

Doris Sommer

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Curriculum Vitae

Education

- Ph.D., Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, 1977.
Dissertation, "Mann, Midrash, and Mimesis."
- M.A., Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, 1975.
- M.A. requirements fulfilled, Hispanic Literature, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1970.
- B.A., English Literature, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1970.
- B.A., *cum laude*, Spanish Language and Literature, Rutgers University, 1968.

Academic and Research Appointments

- Director, Harvard Seminar of Latino Cultures, Harvard University, 1997-present.
- Professor of Graduate Studies in Latin American Literature, Harvard University, 1991-present.
- Visiting lecturer, School for Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, 2001.
- Professor of Spanish and Women's Studies, Amherst College, 1989-1991.
- Assistant, then Associate Professor of Spanish, Amherst College, 1980-1989.
- Assistant Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature, Livingston College, 1978-1980.

Administrative Positions

- Director, Cultural Agency Initiative, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS), Harvard University, 2002-present.
- Coordinator, Harvard Winter Institute (Puerto Rico), DRCLAS.
- Committees, Harvard University:
 - Executive Committee, DRCLAS
 - Ethnic Studies
 - American Civilization
 - Latin American Studies
 - Committee on Degrees in Literature
 - Committee on Degrees in History and Literature
 - Public Service
- Conference Coordinator, Harvard University:
 - "Bilingual Aesthetics, II," March 2001.

- "Bilingual Aesthetics," December 1999.
- "Africa in the Americas," February 1998.
- "Politics and Performance," April 1994.
- "Nationalisms and Sexualities," April 1989.
- "The Americas," an ongoing seminar at the Humanities Center, September 1996-present.
- Conference Coordinator, "Cultural Agency in the Americas," Social Science Research Council (SSRC); Cuzco, Peru, January 2001.

Grants

- John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, January-December 1995, and
- ACLS Fellowship, January-December 1995, for the completion of *Proceed with Caution*.
- Program grants for Performance and Politics, DRCLAS, 1994.
- American Express Grant, Ethics in the Professions, Summer 1992.
- Amherst College Faculty Research Grant, for travel in Southern Cone, Summer 1988.
- Fellow, W. E. B. DuBois Institute, Harvard University, 1982-83.
- National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship, 1982-83, for the completion of *One Master for Another*.
- Principal for group grants:
 - "Cultural Agency in the Americas," a multi-year project through the SSRC, funded by the Ford Foundation.
 - "New American Studies," a 4-year conference series at Harvard University, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.
 - "Cultural Agency" workshop grant for Bellagio, October 28 – November 1, 2001.
 - Radcliffe Exploratory Seminar on Cultural Agency, December 12-13, 2003.

Publications

- **Books:**

1. Editor, *Cultural Agency in the Americas*, forthcoming from Duke University Press and Siglo XXI.
2. Editor, *Bilingual Games*, forthcoming in 2003 from Palgrave.
3. *Bilingual Aesthetics: A New Sentimental Education*, forthcoming in 2003 from Duke University Press.
4. *Proceed with Caution, when engaged by minority writing in the Americas* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1999).
5. Editor, *The Places of History: Regionalism Revisited in Latin America* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1999).
6. Editor, with Andrew Parker, Mary Russo, and Patricia Yaeger, *Nationalisms &*

- Sexualities* (New York: Routledge, 1991).
7. *Foundational Fictions: The National Romances of Latin America* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991). Spanish edition forthcoming, Fondo de Cultura Economica, Mexico.
 8. *One Master for Another: Populism as Patriarchal Rhetoric in Dominican Novels* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1984).

• **Articles Related to *Proceed with Caution*:**

1. "Slaps and Embraces: A Rhetoric of Particularism," *Ungovernability*, ed. Ileana Rodríguez, forthcoming from Duke University Press.
2. "Where the Accent Falls," *Our America and José Martí*, ed. Raúl Fernández, forthcoming from Duke University Press.
3. "Attitude, its Rhetoric," *The Turn to Ethics*, ed. Marjorie Garber et al, (New York: Routledge, 2000).
4. "No todo se ha de decir: Cecilia no sabe; Beloved no cuenta," *Casa de las Americas* (Summer 1999).
5. "Syncopate the State," *Performance Studies*, ed. Peggy Phelan (New York University Press, 1998).
6. "Puerto Rico a flote: Desde Hostos hasta hoy," *El Caribe entre imperios: coloquio de Princeton*, ed. Arcadio Díaz Quiñones, et al (Río Piedras, PR: Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1996).
7. "Conocimiento Interruptus: una ética de lectura," *Las culturas de fin de siglo en América Latina*, ed. Josefina Ludmer (Rosario, Arg.: Beatriz Viterbo, 1995).
8. "About Face: The Talker Turns," *Boundary 2* 23.1 (Spring 1996).
9. "At Home Abroad: El Inca Shuttles With Hebreo," *Creativity and Exile*, ed. Susan Suleiman, *Poetics Today* (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1998).
10. "Mosaic and Mestizo: Bilingual Love From Hebreo to El Inca," *Jewish Studies*.
11. "Grammar Trouble: Cortázar's Critique of Competence," *Diacritics* 25.1 (Spring 1995).
12. "Our Ame-Ríca," *Fieldwork*, ed. Marjorie Garber, (New York: Routledge, 1995).
13. "Taking A Life: Hot Pursuit and Cold Rewards in Testimonial Novel," *Signs* 20.4 (Summer 1995)
14. "Textual Conquests: On Readerly Competence and 'Minority' Literature," *MLQ* (1994).
15. "Who Can Tell?: Filling in the Blanks for Villaverde," *ALH* 6.2 (1994).
16. "Resisting the Heat: Menchú, Morrison, and Incompetent Readers," *Cultures of United States Imperialism*, eds. Donald Pease and Amy Kaplan, (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1994).
17. "Cortez in the Courts: The Traps of Translation from Newsprint to Film," *The Dissident Spectator*, ed. Marjorie Garber (New York: Routledge, 1993).
18. "Cecilia no sabe, o los bloqueos que blanquean," *Revista de critica literaria Latinoamericana*.
19. "No Secrets," *The Real Thing: Testimonial Discourse and Latin America*, ed. Georg M. Gugelberger (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1996)
20. "Resistant Texts and Incompetent Readers," *Poetics Today* 15.2/3 (Summer/Fall

1994).

21. "Rigoberta's Secrets," *Latin American Perspectives*, Testimonials Issue, ed. Georg M. Gugelburger 18.3 (1991).
22. "Not Just a Personal Story: Women's Testimonios and the Plural Self," *Life/Lines: Theoretical Essays on Women's Autobiography*, eds. Celeste Schenck and Bella Brodzki (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1988).
23. "A Nowhere for Us: The Promising Pronouns of Cortázar's 'Utopian' Stories," *Dispositio* IX/24-26; and in *Discurso Literario* 4.1.
24. "Whitman: The Bard of Both Americas," *Approaches to Teaching Whitman's Leaves of Grass*, ed. Donald D. Kummings (New York: Modern Language Association, 1990).
25. "Supplying Demand: Walt Whitman as the Liberal Self," *Reinventing the Americas: Comparative Studies of Literature of the United States and Spanish America*, eds. Gari LaGuardia and Bell Chevigny (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985); and in *New Political Science* 15 (Summer, 1986).

• **General Articles:**

1. "Choose and Lose," *Multilingual America*, ed. Werner Sollors, forthcoming from New York University Press.
2. "Contrapuntal Languages: The Games They Play," to be published in a collection edited by Marc Shell.
3. "Counterdependency: Puerto Rico, the Semi-Colon(y)," to be published in a collection edited by Arcadio Díaz Quiñones.
4. "Nous York, Our Town, y la tuya," forthcoming in *After-Images of the City*, eds. Dieter Ingenschay and Joan Ramon Resina.
5. "El contrapunteo latino entre el inglés y el español: notas para una nueva educación sentimental," forthcoming in *Prácticas*, ed. Mabel Moraña (Pittsburgh, PA: Instituto Iberoamericano).
6. "American Projections of One-derland," forthcoming in *Latin@s in the 21st*, ed. Marcelo Suárez Orozco (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press).
7. "For Love and Country, Fundar y fundir: Latin America's Romances with Modernity," forthcoming in *l romanzo*, ed. Franco Moretti.
8. "Invitation to Bilingual Aesthetics," *MLA, Profession* (2002).
9. "For Love and Money: Of Pot-Boilers and Precautions," *PMLA* (Spring 2001).
10. "Puerto Rico Afloat," *The Cultures of the Hispanic Caribbean*, ed. Conrad James and John Perivolaris (Gainseville, FL: University of Florida Press, 2000).
11. "Ilán Stavans, el José entre sus hermanos," *Revista Iberoamericana* (Fall 2000).
12. "Be-longing and Bi-Lingual States," *Diacritics* 29.4.
13. "A Vindication of Double Consciousness," *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies*, ed. Henry Schwarz (New York: Blackwell, 1998); and forthcoming in a collection edited by Carlos Rincón.
14. "Either And," with Alexandra Vega, the introduction to *Yo-Yo Boing!*, Giannina Braschi (Pittsburgh, PA: Latin American Literary Review Press, 1998).
15. "La pienezza della narrativa romantica: Mármol, Mera, Galván, Issacs," *Storia della civiltà letteraria ispanoamericana*, vol. 2, eds. Dario Puccini and Saúl Yurkievich,

- (Torino: UTET, 1995).
16. "Irremediabilmente humana: El Cetro de Sor Juana," *Lazarrillo* 8 (1995).
 17. "Introduction" and "Mirror, Mirror, in Mother's Room," *Mama Blanca's Memoirs*, Teresa de la Parra, trans. Harriet de Onís and Frederick Fornoff (Pittsburgh, PA: Pittsburgh University Press, 1993).
 18. "Borrón y cuenta nueva: Comienzos tardíos y (t)razas tempranas en Enriquillo, Cumandá, y Tabaré," *Casa de las Américas* 187 (1992).
 19. "Irresistible Romance: The Foundational Fictions of Latin America," *Nation and Narration*, ed. Homi Bhabha (New York: Routledge, 1990).
 20. "Allegory and Dialectics: A Match Made in Romance," *Boundary 2* 18.1 (1991).
 21. "El mal de María: (Con)fusión en un romance nacional," *MLN* (March 1989).
 22. "When History Was Romance in Latin America," *Salmagundi* 82-83 (Spring 1989).
 23. "Sab c'est moi," *Hispanamérica* 48 (1987); and in *Genders* 2 (Summer 1988).
 24. "El género desconstruido: Cómo releer el canon a partir de La Vorágine," *Ensayos sobre La vorágine*, ed. Montserrat Ordóñez (Madrid: Alianza, 1988).
 25. "Plagiarized Authenticity: Sarmiento's Cooper and Others," *Do the Americas Have a Literature?*, ed. Gustavo Pérez Firmat (Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1990).
 26. "Galván's Foundational Fiction and Populist Revisions by Bosch and Marrero Aristy," *Revista Iberoamericana* 142 (1988).
 27. "The Boom in Spanish American Literature: A General Introduction," with George Yúdice, *Postmodern Fiction: A Bio-Bibliographical Guide*, ed. Larry McCaffery (Westfield, NY: Greenwood Press, 1986).
 28. "America as Desire(d): Nathaniel Tarn's Poetry of the Outsider as Insider," *American Poetry* (Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico, 1984); and in *Dialectical Anthropology* 2.2-4 (1986).
 29. "National Romance and Populist Rhetoric in Spanish America," *Europe and its Others* (Colchester: Essex University, 1985).
 30. "Thomas Mann's Gentle Prophetic Voice," *Poetic Prophecy in Western Literature*, eds. Jan Wojcik and Ramond-Jean Frontain (Cranbury, NJ: Fairleigh Dickenson University Press, 1984).
 31. "Populism as Rhetoric: The Dominican Republic," *Boundary 2* XI.1-2 (Fall/Winter 1982-83).
 32. "Good-bye to the Revolution and the Rest: Aspects of Post-1965 Dominican Narrative," *Latin American Literary Review* (Sept. 1981).
 33. "Pattern and Predictability in the Stories of Julio Cortázar," *The Contemporary Latin American Short Story*, ed. Rose Minc (New York: Senda de ediciones, 1979).
 34. "History and Romanticism in Pedro Mir's Cuando amaban las tierras comuneras," *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos* (Río Piedras, PR: Unversidad de Puerto Rico, 1979).