

# Akda: The Asian Journal of Literature, Culture, Performance

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## Contributors

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# The Contributors

Si **Jose Monfred C. Sy** ay katuwang na propesor ng araling Pilipino sa Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas (UP) Diliman. Siya ay tumanggap ng Master sa Arte (Araling Pilipino) at Batsilyer sa Arte (Comparative Literature), summa cum laude, mula sa parehong pamantasan. Kasalukuyan siyang Project Leader ng Program on Alternative Development ng UP Center for Integrative and Development Studies (CIDS). Isa siya sa mga editor ng *Suring Supling: Kalipunan ng Rebyu ng mga Akdang Pambata sa Pilipinas* (UP Sentro ng Wikang Filipino, 2022) at *Alternative Practices across Southeast Asia* (UP CIDS, 2020, 2023). Nailathala ang ilan sa kaniyang mga pag-aaral sa mga dyornal tulad ng *Kritika Kultura*, *Humanities Diliman*, *Social Science Diliman*, *SALIN Journal*, *Daluyan: Journal ng Wikang Filipino*, *Pingkian: Journal for Emancipatory and Anti-imperialist Education*, *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*, *Banwaan: The Journal of Philippine Folklore*, *Philippine Studies: Historical and Ethnographic Viewpoints*, at mga pinamatnugutang koleksyon na inilathala ng IBON Foundation, UP Press, Routledge, Springer, Vernon, at Nova Science. Siya rin ay nagsusulat at nagsasalin ng mga aklat pambata. Kasapi siya ng Congress of Teachers/Educators for Nationalism and Democracy (CONTEND) at Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT) Philippines.

**Vijae O. Alquisola** teaches Literature and Creative Writing at DLSU-Taft, Manila. His poems, poems for children, and research work have received recognition from the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature (2014, 2016) and the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (2017) and were included in various journals and anthologies. He finished his PhD in Panitikan at the University of the Philippines-Diliman. He was

awarded as one of the “Natatanging Anak ng Sampaloc, Quezon” for his contributions to art and literature in 2017 and the “Gawad Dangal ni Gat Uban” or Natatanging Anak ng Mauban, Quezon for Poetry in 2018. In 2018, his debut poetry collection, *Sa Mga Pansamantala* (UST Publishing House, 2017), was a finalist in the following awards: Gintong Aklat Award, Madrigal-Gonzalez First Book Award in Filipino, and National Book Award. In 2019, the Sentro ng Wikang Filipino UP-Diliman published his second book, *Awit ng Bakwit: Mga Tula Para Sa Bata*. In 2022, the UP LIKHAAN Creative Writing Institute and UP Press published his third poetry book, *Sa Tuwing Ikaw ay Tahimik*, which earned him his second DLSU Miguel Febres Research award. He is the president of Supling Sining Inc., an organization advocating for the rights and welfare of children.

**Johann Vladimir Espiritu** teaches literature, art appreciation, and queer studies with the Department of Literature at De La Salle University where he also obtained his PhD in Literature in 2017. He writes fiction and poetry, and he is also a scholar of queer studies and popular culture.

**Christian Gabriel Tolentino** is a faculty member of the De La Salle University-IS, Arts and Design Track (Theater Arts). He is a member of the Theater Actors Guild Philippines Inc. (TAGph) and the International Federation for Theater Research (IFTR). He is a BA Theatre Arts graduate from UP Diliman and has been practicing theater in different industry sectors, from community, academic, and corporate to professional theater companies. He is pursuing a Master’s in Literary, Cultural, and Performance Studies at DLSU, focusing on studies about community theaters and eco-theater.

He published an article in May 2021 in *UNITAS, a Semi-Annual Peer-Reviewed International Online Journal of Advanced Research in Literature, Culture, and Society*. He presented his studies on theater-making approaches and online theater classroom pedagogies at the 16th and 17th DLSU Arts Congress. He was recently accepted to present his papers at the 7th International Conference on Asian and Philippine Studies about “The Intramuros of the South” and the 2024 IFTR Annual Conference on “Tidal Theater”. He aspires to contribute to the growing performance and theater studies in the Philippines and to inspire younger artists to tell their stories in the academe.

**Glenn Diaz** is assistant professor of English at the Ateneo de Manila University. He is the author of the novels *The Quiet Ones* (2017) and *Yñiga* (2022) and *When the World Ended I Was Thinking about the Forest* (2022), published by Paper Trail Projects. He holds a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Adelaide in South Australia.

**Christian Jil Benitez** is a poet, scholar, and translator. He earned his AB-MA in Filipino literature at the Ateneo de Manila University, where he teaches literature and rhetoric. He is currently pursuing his PhD in comparative literature at Chulalongkorn University, working on a manuscript on nonhuman comparative poetics. His work primarily moves around the Philippine notion of time, explored through the rubrics of the tropical, the poetic, and the neomaterial. His first book *Isang Dalumat ng Panahon* (ADMU Press, 2022) received the Philippine National Book Award for literary criticism and cultural studies. His English translation of Jaya Jacobo’s poetry collection *Arasahas* is forthcoming from Paloma Press.