



ESPECTROS

*Ghostly Hauntings in Contemporary
Transhispanic Narratives*

EDITED BY
ALBERTO RIBAS-CASASAYAS
AND AMANDA L. PETERSEN

Espectros: Ghostly Hauntings in Contemporary Transhispanic Narratives is a compilation of original scholarly studies that presents the first volume-length exploration of the spectral in the literature, film, and photography of Latin America, Spain, and the Latino diaspora. In recent decades, scholarship in deconstructionist hauntology, trauma studies, affect in image theory, and a renewed interest in the Gothic genre has given rise to a Spectral Studies approach to the study of narrative. Haunting, the spectral, and the effects of the unseen carry a special weight in contemporary Latin American and Spanish cultures (referred to in this book as "Transhispanic cultures"), due to the ominous legacy of authoritarian governments and civil wars, as well as the imposition of the unseen yet tangible effects of global economics and neoliberal policies.

Alberto Ribas-Casasayas and Amanda L. Petersen's detailed introductory analysis grounds haunting as a theoretical tool for literary and cultural criticism in the Transhispanic world, with an emphasis on the contemporary period from the end of the Cold War to the present. The chapters in this volume explore haunting from a diversity of perspectives—in particular, engaging haunting as a manifestation of trauma, absence, and mourning. The editors carefully distinguish the collective, cultural dimension of historical trauma from the individual, psychological experience of the aftermath of a violent history, consistently taking into account unresolved social justice issues. This book also addresses the association of the spectral photographic image with the concept of haunting because of the photograph's ability to reveal a presence that is traditionally absent, or has been excluded, from hegemonic representations of society. It concludes with a series of studies that address the unseen effects and progressive deterioration of the social fabric as a result of a globalized economy and neoliberal policies, from the modernization of the nation-state to the present.

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Lewisburg

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS

Published by Bucknell University Press
Copublished by The Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc.
4501 Forbes Boulevard, Suite 200, Lanham, Maryland 20706
www.rowman.com

Unit A, Whitacre Mews, 26-34 Stannary Street, London SE11 4AB

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Information Available

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data Available

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-61148-738-1 (pbk. : alk. paper)

ISBN 978-1-61148-736-7 (cloth : alk. paper)

ISBN 978-1-61148-737-4 (electronic)

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Abbreviations

<i>Cubagua</i>	Enrique Bernardo Núñez, <i>Cubagua</i> , edited by Alejandro Bruzual, critical ed. (Caracas: Fundación Celarg, 2014).
<i>Novelas</i>	Enrique Bernardo Núñez, <i>Novelas y ensayos</i> (Caracas: Biblioteca Ayacucho, 1987).
<i>Specters</i>	Jacques Derrida, <i>Specters of Marx: The State of the Debt, the Work of Mourning, and the New International</i> , translated by Peggy Kamuf (New York: Routledge, 1993; 1994; 2006).
<i>Diccionario</i>	Maurice Echeverría, <i>Diccionario esotérico</i> (Ciudad de Guatemala: Grupo Editorial Norma, 2006).

A Note on Translations

Unless otherwise noted, all translations are by the contributors.

Acknowledgments

As editors, we express our deep gratitude to all of the contributors, whose patience and willingness to revise during the many rounds of peer-review was exceptional. We value the commitment that each showed to the project, even as many contributors worked on their chapters and revisions through times of great transition and personal and familial challenges.

In the inception of this volume, Charles St. George's excellent paper at the first International Hispanic Conference of the Day of the Dead in Miami, Florida in 2011, which was an early version of his chapter, reaffirmed for us the importance of approaching the spectral with a strong scholarly foundation and cemented our commitment to getting this project underway. Early stages of some of the works in this compilation were presented at the seminar "Mapping Haunting in Hispanic Literatures," co-chaired by the editors, at the American Comparative Literature Association Conference in Toronto in 2013. We appreciate the participation of authors Edward M. Chauca, Victoria L. Garrett, Juan Pablo Lupi, Juliana Martínez, N. Michelle Murray, and Marta Sierra. The discussions that took place at that seminar were enriched by valuable studies contributed by Isabel Cadenas Cañón (New York University), Antonio Córdoba (Manhattan College), Marco Di Paolantonio (York University), Sarah Paruolo (Stony Brook University), and Juan Ramos (College of the Holy Cross).

Both Amanda L. Petersen and Alberto Ribas-Casasayas are proud members of University of California Mexicanistas Intercampus Research Group (UC Mexicanistas), which has provided continuous opportunities for stimulating intellectual exchanges, and, most importantly, enduring friendship among many exceptional and talented colleagues in our field. Alberto presented a portion of the theoretical introduction at the Bruce-Novoa Mexican Studies Conference at University of California-Irvine, a yearly event orga-

nized by the UC Mexicanistas. Thanks to Sara Poot-Herrera (University of California–Santa Barbara) for her dedication and generosity in leading this group, and to Jacobo Sefamí, Viviane Mahieux, and the graduate students of the Spanish program at University of California–Irvine who tirelessly work, year after year, to make the conference happen.

The institutional support afforded by our respective universities was invaluable in the completion of this volume. Alberto was awarded travel support from the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Santa Clara University to travel to the ACLA in Toronto, and a publication grant from the Provost's Office. Amanda also received support from the University of San Diego's College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office through grants awarded by Dean Mary Boyd for travel to the ACLA in Toronto and Dean Noelle Norton for manuscript completion. These grants enabled us to benefit from Sam Brawand's helpful and exacting eye for preparing the final manuscript.

The editors thank the Archivo Fotográfico de Memoria Abierta for granting the permission to reproduce the images found in Megan Corbin's chapter, and Johnathan Moller for allowing us to reprint his photographs in Susana Martínez's chapter. Additionally, Cristina Rivera Garza generously allowed us to use her words for the epigraph for the introduction to this volume.

We would also like to extend a note of appreciation to friends and colleagues who advised us and cheered us on at various moments during this process. Thank you, Juan Pablo Lupi, Santiago Morales (University of California–Irvine), Ignacio Sánchez Prado (Washington University in St. Louis), Enrico Santí (University of Kentucky), and Santiago Vaquera Vázquez (University of New Mexico) for your professional expertise, advice, and friendship. The editors wish to express special gratitude to Antonio Córdoba (Manhattan College), who provided substantial content revisions, discussion, and editorial work of the editors' introductory material at a critical moment in the production of this book.

On a personal note, we both felt lucky to have a co-editor whose areas of knowledge and respective skills complemented the other's so well.

Alberto wishes to express his personal gratitude to his former partner N. Radhika Rao for her companionship and encouragement during their journey together. This book and other professional achievements would not have occurred without the support and wise advice of colleagues and friends Verónica Añover of California State University San Marcos, Mario Martín of San Diego State University, and Jill Pellettieri and Francisco Jiménez of Santa Clara University. Thanks to his mother, Rosa Casasayas, and to his good friends Antonio Córdoba, Álex Real, and Gerard Falip for their presence and support during the difficult moments.

Amanda appreciates the support and patience of her sister, Maryann; dad, Fred; mom, Jan; brother, Mark Petersen; and grandmother, Shirley Fox, from whom she inherited an insatiable appetite for learning and books. Her friends

and colleagues at the University of San Diego and beyond have been invaluable in helping shape her professional and intellectual accomplishments, in addition to providing friendship and solidarity on this sometimes rocky academic path: to Rebecca Ingram, Fernando Fabio Sánchez, Leonora Simonovis-Brown, and Patty Tovar, a heartfelt *gracias*. And certainly not least, Michael L. Onofrio, her life partner whose faith in her never waivers, deserves a big shout out for his daily tactical, emotional, and moral encouragement.

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