EDITOR’S INTRODUCTION

The regular section of Kritika Kultura’s 27th issue features four articles: Patricia May B. Jurilla’s article outlines the publishing history of Filipino novels in English in the 20th century. José Miguel Díaz Rodríguez’s contribution examines the dance performance Love, Death, and Mompou in the light of its capacity to critique hegemonic funding and promotional practices done by Spanish cultural institutions in Manila. Jeremy De Chavez’s article explores Ang Pagdadalaga ni Maximo Oliveros [The Blossoming of Maximo Oliveros] from the vantage point of inaesthetics and the punctum. Rommel Curaming looks at Postcolonial Studies and Pantayong Pananaw with respect to various points of contact and convergence: key texts, nation formation, theoretical assumptions, and methodological approaches.

The Forum Kritika for this issue—Strange Convergences: Intermedial Encounters in Southeast Asia—is guest edited by Elmo Gonzaga. His introduction elaborates on the notion of intermediality as the amalgamation of—and tensions between—two distinct media modalities. This Forum Kritika features Dafna Ruppin, who looks at the various media iterations of Nyai Dasima; Sudarmoko, who traces the republication of West Sumatra oral folktales into book form; and Tito Imanda, who examines the ways in which wayang orang performances in Central and East Java were adapted into film. All told, the introduction and the three essays in the Forum Kritika demonstrate how formal and technological intersections offer new possibilities of rendering identities and social formations within Southeast Asia.

The Monograph Section on diaspora, migration, transnationality, and identity—edited by Ma. Socorro Q. Perez—has two articles in KK 27. Kathrine D. Ojano’s contribution explores Ninotchka Rosca’s State of War from the perspective of mythopoiea and postcolonial strategies of narrative. Oscar Tantoco Serquiña, Jr.’s article examines the stage musical Care Divas with regard to the queering of migrant labour, perverse intimacy, and the aestheticization of kabaklan. Early versions of Ojano’s and Serquiña’s papers were featured in the Kritika Kultura Criticism Workshop in 2015 (as part of the Ateneo National Writers Workshop).


Finally, the Literary Section—edited by Mark Anthony Cayanan—features selections of poetry, fiction, and translations by young and emerging writers, whose
works open up new possibilities in literary form and approach. The contributors for the Literary Section are Pauline Lacanilao, Ben Aguilar, Lakan Umali, Carlo Pacolor Garcia (trans. Michael Balili), and Christian Tablazon.

In line with our aims over the past years, we at KK continue organizing public events such as the lecture and reading series. For the intersession and first semester of 2016-2017, the Lecture and Reading Series featured Megan Thomas and Sharon Delmendo. We also co-organized the roundtable discussion “Doing Digong: Politics in the Wake of EDSA,” which was moderated by Vicente L. Rafael, and which featured Carmel Abao, Walden Bello, Nicole Curato, and Richard Heydarian. Finally, we are co-hosting a book forum on, and the launch of, Vicente L. Rafael’s *Motherless Tongues*; the forum will feature Peñafrancia Raniela E. Barbaza, Preciosa de Joya, and Jose Mario C. Francisco, SJ.

The lectures and fora—in conjunction with journal publication—are signs of Kritika Kultura’s engagements within academe and its wider public contexts: our activities aim to contribute to national, regional, and global discourses that we as a community face in our complex contemporary moment.

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