**MELISSA A. CASTILLO PLANAS, PhD**

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*ACADEMIC POSITIONS:*

* **Lehman College (**August 2018 –): Assistant Professor of English specializing in Latinx Literature & Cultures.
* Organizer, Hispanic Heritage Month, 2019
* Faculty Advisor to Latinx Student Alliance (Fall 2019 --)
* Faculty Advisor to Obscura, Lehman’s Literary Journal (Fall 2019 – Dec. 2019)
* Academic Advisor (Spring 2019 --)
* English Honors Advisor (Fall 2019 -- )
* **Harvard University (**July 2017 – June 2018 ): Postdoctoral Fellowship, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History.
* Organizer of the First Latinx Poetry Reading and Workshop Series at Harvard, which included nine invited poets, three readings, and six workshops with support from the Provostial Fund for Arts and Humanities, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, the Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights, Observatory of the Instituto Cervantes and The David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS).
* Co-organizer, MC and performer for the Harvard DACA Seminar “Day of Hop and Resistance”, the culminating event of the semester long series.

*EDUCATION:*

* **Yale University (**Sept. 2012 – August 2017): PhD in American Studies & African American Studies. **Dissertation:** “A Mexican State of Mind: New York City and the New Borderlands of Culture"
* **Fordham University (**Sept. 2009 – May 2011): Master of Arts in English with a concentration in Creative Writing. Awarded Graduate Assistantship. Also completed an Advance Graduate Certificate in Latin American and Latino Studies.
* **New York University** (Sept. 2003- May 2007): Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Latin American Studies Major. Awarded College of Arts and Sciences Full Tuition Scholarship. Graduated summa cum laude.

*RECENT FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS:*

* **Cycle 50 PSC-CUNY Research Award**: Awarded $8,426.00 to support subsequent book on Afro-Latinx New York City literary history in the 1920s and 1930s.
* **Dean’s Office Travel Award:** Awarded for travel to 2019 Latin American Studies Association Conference, Boston, MA ($400).
* **William Stewart Travel Award:** Awarded for travel to 2019 Latin American Studies Association Conference, Boston, MA ($150).
* **Research in the Classroom Award:** Awarded $7,500 to implement course, “Bronx Mexican Oral Histories” in the Fall 2019.
* **Lehman Scholars Program Seminar:** Proposal approved for course tentatively scheduled for Spring 2020, “The Boogie Down: Immigration, Race and Hip Hop Culture in the Bronx.”
* **2018 PSC/CUNY travel award**: Awarded forpresentation at 2018 American Studies Association Annual Conference.
* **Yale Conference Fellowship:** Awarded maximum amount to present at Centering Borders:  Narrative Explorations in South Asia and Latin America, Center for Studies in Latin American Literatures and Cultures (CSLALC) at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India (7-8 January 2015).
* **A. Bartlett Giamatti Memorial Graduate Fellowship in the Humanities:** Awarded for 2013-2014 academic year.
* **John F. Enders Fellowships and Research Grant** (Summer 2013): Awarded $1,500 for summer research in the National Archives, Washington DC.
* **Winner, Dartmouth College, Future of American Studies Fellowship (**Spring 2010): Awarded by Fordham University.
* **Elected Alpha Sigma Nu** (April 2010): National Jesuit Honor Society.

*SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS:*

*Books & Special Journal Issues*

* **A Mexican State of Mind: New York City & The New Borderlands of Culture.** New Brunswick: Rutgers, UP, Global Race & Media Series (forthcoming March 13, 2020).
* **Editor** *¡Manteca!: An Anthology of Afro-Latino Poets.* Houston: Arte Público Press, 2017.
* **Co-Editorwith Jason Nichols.** *La Verdad: The International Reader of Hip-Hop Latinidade*s. Columbus: Ohio State University Press, Global Latino/a Series, 2016
* **Guest Editor, “The Brazil Issue.”** *Words. Beats. Life: The Global Journal of Hip-Hop Culture*, Fall 2016.

*Book Chapters*

* **“ Somos Guerreras: Queer Feminisms in Latin American Hip Hop.”** *Transitions in Latin American Literature* Series (1980-2017), Mónica Szurmuk and Debra Castillo editors. Forthcoming Cambridge University Press (in preparation).
* **“Towards a Decolonial Feminist Hip Hop.”** *Entre El Sur y el Norte: Decolonizing Education through Critical Readings of Chicanx and Latinx Music.* Marco A. Cervantes, Ph.d. and Lilliana P. Saldaña, Ph.d. editors (forthcoming 2020).
* **“The Atlantic Borderlands: Mexican American Countercultures of New York City.”** *Centering Borders: Explorations in South Asia and Latin America.* Kavita Panjabi,  Debaroti Chakravorty
* and Debra Castillo editors. Forthcoming Routledge UP (in preparation).
* “ ‘**Somos Mujeres Somos Hip Hop’: Feminism and Hip Hop in Latin America.”** *Routledge Companion to Gender and Sexuality in Latin America.* Frederick Luis Aldama*,* editor. Routledge, 2018.
* **"Afro-Latin@ Nueva York: Maymie de Mena and the Unsung Afro-Latina Leadership of the UNIA."** *Afro-Latinos in Movement: Critical Approaches to Blackness and Transnationalism in the Americas.* Petra R. Rivera-Rideau, Jennifer A. Jones, Tianna S. Paschel, editors. Palgrave Macmillan, May 2016.
* **“Hermandad, Arte y Rebeldía: Mexican Popular Art of NYC.”** *The Routledge Companion to Latino/a Popular Culture.* Frederick Luis Aldama*,* editor. Routledge, June 2016.
* **The Legacy of Gloria Anzaldúa: Finding a place for women of color in Academia.”** *Guera****s*** *y Prietas : Celebrating 20 Years of Borderlands/la Frontera*. Norma Cantu, editor. San Antonio: Adelante Project, 2009.

*Peer Reviewed Articles*

* **“Mexican Manhattan: Mexican Literary Migrations through New York City and Latinx Literature.”** (In-Progress).
* **"*A quienes se quedaron en medio de ninguna parte*: Mexican Migrants & The New Borderlands of Containment.”** *Journal of Latino/Latin American Studies.* (Under Review).
* **“Yo Soy Hip Hop: Performing an Authentic Mexican Hip Hop in New York.”** *Words. Beats. Life: The Global Journal of Hip-Hop Culture*. 6.1 (Spring 2015).
* **“La Lucha Sigue: The Legacy and Lessons of Gloria Anzaldúa for Latinas in Academia.”** *Border – Lines.* Journal of the Latino Research Center, University of Nevada, Reno. Vol VIII (Fall 2014).
* "**Embranquecimento: Whitening in the Harlem Renaissance and The Brazil Solution."** *Lengua y Literatura.* 8.1 (2013).**"The Art of Tormenting: Violent Humor and the Grotesque as a Feminist Challenge to 18th Century English Narratives."** *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. 42.3 (March 2013).
* **“The Legacy of Gloria Anzaldúa: Finding a Place for Women of Color in Academia.”** *The Bilingual Review*. 31.1 (Jan. 2012-April 2013)
* “**Representing the Streets: Space and Place in Urban Literature.”** *Magazine Americana.* March 2012. < http://www.americanpopularculture.com/archive/bestsellers/street\_lit.htm>
* **"Authenticity and Ghetto Realism in Donald Goines' Inner City Hoodlum.”** *Words. Beats. Life: The Global Journal of Hip-Hop Culture*. 5.1 (2012).
* **“Robbing the Mother**: **A Brazilian Woman’s Response to the Female Body as a Creative Source.”** *Lengua y Literatura.* 6.1 (2011).

*Book Reviews & Encyclopedia Articles*

* **Book Review** of José Olivarez's *Citizen Illegal* (Invited). *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies.* Forthcoming 2019.
* “**Aiken, Maymie (Madame de Mena).”** *Dictionary of Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography.* Editors in chief Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Franklin K. Knight. London: Oxford Press, 2016.
* **Book Review** of Derek Pardue*, Ideologies of Marginality in Brazilian hip-hop.*New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2008. 224 pp.” *Anthropological Quarterly.* 84.3 (Summer 2011), p. 769-772.

*Essays*

* **“Taming the Wild Tongue: A New Call for Young Latina Writers.”** *The Ethnic Reporter.* Newsletter of the National Association for Ethnic Studies. Vol. 33, No. 3 (Winter 2010).
* **"Life with a Hyphen."** Personal essay in *Cartographies of Affect: Across borders in South Asia and the Americas.* Debra Castillo and Kavita Punjabi, editors. Kolkota: Worldview, 2011.

*FICTION/POETRY:*

*Books*

* ***Coatlicue Eats The Apple.*** Poetry Collection. VerseSeven, June 2016.
* ***Pure Bronx.*** Co-authored with Professor Mark Naison, Fordham University. Augustus Publishing, November 2013.

***For additional creative publications & presentations, see website: www.melissacastilloplanas.com.***

*TEACHING EXPERIENCE:*

* **Lehman College:**

**SUMMER 2019:** ENG 343: Urban Literature

**SPRING 2019:** ENG 121: English Composition II, ENG 308: American Literature, ENG 339 Latino Literature in English, ENW 381: Individual Tutorial in Writing

**FALL 2018:** ENG 111: English Composition 1, ENG 227: American Literature, ENG 339: Latino Literature in English

* **Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University (**Spring 2018): Taught original course HIST-LIT 90DA**:** *From Rock and Roll to Rap en Espanol: Urban Youth Cultures in America****.***
* **Lecturer at Tufts University (**Spring 2018): Taught HIST-0082/ LST-0094*: Special Topics: Introduction to Latino/a History.*
* **Teaching Fellow at Yale University** (Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2016): Courses include: HIST 184/AFAM 160 /AMST 160/ AFST 184: The Rise and Fall of Atlantic Slavery, 1500 to 1888*;* Ethnicity, Race and Migration 200; American Studies 191: The Formation of Modern American Culture, 1919-2015**.** Duties include running sections, grading papers, advising students, supervising community projects.
* **Guest Lecturer, Fordham University (**April 25, 2014): Lectured on Women & Latino Civil Rights: The Chicano Movement and The Young Lords for HIST 1100 – Understanding Historical Change: American History.
* **Teaching Assistant at Fordham University:** (Aug. 2010-Dec. 2010 and Sept. 2013-Dec. 2013): Taught twice under Mark Naison, Director, African American Studies, the 300 level course in African American Studies, “From Rock and Roll to Hip Hop.” Responsibilities included teaching the class of more than 40 students while Dr. Naison was traveling (two classes each term), helping to organize guest lecturers, providing readings and music, meeting with students.

***2010 Classes:*** *Mexican Hip Hop in New York with special guest Hispanos Causando Pániko;*

*A Commitment to Rap: Re-Constructing National Identity in Brazilian Hip Hop*

***2013 Classes:*** *The Other Counterculture(s): Chicano Rock & Roll and the rise of Nuyorican Salsa; “Yo Soy Hip Hop”: Latino & Latin American Expressions of Hip Hop*

* **Graduate Assistant at Rose Hill Writing Center** (Sept. 2009 – May 2010) Worked with undergraduate and graduate students of all levels of experience to develop tools to become a better writer. Issues included a variety of logical, rhetorical and grammatical concerns. Also co-organized and presented two writing workshops.

*INVITED LECTURES:*

* **“The Impact of Latinx Culture on U.S. Culture.”** 2018 Culture Series Presented by the Notre Dame Club of New York and Fordham University Latin American & Latino Studies Institute, Fordham University Lincoln Center Campus (Dec. 5, 2018).
* **“Combative, Compassionate or Complicit: A Conversation on the #Metoo Movement with Contemporary Latinx Writers.”** Mosaic Literary Conference, Bronx NY (Nov. 17, 2018).
* **“A Mexican State of Mind: New York City and the New Borderlands of Culture.”** University of California – Los Angeles (May 8, 2018).
* **“A Mexican State of Mind: New York City and the New Borderlands of Culture**.” Global American Studies Postdoctoral Fellow Presentations, Harvard University (Sept. 29, 2017).
* **"​Mexican Radical Diaspora in NYC."** Freedom School, Bronx Beer Hall (July 26, 2017).
* **"Mexican Art Collectives in NYC."** Freedom School, Brooklyn NY (June 21, 2017).
* **"Yo Soy Hip Hop: Transnationalism and Authenticity in Mexican New York."** Institute of Latin American Studies, Seoul National University (September 2016).
* **"Yo Soy Hip Hop: Performing an Authentic Mexican Hip Hop in New York."** Long Island University- Brooklyn (April 20, 2016).
* **“The Atlantic Borderlands: Mexican American Countercultures of New York City.”** Centering Borders:  Narrative Explorations in South Asia and Latin America, Center for Studies in Latin American Literatures and Cultures (CSLALC) at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India (January 7-8, 2015).
* **“Afro-Latin@ Nueva York: Maymie de Mena and the Unsung Afro-Latina Leadership of the UNIA."** University of Notre Dame(October 31, 2014); University of Chicago (October 30, 2014).
* “**The New Urban Aesthetics: The Black Arts Movement, Revised**.” Harlem Book Fair Invited Panelist **(**July 12, 2014): moderated by Mark Anthony Neal, (*Looking for Leroy: Illegible Black Masculinities*) with fellow panelists June Archer, *YES! Everyday Can Be a Good Day*;  Anthony Whyte, *A Love to Die For*; Tramp Daly, *The Adventures of the Untouchables*; Imani Perry*, Prophets of the Hood: Politics and Poetics in Hip Hop.* Broadcast Live on C-SPAN 2.
* **Syracuse University** (Oct. 11, 2010): Taught class on Street Literature to SPA 600 “Literatura, iconos y cultura popular en América Latina.” Also gave public lecture on Brazilian Hip Hop.
  + **"Brazil: The Other Latino Immigrants."** Guest lecturer for "History Makers”(July 2010): Three hour lecture and class given at summer program for gifted High School students, Fordham University, July 2010.

*CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION*

* **American Studies Association,** Honolulu, Hawai’I (Nov. 7-10, 2019): “Somos Guerreras: Queer Feminisms in Latin American Hip Hop”
* **Latin American Studies Association,** Boston, MA (May 24-28, 2019):“The Cultural is Political: Latinx Creative Communities Engaging Contemporary Social & Political Realities.”
* **American Studies Association,** Atlanta, GA (Nov. 8-11, 2018): **“**Dejamos una huella: Claiming Space in a New York City Borderlands.”
* **American Studies Association,** Denver, Co. (Nov. 17-20, 2016): “Yo Soy Hip Hop: Transnationalism and Authenticity in Mexican New York.”
* **Latin American Studies Association,** New York, NY (May 27-30, 2016): “Hermandad, Arte & Rebeldia: Mexican Popular Art in New York City.”
* **Latin American Studies Association,** San Juan, Puerto Rico (May 27-30, 2015): Session Chair: “The Hip-Hop Borderlands: Aztec Identity, Black-Brown solidarity, and Puerto Rican Spiritualties.” Session Presenter: “Words, Beats, Life Presents The Brazil Issue: New Approaches in Brazilian hip-hop.”
* **Words, Beats & Life 2013 Teach-In: Remixing the Art of Social Change**, Washington DC (Nov. 3-5, 2016): Session Chair: First Glance: The Brazil Issue; Session presentation: “Hermandad, Arte & Rebeldia: Mexican Popular Art in New York City.”
* **Latino/a Utopias: Futures, Forms and The Will of Literature,** John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY (April 23-25, 2015): “The Atlantic Borderlands: Mexican American Countercultures of New York City.”
* **Latino Studies Association,** Chicago, IL (July 17-19, 2014): “The Atlantic Borderlands: Container Politics, Migrant Melancholia and the Post Modern Countercultures of Mexican Americans.”
* **Latin American Studies Association,** Chicago, IL (May 21-24, 2014): “A Black Nueva York: Afro-Latinos and The Spanish Section of The Negro World.”
* **American Studies Association,** Washington, DC (Nov. 21-24, 2013): Sólo Queremos El Respeto: Racialization of labor and hierarchal culture in the US Restaurant Industry”
* **Association for the Study of the World Wide African Diaspora Conference,** Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (Oct. 30-Nov 2, 2013). “Afro-Latin@ Nueva York: Afro-Latinas and the UNIA”
* **Words, Beats & Life 2013 Teach-In: Remixing the Art of Social Change**, Washington DC (July 12-14, 2013): “Mexican hip-hop in New York”
  + **American Studies Association Conference,** San Juan, Puerto Rico (Nov. 15-18, 2012): "The Blackness of Latinidad: Afro-Latinos and the United Negro Improvement Association"
  + **Latin American Studies Association,** San Francisco, CA (May 23- 26, 2012): “A Postnational Mexicanismo: Mexican Hip Hop in New York”
  + **Association for the Study of the World Wide African Diaspora Conference**, University of Pittsburg (Nov. 3-6, 2011): “Fiery and Spellbinding: Maymie de Mena and the Unsung Afro-Latina Leadership of the UNIA.”
  + **American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association National**, San Antonio, TX  (April 20-24, 2011): "Not Chicano Rap: Mexican Hip Hop in New York."
  + **Association of Writers and Writing Programs National Conference,** Washington DC (Feb. 2-5, 2011): “Creative Online” - projects that explore the intersections between creative writing and new media.
  + **Latin American Studies Association,** Toronto, Canada (October 6-9, 2010): “A Commitment to Rap: A Brazilian Answer to Mainstream Hip Hop.”
  + **National Association for Ethnic Studies National Conference,** Washington, DC (April 8-10, 2010): “Representing the Streets: Space and Place in Urban Literature.”
  + **American Culture Association/Popular Culture Association National Conference,** St. Louis, Missouri **(**March 31-April 4, 2010): “Donald Goines and Ghetto Realist Fiction: Authenticity and Biography in Street Literature.”
  + **El Mundo Zurdo: First International Conference on the Life and Death of Gloria Anzaldúa,** University of Texas – San Antonio (May 15-17, 2009): “More than Spanglish: Academic Boundaries and Code Switching in the Gloria Anzaldúa’s “Nueva Mestiza.” Work Selected for publication in “**El Mundo Zurdo Selected Works from the Meetings of The Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa, 2007 & 2009,** published by Aunt Lute, *Edited by* *Norma E. Cantú*, *Christina L. Gutiérrez*, *Norma Alarcón*, and *Rita E. Urquijo-Ruiz* (2011).

*COMMITTEES & MEMBERSHIPS*

* + **Latin American Studies Association** (2010 --): Elected as co-chair of Latinx Studies Session, 2019-2021.
  + **American Studies Association** (2012--)