

Olivia Lott

Marilyn Yarbrough Dissertation Fellow / Visiting Instructor of Spanish
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Kenyon College
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. (in progress), Hispanic Studies, Washington University in St. Louis, Expected May 2022
Graduate Certificate in Translation Studies (Completed, 2019)
Dissertation: *Radical Re/Turns: Translation and Revolution in Latin American Neo-Avant-Garde Poetics, 1959-1973*
Committee: Dr. Ignacio Infante (chair), Dr. Michelle Clayton (Brown University), Dr. Javier García Liendo, Dr. Elzbieta Sklodowska

B.A., Spanish, Kenyon College, 2015
Certificate in Latino/a Studies
magna cum laude and Highest Honors in Spanish

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2021-Present Kenyon College
Marilyn Yarbrough Dissertation Fellow / Visiting Instructor of Spanish

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Latin American Poetry and Poetics; Translation Studies; the 1960s and 1970s in Latin America; Avant-Gardes; Modern and Contemporary Latin American Cultural Production; Cultural History; Decolonial Studies; Comparative Inter-American Studies; Literary Translation; Second Language Acquisition; Second Language Literacy

PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

“In (Dis)Use of Reason: Abjection Poetics and Macrocephalic Modernity in El Techo de la Ballena.”
Revista Hispánica Moderna. Accepted without revisions; forthcoming.

“In/Subordination: Pseudo/Translation and the Cultural Cold War in Juan Gelman’s *The Poems of Sidney West*.” Under review.

ESSAYS & REVIEW ESSAYS

“‘breaking the rules / of the state of siege we live in’: Jorgenrique Adoum’s *prepoems in postspanish and other poems*.” *Words Without Borders*, June 2021. <https://www.wordswithoutborders.org/book-review/a-pioneer-of-decolonial-poetry-jorgenrique-adoum-finally-gets-his-book-leng>

“‘Romper el bloqueo cultural’: Translation and Solidarity in *El Corno Emplumado/The Plumed Horn*.” *Latin American Literature Today*, No. 16, November 2020. <http://www.latinamericanliteraturetoday.org/en/2020/november/%E2%80%9Cromper-el-bloqueo-cultural-translation-and-solidarity-el-corno-emplumado-the-plumed>

“Slipknots: Jorge Eduardo Eielson’s *Room in Rome*, translated from Spanish by David Shook.” *Reading In Translation*, February 2020. <https://readingintranslation.com/2020/02/03/slipknots-jorge-eduardo-eielsons-room-in-rome-translated-from-spanish-by-david-shook/>

“The Task of Translation in *tareas/tasks* by Víctor Rodríguez Núñez and Katherine M. Hedeem.” *Empty Mirror*, November 2018. <https://www.emptymirrorbooks.com/reviews/tasks-victor-rodriguez-nunez-hedeem-review>

“Unbound: New Colombian Poetry.” *Mantis*, vol. 15, February 2017, pp. 159-163.

“Otros cuerpos, otros deseos: Aproximaciones a la traducción de la poesía de Raúl Gómez Jattin.” *La Raíz Invertida* [Colombia], November 2015.

BOOK REVIEWS

Ova Completa, by Susana Thénon. Trans. Rebekah Smith. Ugly Duckling Presse, 2020. *Kenyon Review Online*, April 2021. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/april-2021-micro-reviews/>

Rough Song, by Blanca Varela. Trans. Carlos Lara. The Song Cave, 2020. *Kenyon Review Online*, September 2020. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/sept-2020-micro-reviews-2/>

Transgressive Circulation: Essays on Translation, by Johannes Göransson. Noemi Press, 2018. *Kenyon Review Online*, September 2019. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/sept-2019-micro-reviews/>

Noontimes Won, by Tristan Tzara. Trans. Heather Green. Octopus Books, 2018. *Kenyon Review Online*, September 2018. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/sept-2018-micro-reviews/>

Valdivia, by Galo Ghigliotto. Trans. Daniel Borzutzky. co-im-press, 2016. *Kenyon Review Online*, March 2018. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/march-2018-micro-reviews/>

tasks, by Víctor Rodríguez Núñez. Trans. Katherine M. Hedeem. co-im-press, 2016. *Mantis*, February 2018, pp. 208-214.

Absolute Solitude, by Dulce María Loynaz. Trans. James O’Connor. Archipelago, 2016. *Kenyon Review Online*, April 2017. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/april-micro-reviews/>

This Blue Novel, by Valerie Mejer Caso. Trans. Michelle Gil-Montero. Action Books, 2015. *Kenyon Review Online*, November 2016. <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/micro-reviews-nov-2016/>

Medicine for the Ailments of Falcons, by Eduardo Chirinos. Trans. G.J. Racz. Literal Publishing, 2014. *Kenyon Review Online*, July 2016. <https://kenyonreview.org/kr-online-issue/2016-summer/selections/july-micro-reviews/>

BOOK-LENGTH TRANSLATIONS

Katabasis, by Lucía Estrada (Colombia). Eulalia Books, 2020. With Critical Introduction.

Finalist for 2020 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation

Reviewed by Kelsi Vanada, *Kenyon Review*: <https://kenyonreview.org/reviews/sept-2020-micro-reviews-1/>

Reviewed by Georgina Fooks, *Asymptote*: <https://www.asymptotejournal.com/blog/2020/10/12/whats-new-in-translation-october-2020/>

The Dirty Text, by Soleida Ríos (Cuba). Co-translated with Barbara Jamison. Kenning Editions, 2018.

Reviewed by William Repass, *Full Stop*: <https://www.full-stop.net/2020/01/13/reviews/william-repass/the-dirty-text-soleida-rios/>

TRANSLATIONS OF POEMS

I have published translations of more than fifty individual poems by Latin American writers in journals such as *Brooklyn Rail In Translation*, *Kenyon Review*, *Latin American Literature Today*, *MAKE Magazine*, *Río Grande Review*, *Spoon River Poetry Review*, *Waxwing*, and *World Literature Today*. List of publications provided upon request.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND PRIZES

Spencer T. & Ann W. Olin Fellowship for Women in Graduate Study, Washington University in St. Louis: <1% acceptance rate; first Olin Fellow in Hispanic Studies. 2016-present.

Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis: nominated by Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Spring 2021.

Center for the Humanities Graduate Student Fellowship, Washington University in St. Louis: one of three semester-long fellowships awarded. Spring 2021.

Finalist, 2020 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation, PEN America: for Lucía Estrada's *Katabasis*; one of five selected. February 2021.

Center for the Humanities Writing Group Grant, Washington University in St. Louis: for WashU Translators Collective. Academic Year, 2020-2021.

Peter Taylor Fellowship, *Kenyon Review*: fellowship to serve as a teaching assistant for the summer workshop in literary translation; one of two translation fellowships awarded. July 2019.

Eva Sichel Memorial Essay Prize, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis: awarded to the best essay written during the academic year. Spring 2019.

Center for the Humanities Writing Group Grant, Washington University in St. Louis: for WashU Translators Collective; with Gabriella Martin. Academic Year, 2018-2019.

Center for the Humanities Writing Group Grant, Washington University in St. Louis: for WashU Translators Collective; with Gabriella Martin. Academic Year, 2017-2018.

Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship, United States Department of State/Ministerio de Educación, Colombia: one of thirty grants awarded. Academic Year, 2015-2016.

Spanish Prize, Kenyon College: awarded to one senior major in Spanish each year. Spring 2015.

Pierce Scholarship, Kenyon College: need-based scholarship. Academic Year, 2014-2015.

Pierce Scholarship, Kenyon College: need-based scholarship. Academic Year, 2013-2014.

Newman's Own Foundation Scholarship, Kenyon College: need-based and competitive scholarship for socioeconomically disadvantaged students, 2011-2015.

EDITORIAL WORK

April 2020-present

Editor, *Poesía en acción* (Action Books)

Editor and curator of monthly feature dedicated to Latin American poetry in translation and the translator micro-interview series.

Fall 2018-Summer 2019

Editorial Assistant, *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*

Worked as primary assistant to the editor, Dr. Stephanie Kirk, and main point of contact for authors, reviewers, and readers. Copy edited all accepted articles.

INVITED TALKS

“‘unreconquered matter’: Neo-Avant-Garde Re/Turn in Venezuela’s El Techo de la Ballena, 1961-1964.” Kenyon College. March 2021.

“Taller de la traducción poética.” Spanish 481: Contemporary Latin American Poetry and Performance.” Invited by Professor Alec Schumacher, Gonzaga University. September 2020.

“La traducción literaria y la literatura hispanoamericana en Estados Unidos.” Spanish 310: Introduction to Hispanic Literature. Invited by Professor Francesca Dennstedt, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale. September 2020.

“Re-Writing the Text: Defamiliarization in *Katabasis*.” Lecture and workshop on literary translation and translational poetics. Eulalia Books. Virtual Event. September 2020.

“La invisibilidad de la traductora: Teoría y práctica de la traducción literaria de la literatura hispanoamericana.” Spanish 343: Introduction to Latin American Literatures in Cultures. Invited by Professor Elzbieta Sklodowska, Washington University in St. Louis. December 2018.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

PANELS ORGANIZED

“Revolution, Renovation, Resistance: Poetics of Rupture in 1960s and 1970s Latin American Neo-Avant-Gardes.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Virtual Conference. May 2020.

“Transcreación/Transcreation: Literary Translation and Hemispheric Poetics.” Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). San Antonio, TX. March 2020. *accepted; cancelled due to Covid-19.

“Outside the Box: Translating Latin American Avant-Gardes.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Rochester, NY. November 2019.

“Building Platforms for Literary Translation within the Academy.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Bloomington, IN. November 2018.

“Literary Translation as (Re-)Mapping: Translating Contemporary Latin American and Iberian Writing.” Co-organized with Gabriella Martin. The Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures (MACHL). Washington University in St. Louis. October 2017.

PRESENTATIONS

“Romper el bloqueo cultural”: Translation and Counterculture in *El Corno Emplumado*.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Virtual Conference. May 2021.

“‘irreconquistada materia’: The Translation of the European Historical Avant-Garde in El Techo de la Ballena.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA). Virtual Conference. April 2021.

“In (Dis)Use of Reason: Poetics of Abjection, Macrocephalic Modernity, and Venezuela’s El Techo de la Ballena.” Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Virtual Conference. May 2020.

“Re-thinking Colombian Avant-Garde Poetry.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Rochester, NY. November 2019.

“Translation Visibility in the Academy: Research, Teaching, Community.” Roundtable Organized by Sarah Booker. American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Rochester, NY. November 2019.

“‘página tal verso cuál’: Translational Poetics and Politics in Juan Gelman’s *Los poemas de Sidney West*.” Kentucky Foreign Languages Conference (KFLC). University of Kentucky, Lexington. April 2019.

“Notes Towards Translating Latin American Neo-Avant-Garde Poetry.” Crossing the Borders of Creation and Critique Conference. Washington University in St. Louis. March 2019.

“*Creacionismo*, Displacement, and Translational Poetics in Vicente Huidobro’s *Altazor*.” Graduate Panel: “Apollinaire’s Legacies: Modernist Poetics and Avant-Gardes.” Washington University in St. Louis. November 2018.

“Translating Soleida Ríos’s *The Dirty Text* and the Politics of Collaboration.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Bloomington, IN. November 2018.

“‘(Versión de los acontecimientos)’: La contra-cartografía feminista en la poesía de María Mercedes Carranza.” The Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures (MACHL). Washington University in St. Louis. October 2017.

“Translating 21st Century Colombian Poetry through a Feminist Politics of Translation.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Minneapolis, MN. October 2017.

“Colombia global(izada): Nuevas tendencias de la poesía colombiana actual.” Asociación de Colombianistas. University of San Diego, CA. August 2017.

TRANSLATION READINGS AND EVENTS

Conversation and Bilingual Reading from Lucía Estrada’s *Katabasis*, with Lucía Estrada. Creative Writing Program. University of Texas, El Paso. Virtual Event. May 2021.

Conversation and Reading from Lucía Estrada’s *Katabasis*. International Writers Series. University Libraries and Comparative Literature Program. Washington University in St. Louis. Virtual Event. March 2021.

Bilingual Reading of Lucía Estrada’s *Katabasis*, with Lucía Estrada. “Bilingual Poetry Reading: *Katabasis* and *from a red barn*.” Eulalia Books and co-im-press. Virtual Event. October 2020.

Lit & Luz: A Conversation on Literary Translation, with Lucía Cornejo, Gabriela Jauregui, and Sophie Hughes. Lit & Luz Festival / Translation Studies at the University of Chicago. Virtual Event. October 2020.

Translation Reading of Juan Calzadilla’s *Dictated by the Pack*. Shitholes of the World Unite! 2.0. Off-Site Reading: Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). San Antonio, TX. March 2020.

Translation Reading of Lucía Estrada’s *Katabasis*. A Reading with Veliz Books, co-im-press, and Eulalia Books. Off-Site Reading: Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). San Antonio, TX. March 2020.

Translation Reading of Soleida Ríos’s *The Dirty Text*. A Reading with Action Books, Kenning Editions, and Green Lantern Press. Off-Site Reading: Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). San Antonio, TX. March 2020.

Bilingual Reading of Soleida Ríos’s *The Dirty Text*. Kenning Editions. Chicago, IL. September 2019

Bilingual Reading of Colombian Poetry in Translation. *Chainlink Poetry: A St. Louis Reading Series*. St. Louis, MO. May 2019.

Bilingual Reading of Soleida Ríos’s *The Dirty Text* and Lucía Estrada’s *Katabasis*. “CounterCanon: The Other Spanish American Poetry”. Contratiempo/ Open Books Pilsen. Chicago, IL. April 2019.

Translation Reading of Camila Charry Noreiga, Andrea Cote Botero, and Lucía Estrada. “An Evening of Latin American Poetry in Translation.” Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP). Tampa, FL. March 2018.

Bilingual Poetry Reading of Raúl Gómez Jattin. “LGBTQ Spanish-Language Literature.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). Minneapolis, MN. October 2017.

Bilingual Poetry Reading of Raúl Gómez Jattin. “Shadow of Wor[ld]ds: Contemporary Voices in Spanish American Poetry.” Kenyon College. Gambier, OH. May 2015.

Bilingual Poetry Reading of Raúl Gómez Jattin. “From the Provinces of Silence: Contemporary Spanish American Poetry in Translation.” Kenyon College. Gambier, OH. December 2012.

TEACHING

- Fall 2021 **Instructor**, Spanish 391: Making the Revolution: The Sixties in Latin America
 Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Kenyon College
Advanced undergraduate course of my own design. Students study the ways in which cultural production (poetry, film, manifestos, newsreels, performance art, photojournalism, literary magazines) was mobilized to bring about social change across this pivotal decade. Writing intensive. Taught in Spanish.
- Fall 2020 **Adjunct Instructor**, Spanish 113: Beginning Spanish II
 University College, Washington University in St. Louis
Fully-remote course of my own design, for non-traditional college students. Learning goals focused on developing communicative and cultural competence. Taught in Spanish with the Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Methodology.
- Spring 2020 **Instructor**, Spanish 341: Literary and Cultural Studies in Spanish
 Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis
Undergraduate course of my own design. Students study a wide-range of cultural materials from Latin America, from the 16th Century to the present day, through the multifaceted lens of "Cultural Decolonization" and using key concepts from literary and cultural studies. Writing intensive. Taught in Spanish.
- Fall 2019 **Instructor**, Spanish 307: Advanced Grammar and Composition
 Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis
Course focused on reviewing Spanish grammar and syntax, improving written and oral communication in Spanish, and building cultural competence through the analysis of Hispanic cultural production. Writing intensive. Taught in Spanish with the Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Methodology.
- Spring 2018 **Instructor**, Spanish 202: Intermediate Spanish II
 Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis
Course focused on improving communicative and cultural competence in Spanish. Introduces advanced skills in grammar, reading, writing, culture, and vocabulary. Taught in Spanish with the Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Methodology.
- Fall 2017 **Instructor**, Spanish 101: Beginning Spanish I
 Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis
Course focused on developing communicative and cultural competence in Spanish. Introduces beginning skills in grammar, reading, writing, culture, and vocabulary. Taught in Spanish with the Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Methodology.
- Spring 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, English I, II, III, IV, V, VI
 Fall 2017 Universidad de Boyacá [Colombia]
Selected by the Fulbright Program. Taught twenty 50-minute classes per week across all levels of English to native Spanish-speaking university students, including non-traditional college students. Led interactive, task-based activities to reinforce grammar and vocabulary and to improve communicative and cultural competence.
- Fall 2014 **Apprentice Teacher**, Spanish 213: Intermediate Spanish
 Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Kenyon College
Selected by Spanish faculty via competitive process to teach 50-minute lessons twice per week as a supplement to the Spanish 213 curriculum. Classes focused on reinforcing grammar and vocabulary and improving communicative competence. Taught in Spanish.

Fall 2012 **Apprentice Teacher**, Spanish 111: Intensive Introductory Spanish
 Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Kenyon College
Selected by Spanish faculty via competitive process to teach 50-minute lessons three times per week as a supplement to the Spanish 111 curriculum. Classes focused on reinforcing grammar and vocabulary and improving communicative competence. Taught in Spanish.

PEDAGOGICAL COURSES, WORKSHOPS, AND TRAININGS

“Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Unconscious Bias Training.” Career and Professional Development. Series: The Chancellor’s Graduate Fellowship and the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Fellowship for Women in Graduate Study. Fall 2020. Training.

“REMOTE: The Connected Faculty Summit.” Arizona State University, Spring, 2020. Two-Day Conference on Online Pedagogy.

“Introduction to Online Teaching.” University College at Washington University in St. Louis, Spring 2020. Three-Week Training Course.

“Teaching Literature to 21st Century Students.” Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2019. Workshop.

“Fostering Civil Discourse in the Classroom.” Teaching Center. Washington University in St. Louis, Spring, 2018. Workshop.

“Seminar in Teaching of Romance Languages.” Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. Washington University in St. Louis, Fall 2017. Semester-long graduate seminar taught by Dr. Joe Barcroft.

SERVICE AND MENTORING

Spring 2021 Co-organizer, with Juan Manuel Ramírez Velásquez. “Workshop on Academic Publishing” (with invited speakers). *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*. Washington University in St. Louis.

Fall 2017-Spring 2021 Co-organizer, with Gabriella Martin and Derick Mattern. WashU Translators Collective. Center for the Humanities Writing Group Grant. Washington University in St. Louis.

Fall 2017 Peer Mentor. Graduate Program in Hispanic Studies, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Washington University in St. Louis.

Fall 2017-Spring 2018 Co-organizer, with Olivia Marcucci. Olin Fellowship Interdisciplinary Seminar Series. Washington University in St. Louis.

LANGUAGES

English: native speaker

Spanish: near-native fluency

French: reading knowledge

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
American Literary Translators Association (ALTA)
Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP)
Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
Modern Languages Association (MLA)

References available upon request.

Updated July 30, 2021