INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE FESTIVAL

November 6 - 7 - 8
Houston - San Antonio

Tamara Kamenszain - Argentina | Juan Manuel Roca - Colombia | Jordi Virallonga Eguren - España
Martha Canfield - Uruguay | Coral Bracho - Rocío Cerón - Mexico | Carmen Gimenez Smith - USA
Mabel Cuesta - Legna Rodríguez Iglesias - Cuba | Adalber Salas - Venezuela | Abdón Ubidia - Ecuador

CCAMERICAS.ORG
Casa Cultural de Las Americas (CCA) and the University of Houston, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, are pleased to present the International Festival 2018, to be held on November 6th and 7th in Houston and November 8th in San Antonio.

**Invited countries:**
Argentina, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Spain, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

**Guests:**
- Argentina: Tamara Kamenszain
- Colombia: Juan Manuel Roca
- Cuba: Mabel Cuesta and Legna Rodríguez Iglesias
- Ecuador: Abdón Ubidia
- México: Coral Bracho and Rocío Cerón
- Spain: Jordi Virallonga Eguren
- United States: Carmen Giménez Smith
- Uruguay: Martha Canfield
- Venezuela: Adalber Salas
Activities

**Tuesday, November 6**

**University of Houston**

Student Center South, Skyline Room, 4455 University Dr., Houston, TX 77204

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. José Guillermo de los Reyes (University of Houston)
Coordination: Yomaira Torres and Paola Arboleda

- 4:00 pm: Welcome by Dr. Antonio Tillis, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Houston
- 4:05 pm: Festival Inauguration by Teresa Martin, Vice President of Casa Cultural de las Américas
- 4:05 pm - 4:45 pm: Readings by Tamara Kamenszain, Coral Bracho and Adalber Salas moderated by Jacqueline Pérez-Guevara (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
- 4:45 pm - 5:30 pm: Legna Rodríguez Iglesias, Abdón Ubidia and Martha Canfield moderated by Dr. Elizabeth Quila (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
- 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm: Readings by Legna Rodríguez Iglesias, Abdón Ubidia, Adalber Salas and Jordi Virallonga Eguren moderated by Jacqueline Pérez-Guevara (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
- 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm: Readings by Tamara Kamenszain, Juan Manuel Roca, Martha Canfield and Coral Bracho moderated by Dr. Elizabeth Quila (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
- 7:00 pm: Proclamation from the City of Houston to the participating poets
- 7:15 pm: Closing by Dr. Elizabeth Quila, Founder of Casa Cultural de las Américas
- 7:20 pm: Latin American music recital

Activities

**Wednesday, November 7**

**Houston Public Library**

Julia Ideson Building, 550 McKinney St., Houston, TX 77002

Master of Ceremonies: Mauricio Hussmann (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
Coordination: Yomaira Torres

- 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm: Readings by Legna Rodríguez Iglesias, Abdón Ubidia, Adalber Salas and Jordi Virallonga Eguren moderated by Jacqueline Pérez-Guevara (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
- 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm: Readings by Tamara Kamenszain, Juan Manuel Roca, Martha Canfield and Coral Bracho moderated by Dr. Elizabeth Quila (Casa Cultural de las Américas)
- 7:00 pm: Proclamation from the City of Houston to the participating poets
- 7:15 pm: Closing by Dr. Elizabeth Quila, Founder of Casa Cultural de las Américas
- 7:20 pm: Latin American music recital

ILF 2018
Tamara Kamenszain was born in Buenos Aires. She has just published El libro de Tamar, an autobiographical story. In addition, she is the author of eleven poetry books and five books of essays. She has received, among other awards, the First Municipal Prize for Essay, the John Simon Guggenheim Scholarship, the Konex Platinum Award, the Pablo Neruda Medal of Honor, the Book Fair Award of Argentina for the best book published in 2012 and the Lezama Lima Prize from Cuba. Her books have been translated into English, French, Portuguese, German and Italian.

Juan Manuel Roca is a Colombian poet, essayist, prose writer and journalist, occasionally included among the “disillusioned generation” of Colombian writers who made their debut in the 1970s, after the neo-avant-gardist nadaísmo (nothing-ism), established by Gonzalo Arango in 1958, which sought – in a somewhat grandiloquent manner to continue the revolutionary line of surrealism and do away with sacred cows. But from the 1970s onwards, the social and political climate in Colombia became increasingly characterised by the unrestrained violence of the drugs mafia and such left-wing guerilla movements as FARC. In such a context, with its daily ration of abductions and bomb attacks, purely verbal iconoclasts soon began to look anachronistic. Nadaísmo was perhaps already the ideal biotope for allowing No One to rise up as an anti-hero.
Carmen Giménez Smith is the author of a memoir and six poetry collections, including Milk and Filth, a finalist for the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Award in poetry. She was awarded an American Book Award for Bring Down the Little Birds and the Juniper Prize for Poetry for her collection Goodbye, Flicker. She also co-edited Angels of the Americlynx: New Latinx Writing, an anthology of contemporary Latinx writing (Counterpath Press, 2014). She is the co-director for CantoMundo and the publisher of Noemi Press. Cruel Futures was a volume in the City Lights Spotlight Series in 2018. She is Professor of English at Virginia Tech and with Steph Burt, poetry editor of The Nation. Be Recorder will be published by Graywolf Press in 2019.

Jordi Virallonga Eguren

Was born in Barcelona, 1955 is a PhD in Spanish Literature, professor at the University of Barcelona and founding president of the Aula de Poesía de Barcelona since its inception in 1989. He has served as a Spanish lecturer at the University of Turin and guest professor at various American, European and African universities, where he has given conferences, seminars, workshops and poetry recitals.

In addition to poetry, he has published several essays and articles on literary criticism specializing in European and Latin American comparative literatura.
Martha Canfield

Was born in Montevideo (Uruguay) in 1949. She hold her M.A. degree in Linguistics and Spanish American Literature from the Institute Caro y Cuervo of Bogota (Colombia) and her PhD in Philosophy and Literature from the University Javeriana of Bogota. She lives in Italy since 1978. She taught for five years at the University of Naples and for six years at the University of Venice. Nowadays she is full profesor of Spanish American Literature in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Florence.

Adalber Salas

Is a venezuelan poet, essayist and translator. He is the autor of several books of poems, most recently Salvoconducto (2015, winner of the XXXVI Arcipreste de Hita Prize), Río en blanco (2016) and Mínimos (2016). He has published translation of Marguerite Duras, Antonin Artaud, Charles Wright, and Mario de Andrade, among othes. He is currently working on is PhD in Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literature at New York University.
Scholar, poet and fiction writer. She holds a Licenciatura in Hispanic Liberal Arts from University of Havana and Doctorate from City University of New York (CUNNY). She published ‘In Via’, in ‘Patria Postnacionalismos desde los límites del mapa LGBTQ’, (Isla Negra, 2016); ‘Bajo el cielo de Dublin’ (Ediciones Vigía, 2013); ‘Cuba post-soviética: un cuerpo narrado en clave de mujer’ (Cuarto Propio, 2012); ‘Inscrita Bajo Sospecha’ (Betania, 2010); ‘Cuaderno de la fiancée’ (ediciones Vigía, 2005) and ‘Confesiones online’ (Aldabon, 2003).

Legna Rodríguez Iglesias was born in Camagüey, Cuba in 1984. She has won the Julio Cortázar Ibero-American Short Story Prize (2011) and the Casa de las Américas Theater Prize (2016). Her book ‘Miami Century Fox’ (Akashic Books 2017) won the Paz Prize for Poetry awarded by the U.S. National Poetry Series (2016). Alfaguara Press has recently published her novel, ‘Mi novia preferida fue un bulldog francés’ [‘My favorite girlfriend was a French bulldog’ (2017)].
Rocío Cerón (born 1972) is one of the major Mexican poets of her generation. Her work combines poetry with sound experimentation, performance and video. These pieces, created with what she named “Galaxy Projects: tons of body, voice, sonorities and image” have been showed at international venues as Cervantes Institutes of Berlin, London and Stockholm; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Southbank Centre, London, beside many others. She has written several volumes of poetry including Basalto (2002), Imperio/Empire (2009), Tiento (2010), Diorama (2012), Nudo vortex (2015) and Borealis (2016). Diorama was translated into English by Anna Rosenwong and won the Best Translated Book Award 2015, awarded by the University of Rochester. She has also been awarded with the National Award of Literature Gilberto Owen 2000 (Mexico) and the See America Travel Award 2005 (US). Her poems have been translated into English and diverse European languages.

Coral Bracho was born in Mexico City. Among her poetry books are: Peces de piel fugaz, El ser que va a morir, Tierra de entraña ardiente, La voluntad del ámbar, Ese espacio, ese jardín, Cuarto de hotel, Si ríe el emperador and Marfa, Texas, 2015. She has been a John Simon Guggenheim fellow for poetry (N.Y.), and a SNCA fellow (México). She received the Best Book of the year award (Xavier Villaurrutia 2004), The National Poetry award (Aguascalientes 1981), the Jaime Sabines-Gatien Lapointe Prize (Quebec, 2011), The Latino World Poetry award, 2016, among others. Some of her books and poetry anthologies have been published in different countries and translated into several languages. In English: Firefly under the Tongue, New Directions, NY, 2008, Poems/Poemas, London, 2009, Watersilks, Dublin, 2000.
Quitenian, born 1944 is the 2012 winner of the Eugenio Espejo National Prize for his literary work and four time winner of the National Narrative Prize. Writer and editor, author of urban stories and novels such as Ciudad de invierno (1979, more than 20 editions, including one in Argentina); Sueño de lobos (1986), declared the best book of the year; La Madriguera (2004), selected for the Rómulo Gallegos Prize; Callada como la muerte (2012). Has also written collections of speculative fiction such as DiverInventos (1989), El palacio de los espejos (1996) and La escala humana (2008); collections of essays such as El cuento popular ecuatoriano (1977), La poesía popular ecuatoriana (1982), Referentes (2000), Lectores, credo y confesiones (2006), Celebración de los libros (2007), La aventura amorosa (2001); and plays such as Adiós Siglo XX.
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Free event. Book online:
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https://www.ccamericas.org/events-registration