meir Library. She also visited Dr. Ferreira's graduate seminar to discuss the short fiction of Brazilian author Clarice Lispector with students and other members of the academic community.



Poet Margara Russotto and UWM's Susana Antunes at the trilingual reading of Russotto's poetry

SUMMER STUDY ABROAD IN MADRID

By Allison Libbey

This summer, 17 undergraduate students participated in the faculty-led summer study abroad program in Spain's capital. For four weeks, students took language classes in the mornings at a local language school and they had culture classes with UWM's Allison Libbey and Saúl Ocegüera in the afternoons. The group also visited some of Madrid's many museums, parks, and other cultural points of interest as well as the city of Toledo. Highlights included: the Museo Arqueológico Nacional, the Museo del Prado, the Palacio Nacional, the street market of El Rastro, and the Parque del Buen Retiro. Additionally, many of our students took the opportunity on their free weekends to visit other cities throughout Spain.

Here's what one of our students had to say about her experience:

"Going to Spain was the best decision I made in college. I went to Spain to finish my Spanish minor, but I came back with much more. As cliché as it sounds, I made lifelong friends, had incredible experiences and proved to myself I can do anything. From hiking in fake Birkenstocks in Cuenca to staying in my first youth hostel in Valencia to my afternoons being a "madrileña" in Retiro park and getting *el menú del día*."

Camille Parra



UWM students in front of Spain's Palacio Nacional

PORT 360 – A JOURNEY THROUH THE MUSIC OF THE LUSOPHONE WORLD

By Marisela Martin, PORT 360 student

Dalila Fernandes de Negreiros presented “Popular Brazilian music” in class.

Dalila (Graduate Student – African and African Diaspora Studies Department at UWM) presented the history of African music in Brazil and the musical contributions of Anelis Assumpção, Luedji Luna, Liniker, Tássia Reis and Linn da Quebrada. She also talked about today’s music in Brazil, which has diverse genres in which the vocalists also compose and are inspired by soul and black music. She talked about how, through the internet, music has been going through a financial crisis because the profit is concentrated on a few artists.

For me the most important thing to learn about is the diversity of Brazilian music and to know how each genre of music (Bossa Nova, Jovem Guarda, Tropicalia, and Rock and roll, pop, Axe, Samba) has its own style relating to nonconforming identities and cultural heritage. In the end, music is a form of communication.

THE FUTURE IS BLACK, QUEER AND RADICAL

Tassia Reis

Tassia Reis is a rapper and stylist, she produce conscious music between hip hop, samba, reggae and R&B.



Linn da Quebrada

Linn da Quebrada is a performative artist and singer, she challenges binary notations of male and female.



A slide from the class presentation “Popular Brazilian music”

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

César Ferreira co-edited the volume *La narrativa de Jorge Eduardo Benavides: Textos críticos*. Lima: Fondo Editorial Universidad Ricardo Palma, 2018. He also published “Ernest Hemingway y Alfredo Bryce Echenique: Historia de una vieja amistad literaria” as a prologue to the volume by Alfredo Bryce Echenique *Función del diálogo en la narrativa de Ernest Hemingway*. Lima: Fondo Editorial Universidad Ricardo Palma, 2018. In July, Professor Ferreira delivered the keynote lecture “Edgardo Rivera Martínez o la apuesta por una utopía posible,” as part of the program “25 años de *País de Jauja*: Homenaje a Edgardo Rivera Martínez,” which took place at the Casa de la Literatura Peruana in Lima, Peru. He was invited to speak on “Antonio Skármeta y la novela del posboom: Apuntes a *El cartero de Neruda*” by the Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in September 2018. Professor Ferreira presented “Entre el exilio y el diario íntimo: *La paz de los vencidos* de Jorge Eduardo Benavides” at the 75th Annual Meeting, South Central Modern Language Association in San Antonio, Texas in October 2018.

Nancy Bird-Soto has published the book *Dissident Spirits: The Post-Insular Imprint in Puerto Rican/Diasporic Literature* (Peter Lang, 2018). As well, she published the article: “El espíritu de la caribeñidad en *Los instrumentos del gozo* de Rebeca Castellanos” in *Polifonía* vol. 8 (2018). At the MMLA in Kansas City, she presented the paper “La ciudad que (no) se repite en *Simone* de Eduardo Lalo” (November 2018). Prof. Bird-Soto continues to be an invited columnist for *Cruce*. She now chairs the UW Spanish Placement Exam Committee.

Gabriel Rei-Doval published “Tres décadas de sociolingüística galega (1967-1997): continuidades e discontinuidades”, in Brea, Mercedes & Carmen Alén (2018): *LIMBA NOASTRĂ-I O COMOARĂ. Estudos de sociolingüística románica en homenaxe a Francisco Fernández Rei*. Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, 2018, ISBN 978-84-16954-99-5, pp. 239-268.



He guest lectured at South Dakota State University, Western Oregon University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, Middlebury College, and the University of California-Irvine. He also recently presented the following papers: 1. “La enseñanza de la lingüística hispánica en Estados Unidos: retos y oportunidades”, at the 4th International Colloquium on Languages, Cultures, Identity in Schools and Society. Soria, Spain, July 4-6 2018. 2. “Cara a unha socioloxía do coñecemento dos estudos galegos en Norteamérica: unha análise desde o inquérito MLA Galician 2014”, 3rd North American Symposium of Galician Studies. Denver, October

19, 2018. 3. “Epistemoloxía da lingüística galega: unha ollada desde USA”. 3rd North American Symposium of Galician Studies. Denver, October 19, 2018.

Last July he was appointed as a member of the Editorial Committee of the journal *Estudos de lingüística galega* (University of Santiago de Compostela).

SPANISH STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT FOOD AND CULTURE

By Ester Suárez-Felipe

Students in *Spanish 225: Food and Culture--Beyond tacos and Paella* put their readings into real-life contexts and got hands-on learning about food. In addition to regular class activities, like cooking traditional dishes, or visiting Mexican Grocery Store *El Rey*, this semester the class hosted Dr. David Pacifico, Assistant Professor in Art History, and Director of the Emile H. Mathis Gallery and UWM Art Collection.

On October 1st, Dr. Pacifico did a presentation on *Chicha de jora*, a traditional drink of the Andes since ancient times. Dr. Pacifico is an archaeologist and ethnographer specializing in the Andean region of South America. His research focuses on food, ritual, and economy in ancient neighborhoods.

On October 3rd, students made their own corn tortillas at the Tortilla Making Workshop organized by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and led by LACUSL Advisor, Alida Cardós Whaley.



Traditional chicha de jora

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

As the new Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, I would like to thank our faculty, academic staff, and teaching assistants for everything they do to contribute to the mission of our department. I am deeply grateful for everyone's efforts to support our students in Spanish and Portuguese.

We have had several activities to promote the visibility of our Department this year. Back in May, Prof. Kathy Wheatley and I visited the Mexican Consulate in Milwaukee during Bilingual Week and gave an informal talk about our departmental academic offer. For Mexican Fiesta in August, I co-staffed one of the shifts at the UWM booth alongside representatives from the Roberto Hernández Center. In terms of campus activities, as part of the LACUSL Speaker Series, the Department co-sponsored a trilingual poetry reading with Prof. Margara Russotto (see page 1). For updates on lectures and other events sponsored by the Department, be sure to join our Facebook Page: <UWM Department of Spanish and Portuguese> and visit our website at: <https://uwm.edu/spanish-portuguese/category/news>.

I also invite you to consider making a donation to one of the funds listed on our website at: <https://uwm.edu/spanish-portuguese/give/>.

Many thanks to Prof. Allison Libbey for editing and putting together this number of *Apuntes*.



Wishing you all a joyous and peaceful holiday season,
Nancy Bird-Soto
Chair