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St. Antoninus of Florence

LECTURE 2023



“WILL THERE BE SPACE FOR LITERATURE STUDIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE”

Prof. Emeritus Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo, PhD
Director
UST - Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies

For some time now there have been clear danger signs. Literature seems to have been shunted aside in university curricula. Literary Studies are having trouble keeping afloat in some major universities. Literary titles are being edged out of the shelves of the country's main bookstore chain. Commercial publishers are accepting only literary titles that have a clearly identified market. Even academic publishers are experiencing some problems justifying the publication of literary titles, which tend to be slow-moving. Will there be any space in the near future for the practice and study of literature?



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Programme

BIONOTE

CRISTINA PANTOJA HIDALGO has a PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of the Philippines, an M.A. in English Literature and a B.A. in Philosophy, magna cum laude, from the University of Santo Tomas. She is a writer of fiction and nonfiction, a critic and a literary scholar, with more than 40 published books, including 3 novels. In the field of creative writing, she is credited with having pioneered in the writing and teaching of Creative Nonfiction in the country. Hidalgo has received several national awards, including the Carlos Palanca Grand Prize for her novel *Recuerdo*, the National Book Award for several of her short story and nonfiction collections, the Gawad Balagtas from the Unyon ng mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas for her lifework, and the Carlos Palanca Dangal ng Lahi Award. She has worked as a teacher, writer, and editor in Bangkok, Seoul, Yangon, New York City, and Manila. She has served as Director of the UP Institute of Creative Center, Director of the UP Press, Director of the UST Publishing House, and Vice President for Public Affairs of the UP System. At present, she is Director of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies, and Professor Emeritus of UP Diliman. She continues to teach graduate courses in creative writing and literature at UST and UP. Her latest books are: *Collected Stories and Tales* (USTPH 2019) and *What I Wanted to Be When I Grew Up: Early Apprenticeship of a Writer* (UP Press 2021). She has just finished writing her next book—"Pages from My Journals 1990-1999".

Philippine National Anthem

Opening Prayer

Prof. Lino N. Baron, PhD

Coordinator for International Relations, USTGS

Welcome Remarks

Prof. Camilla J. Vizconde, PhD

Assistant Dean, USTGS

Introduction to Guest Lecturer

Prof. John Jack G. Wigley, PhD

USTGS Program Lead for Creative Writing

Lecture on

"WILL THERE BE SPACE FOR LITERATURE STUDIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE"

Prof. Emeritus Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo, PhD

Director

Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies

Open Forum

Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, PhD

USTGS Program Lead for Literature and Communication

Moderator

Presentation of

Plaque of Appreciation

Closing Remarks

Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, PhD

Dean, USTGS

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