EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

KK 26

The regular section of *Kritika Kultura's* 26th issue features two articles: one concerned with Philippine intellectual history, the other with Nigerian literature. Preciosa de Joya's article narrates the career of Ricardo Pascual, a Philosophy professor from the University of the Philippines indicted for alleged communism; her account constellates Pascual's trial with an anonymous manuscript ("The Peasant War in the Philippines" [1946])—which was condemned of treason—and looks at the ways in which these cases resonate. Muhammad Alkali and Rosli Talif's article examines *Sacred Apples* and *The Triumph of the Water Lily*—by Nigerian novelists Abubakar Gimba and Stella Ify Osammor, respectively—from the perspective of reconciliatory negotiation-feminism.

KK 26 contains three special sections: (1) a Forum *Kritika* on Arts, Peace, and Conflict; (2) a Forum *Kritika* on Manga Culture and Critique; and (3) Critical Futures: The Places of E. San Juan, Jr.

The papers in the Forum *Kritika* on Arts, Peace, and Conflict—guest edited by Brian Desmond, Antoinette McKane, Terry Phillips, and Zoe Zontou—were initially presented in a conference in 2014 at the Archbishop Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace Studies at Liverpool Hope University (UK). The papers examine the ways in which practices in visual art and performance can be used by the establishment, on the one hand, and be instruments of resistance and counter narratives, on the other. Contributors to this Forum *Kritika* are Silvia Colombo, Martin Bayer, T. Randahl Morris, Klaas Tindemans, Hannah Reich, and Raphael Vergin.

In the Forum *Kritika* guest edited by Jaqueline Berndt—Manga Culture and Critique—the papers interrogate, using frameworks from media studies, social criticism, political criticism, received notions of manga (as "entertaining graphic narratives first serialized in magazines") and, as a result, widen the discourse to other ways of apprehending the form. Berndt's initiative—a panel on manga's critical potential after 3-11, held at the Mechademia Conference on Manga, Anime and Media Theory from Japan (2012)—developed into this Forum *Kritika*, which includes contributions from Ronald Stewart, Olga Antononoka, Takeuchi Miho, Selen Çalik, and Zoltan Kacsuk.

Critical Futures: The Places of E. San Juan, Jr.—edited by Charlie Samuya Veric, Associate Editor of *Kritika Kultura*—is a special section which gathers papers which

“underscore the great importance of San Juan’s ideas” and illuminate the various aspects of San Juan’s career as poet and critic whose influence extends to fields like Philippine Studies, Ethnic Studies, Cultural Studies, African American Studies, World Literature, and Marxism, among others. Papers from this section—some of which were presented in the symposium *The Places of E. San Juan, Jr.* held at the Ateneo de Manila University in 2015—were written by Efren R. Abueg, Rolando B. Tolentino, Michael D. Pante, Leo Angelo Nery, Elmer A. Ordoñez, Rachel Peterson, Joel Wendland, Michael Joseph Viola, Kenneth E. Bauzon, Charlie Samuya Veric, and Delia Aguilar, with a response from E. San Juan, Jr.

The Monograph Series on diaspora, migration, transnationality, and identity—edited by Ma. Socorro Perez—has one article in KK 26. Cirila Limpangog’s “Resuming the ‘Skilled Worker’ Identity: The Filipinas’ Strategies in Labour Market Participation in Melbourne, Australia” examines the cases of 20 Filipinas using the intertwined frameworks of race, class, and gender, and outlines the complicated ways in which they embodied the “classical modernist ideology of the self within a capitalist system.”

The book reviews section *Short Takes*—also edited by Veric—features assessments on *Rays of the Invisible Light: Collected Works by Young Moro Writers* (ed. Gutierrez Mangansakan II) by Charlson Ong, Kristoffer Brugada, and Jose Maria de Nazareno.

Finally, the Literary Section—guest edited by Ramon Guillermo and Martin Villanueva—pulls together a number of examples of the contemporary Philippine essay. Guillermo and Villanueva describe the section to be both an “investigation” and a “challenge,” and endeavor to “find out to what extent the Philippine essay is willing to be formally alert and critically engaged.” Guillermo and Villanueva selected works from essayists such as Neobie Gonzalez, Carlos Quijon, Jr., Robert Nery, Richard Calayeg Cornelio, Ian Rosales Casocot, John Bengan, Denver Ejem Torres, Carissa Pobre, Arbeen Acuña, Janine Go Dimaranan, Ivan Emil A. Labayne, J. Neil C. Garcia, and Eulalio R. Guieb III.

In keeping with our aims over the past years, we at KK carry on organizing public events such as the lecture and reading series, and an annual workshop. For the second semester 2015-2016, the Lecture and Reading Series will feature, among others, Hyunjoon Ki, Maria Cecilia Aguilar Holt, and Mark Sanchez, and a book forum on Lamberto Antonio. The Kritika Kultura Criticism Workshop—now on its second year—will train and prepare five early career researchers for the rigor and demand of scholarly writing and practice. The workshop, which is part of the Ateneo National Writers Workshop, aims to foster dialogue and collaboration between practitioners of creative and critical writing. The readings, lectures, and

workshop—in conjunction with journal publication—represent Kritika Kultura's engagements within academe and its wider public contexts: activities which aim to illuminate national, regional, and global concerns that we as a community face at present.

Vincenz Serrano

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