

APUNTES

DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

PORTUGUESE POET ANA LUÍSA AMARAL VISITS UWM

By César Ferreira



Portuguese poet Ana Luísa Amaral held a poetry reading and conversation at UWM on October 15th, 2019. She was hosted by Susana Antunes and César Ferreira.

A leading voice in contemporary Portuguese literature, Amaral's works include 30 books of poetry, a play, a novel, essays, and children's books. Translated into over 20 languages around the world, Amaral's most recent book is the collection of poetry *What's in a Name*, translated into English by Margaret Jull Costa and published by New Directions in New York in 2019.

An accomplished translator herself, Amaral has published renditions of the poetry of Emily Dickinson, William Shakespeare, and John Updike into Portuguese. She is the recipient of several national and international awards and teaches at the University of Porto, where she has conducted research in Comparative Poetics, as well in Feminist and Queer Studies.



CAMÕES – INSTITUTO DA COOPERAÇÃO E DA LINGUA

By Kathleen Wheatley

The Camões Institute for Cooperation and Language celebrated its 90th anniversary in 2019, although its missions and names have evolved over these years. Since 1929, the Portuguese Government has had an institute that focused on language and culture. In 1992, the Camões Institute was created to take on this mission, as well as the added mission of promoting Portuguese education around the world. In 2013, the Camões Institute merged with the Portuguese Institute for Development Support, which provides development assistance to the Portuguese-speaking African countries (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe) and East Timor. Since then, the Camões Institute for Cooperation and Language has three branches that focus on cooperation, culture, and language throughout the world both in Portuguese-speaking and non-Portuguese speaking countries.

In 2019, the College of Letters & Science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee entered into a cooperative agreement with the Camões Institute for Cooperation and Language, thanks to the efforts of Susana Antunes in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. The Portuguese government will be providing financial support to promote Portuguese Language and Cultural Studies at UWM, and as a result, UWM was able to reinstate its tenure-track position in Portuguese.

Professor Kathleen Wheatley met with the Director of Language Services, Dr. Rui Vaz, in Lisbon, Portugal this fall to thank him for the Institute's generous support of the Portuguese Program at UWM.



NEWS FROM PORTUGUESE 360 STUDENTS

Edited by Allison Libbey

Students in this fall's PORT 360 "The Visual Arts of the Lusophone world" got to attend several workshops and presentations on campus. Below are the reactions of four of our students to different events organized by Professor Susana Antunes.

"On October 7, Professor Ermitte Saint Jacques from UWM's African and African Diaspora Studies Department gave a wonderful and insightful presentation on *African in Brazil: Candomblé Art and the Public Sphere*, allowing all the class to learn more about the African diaspora and the deep spirituality within Black cultures from a global perspective. I think it's important for us students to learn about religions like Candomblé and Vodou, and to destigmatize negative connotations and stereotypes about these religions. Many thanks to Professor Antunes!" - **Nia Wilson**

"On October 12, I attended a samba workshop led by Armando Duarte from the University of Iowa and overall it was an incredible experience. We learned Samba dance moves for 5 hours in total, which was a bit hard on my feet afterwards but so great for my soul! I met and connected with people of all backgrounds and ages in our community. Professor Duarte made it easy for beginners and experts alike to learn the dance. Later that week in PORT 360, he taught us more about the history of Samba and aspects of Brazilian Carnival. It was so intriguing to me that Samba has influences from so many traditions. I highly encourage anybody and everybody, (even non-Portuguese speakers like me) to attend events like this in the future." - **Sadaf Z Babwari**

"Our class has been discussing different art styles throughout history in the Lusophone world, and it was fascinating to see some of the characteristics during our visit to Special Collections on October 21. Our class talked with Special Collections Librarian Max Yela, who informed us that the collection is comprised of "facsimiles," or exact copies of written and printed material. Everything inside the books is duplicated, including flaws! These ancient books are made to not only look like the original, but also give the user the same experience while handling them. To see these books and interact with them is really a unique experience - I was so inspired by these ancient books that I decided to use them as a topic for my final project!" - **Victoria Lilly**



"Daniel Marques, a Fulbright Scholar from Brazil doing research at UWM, came to our class on November 11 to teach us about a Brazilian practice in Bahia, called the tying of the "Fita do Senhor do Bonfim." It's a ribbon-like bracelet that is tied onto one's wrist or ankle, and with each tie, the wearer is supposed to make a wish. After three ties, you then wear it until it comes off by itself. It is said that once the ribbon falls off, your wishes will have been realized. The visual effect of this tradition is related to the enormous number of ribbons outside the church, and the result of the vibrant colors of the ribbons moving with the wind." - **Ryan Jay Ammerman**

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

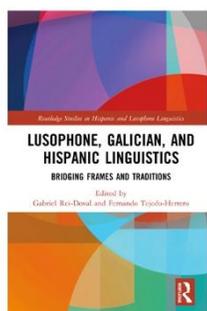
Susana Antunes translated from Spanish to Portuguese the poetry book *As Quatro Estações da Poesia*, by Margara Russotto. The book was launched at the Modern Language Association International Symposium, Lisbon, July 23-25, 2019. She also chaired panels at that conference, entitled “Ilhas de Vozes em Reencontros Compartilhados I, II.” In September she was invited to attend the International Conference “Sena & Sophia: Centenários” in Rio de Janeiro, where she presented a paper entitled “Jorge de Sena e Cecília Meireles: o encanto dos contrastes”.

Nancy Bird-Soto presented “Lo familiar y el extrañamiento en *Mis memorias* de Alejandro Tapia y Rivera” at the Midwest Modern Language Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois (November). She continues to Chair the UW Spanish Placement Exam Committee and be an invited columnist for *Revista Cruce*.

César Ferreira published the article “Julio Ramón Ribeyro: La palabra que perdura” in *Quimera-Revista de Literatura* 427-428 (julio-agosto 2019): 15-18. He also published a review on Jorge Eduardo Eielson’s collection of poetry “*Room in Rome*” in *Latin American Literature Today* Vol. 1 No. 12 (2019). Ferreira authored the prologue “Edgardo Rivera Martínez, lector de César Vallejo” for the volume: *El paisaje en la poesía de César Vallejo* by Edgardo Rivera Martínez. Lima: Fondo Editorial Universidad Ricardo Palma, 2019: XIII-XVI. Additionally, he published “César Vallejo y sus *Poemas humanos*” as a prologue to a facsimile edition of César Vallejo’s *Poemas humanos* (1923-1938). Lima: Universidad Ricardo Palma, 2019: 15-19. Ferreira gave four talks at Peru’s 24th Feria Internacional del Libro in July 2019: “Encuentro en el mundo andino: En torno a *El paisaje en la poesía de César Vallejo*, de Edgardo Rivera Martínez;” “Sobre César Vallejo y sus *Poemas humanos*,” “La poética de la ficción de Mario Vargas Llosa;” and “Historia de una amistad: Ernest Hemingway y Alfredo Bryce Echenique.”

In May, **John McCaw** chaired two panels and presented a paper, “Wanderings and Awakenings: The Labyrinth of Crete and Spirituality in Colonial Spanish America,” at the Mediterranean Studies Association conference in Greece. He also organized and chaired three panels for the Spanish I (pre-1700) Session at the Midwest Modern Language Association conference, held in November in Chicago. On one of the panels he presented a paper, “The Belly of the Beast: The Labyrinthine Underworld in Lope de Vega’s *El villano en su rincón*.”

Gabriel Rei-Doval published his co-edited book *Lusophone, Galician and Hispanic Linguistics* on June 19. The printed version of the book was published by Routledge. He also organized the 7th Lusophone and Hispanic Linguistics Symposium, held at UW-Milwaukee on November 8-9, 2019. During his sabbatical last year, he delivered two conference presentations: “A lingua galega e o Camiño de Santiago: o contexto norteamericano,” an invited presentation at the *I Simposio Internacional Os Estudos Galegos Camiño do Xacobeo 21* in Santiago de Compostela in December of 2018, and “Top-Down and Bottom-Up Language Planning in Galicia: Can School Alone Reverse Language Shift?” at the Modern Language Association Annual Conference in January of 2019 in Chicago IL. Finally, his autofictional memoir was published in August 2018 on the main online Galician newspaper *Galicia Confidencial* (<http://www.galiciaconfidencial.com/tema/viaxes-sen-lee>).



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

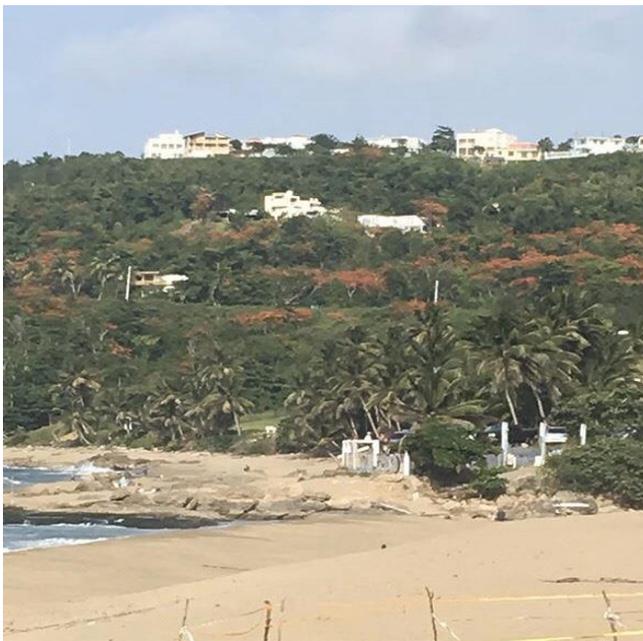
It has been an exciting autumn with several events hosted and/or co-sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Every semester I witness the dedication of our faculty and staff, so I want to extend them my gratitude for everything they do for the Department and our students. As you can see in this edition of *Apuntes*, our Portuguese program has received a significant boost this year with now Assistant Professor Susana Antunes.

For updates on lectures and other events sponsored by the Department, be sure to join our Facebook Group: <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/>.

Thanks to Prof. Allison Libbey for being our newsletter editor.



Wishing you an uplifting holiday season,
Nancy Bird-Soto
Chair



Left: Playa de Guajataca and flamboyán trees in the background

Right: Old train route by Guajataca Tunnel, Quebradillas, Puerto Rico

Photos by Nancy Bird-Soto, June 2019