

SOUTH ASIAN WRITERS, LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE, AND THE RISE OF GLOBAL ENGLISH

Ever since T. B. Macaulay leveled the accusation in 1835 that “a single shelf of a good European library was worth the whole native literature of India,” South Asian literature has served as the imagined battleground between local linguistic multiplicity and a rapidly globalizing English. This book traces an unexpected journey to Latin America for South Asian literature in English. The cohort of authors that moved between these regions include Latin-American Nobel laureates Pablo Neruda and Octavio Paz; Booker Prize notables Salman Rushdie, Anita Desai, Mohammed Hanif, and Mohsin Hamid; and foundational literary and cultural figures such as Geeta Kapur, Jagdish Swaminathan, and Arvind Krishna Mehrotra. In their explorations of this new geographic connection, Roanne L. Kantor claims that they formed the vanguard of a new, multilingual world-literary order. Their encounters with Latin America fundamentally shaped the way in which literature written in English from South Asia exploded into popularity from the 1980s until the mid-2000s, enabling its global visibility.

ROANNE L. KANTOR is Assistant Professor of English at Stanford University. She has published in *Comparative Literature*, *Interventions*, *South Asia*, *Global South Studies*, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*, and *Transmodernity*. Her translation of Juan José Saer’s *La mayor* won the 2009 Susan Sontag Prize.

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ROANNE L. KANTOR

Stanford University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
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103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316510797

DOI: 10.1017/9781009039727

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First published 2022

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Kantor, Roanne L., author.

TITLE: South Asian writers, Latin American literature, and the rise of global English / Roanne L. Kantor, Stanford University.

DESCRIPTION: Cambridge ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2022. | Series: Cambridge studies in world literature | Includes bibliographical references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2021039880 (print) | LCCN 2021039881 (ebook) | ISBN 9781316510797 (hardback) | ISBN 9781009039727 (ebook)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: South Asian literature (English) – History and criticism. | South Asian literature (English) – Latin American influences. | English language – Foreign countries. |

BISAC: LITERARY CRITICISM / General | LCGFT: Literary criticism.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC PR9570.S64 K36 2022 (print) | LCC PR9570.S64 (ebook) | DDC 820.9/954–dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2021039880>

LC ebook record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2021039881>

ISBN 978-1-316-51079-7 Hardback

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To Hayden and Emmanuelle

English
Cambridge University Press

978-1-316-51679-7 – South Asian Writers, Latin American Literature, and the Rise of Global
Frontmatter

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Acknowledgments

The bibliography is a canon; the acknowledgments are its countershelf. The former inevitably includes some baggage we would rather leave behind. The latter frames the field as we would like it to be, a collection of supportive, chosen affiliations. In naming it, perhaps, we hasten that field's coming.

First I owe thanks to Cambridge University Press, my editor Ray Ryan, and the series editors Debjani Ganguly and Francesca Orsini. Their feedback, as well as that of the anonymous reviewers, greatly strengthened the arguments of the book. They understood this vision and shared their enthusiasm. I am thrilled to be part of this series. Thanks also to the Cambridge University Press production team: Edgar Mendez, Liz Davey, Gayathri Tamilselvan, and most especially Wade Guyitt for his thorough and thoughtful edits of this text.

Several institutions supported this research. My journey began at UCLA, where Ross Sheidler and Kathleen Komar introduced me to something called Comparative Literature and suggested I might want to keep going. The late, great Michael Henry Heim welcomed me to the world of literary translation – the world in which the authors in this book encountered and imagined one another. More than anyone else, he shaped me into a sensitive reader and grounded my understanding of translation not as a theoretical game but as a real labor, one undertaken out of love. That commitment was cemented when I was entrusted to translate the Argentinian writer Juan José Saer's *La mayor* (*The One Before*) by the prize committee at the Susan Sontag Foundation. David Reiff, Anne Jump, Susan Bernofsky, and Johanna McKeon supported that work. Rebecca Lippman tested every sentence of that translation with me. Fundación TyPa, Fundación PROA, and Open Letter Press helped bring it to fruition.

The University of Texas at Austin supported this research during graduate school. César Salgado, who shares with me a soft spot for *El mono*

gramático, guided the first draft of these pages. Without his emphatic support, my very vague hunch about this book would have withered on the vine. This book is the “looking-glass twin” of the dissertation I wrote for him: “in many ways opposite and yet apparently identical.” Many other faculty members in Austin mentored and supported me, including Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, Rupert Snell, Héctor Domínguez-Ruvalcaba, and Karen Grumberg. The office manager for the Program in Comparative Literature, Billy Fatzinger, kept us all afloat and added a bit of joy to every visit to the program office. Snehal Shingavi provided a model for studying literature written in English, something I did not yet imagine I was doing in graduate school. He helped me figure out how a comparatist finds her way into an English department. Syed Akbar Hyder prompted me to study Urdu and handed me the endlessly productive “Safarnāmāh-e Kyūbā.” He also introduced me to Ellie Strand, Sara Grewal, Daniel Majchrowicz, and Anand Taneja, friends and scholars who have been essential in shaping the approach to Urdu in this book. Laura Brueck and Naminata Diabate have gone above and beyond as alumni mentors and role models. I owe so much to the group of graduate students with whom I studied, most of all Frank Strong, who showed me the ropes, Dusty Hixenbaugh and Katie Logan, who ran the course with me, and Hannah Alpert Abrams, for whom I was supposed to pave the way, though she just as often returned the favor. Michael Reyes and Amrita Mishra, who came after, have kept faith with what is best about literary study at Texas.

This project was also shaped by Cornell University and friends in Ithaca, which hosted me for almost a decade of visits while my husband was a graduate student and then postdoctoral fellow. Many friends shaped our time both there and in India, especially Anaar Desai-Stephens, Andrew Amstutz, Carter Higgins, Yasmine Singh, and Brinda Kumar. Many sweet memories and deep insights alike have come in conversation with you. Many of my best ideas came outdoors with our biking buddies Alicia Swords, Tim Shenk, Janice Gallagher, and her house full of writers. Visiting fellows at the Society for the Humanities brightened my time at Cornell, especially Ayelet Ben-Yishai and Rahul Mukherjee, with whom I had so much fun searching for the lost 1970s. I was also delighted and inspired by the postdocs who stayed on as professors, Naminata, Jenny Goldstein, and Matt Velasco. The South Asia Program hosted a 2017 invited talk about the South Asian “boom,” which forms some of the background of this book. The faculty at Cornell has always astonished me with their generosity and collective brainpower. I learned so much from

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Durba Ghosh and Bronwen Blesdoe, among many others. I have been humbled by the ongoing support of Debra Ann Castillo, who blows me away with her energy and collaborative spirit. She always knew there was something to this idea, and without her I would have never found it.

In Boston, my time teaching at Brandeis University, Boston University, and Harvard University shaped this book. Ulka Anjaria and Faith Smith gave me my first opportunity as a visiting professor in the Department of English at Brandeis. Many other faculty members welcomed me there, including Harleen Singh, Caren Irr, and Greg Childs. My time at Brandeis ushered me into a vibrant intellectual community in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Among its many luminaries, I owe special thanks to Isabel Gómez, Renee Hudson, Benjamin Siegel, Caterina Scaramelli, Kareem Khubchandani, Marina Bilbija, Asli Zengin, Kate Nash, Kathleen Vandenberg, Stephanie Byttebier, Octavio González, Susan Ellison, and Liza Oliver.

At the Department of Comparative Literature at Harvard, Karen Thornber, Saul Zaritt, and Mariano Siskind were among the generous faculty who went out of their way to welcome me during my two-year post. It was that community that showed me how to think about world literature through fresh eyes. Karen, in addition to her inspiring commitment to deeply researched, multilingual, and historically grounded literary scholarship, went out of her way to help me get my sea legs on Quincy Street. Mariano wrote about magical realism with such fierce elegance and reminded me about that Chile section in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*. Ateya Khorakiwalla and Anna Wilson shared with me the most intellectually productive space at Harvard: the MAC pool. Vivian Huang, Cécile Guédon, Lisa Gulesarian, and René Carrasco kept me company as part of the invisible edifice of lecturers without whom the Barker Center would cease to function. Ernest Mitchell, a true Harvard institution, embodied commitment to our students and their writing. He is also the most wonderful interlocutor on the topic of twentieth-century writers and their transnational inspirations. I appreciated the terrific undergraduate students who tested out this research with me: Kierin Kresevic Salazar, Hamna Nazir, José Coronado Flores, Iris Feldman, and Lucas Cuatrecasas, among many others.

This book was rewritten at Stanford University as a member of the Department of English. Gavin Jones, Paula Moya, Michaela Bronstein, Vaughn Rasberry, and Alex Woloch read a large volume of writing, saw something worthy in this idea, and asked penetrating questions that shaped its development. Ato Quayson read the entire manuscript and made

a number of sharp critical comments. Ramón Saldívar, Michele Elam, Shelley Fisher Fishkin, Peggy Phelan, Elaine Treharne, Patricia Parker, Margaret Cohen, Nancy Rutenberg, Mark McGurl, Nick Jenkins, Blair Hoxby, Roland Green, Alice Staveley, Blakey Vermule, and Terry Castle have all provided mentorship and guidance on the long road to publication. John Bender is a model of energetic engagement and an unparalleled resource for institutional memory. Mark Greif and Mark Algee-Hewitt have been not only incredibly supportive colleagues but also welcoming neighbors. The two of them, along with Michaela, Tom Owens, and Esther Yu, have shared the task of navigating new faculty life here and made it a pleasure. Usha Iyer and Marci Kwon in the Department of Art and Art History offered me key insights about the visual arts discussed in this book. None of this would function without the hard work of the English department's dedicated office staff, Maritza Colon, Vivian Beebe Sana, Patrick Heyer, and Priscilla Catbagan. Academics tend to hide away in our offices – our staff encourage us out into the corridors and provide the social glue that makes Margaret Jacks Hall come alive. So many students have shaped my thinking for this project, but not least graduate students Radhika Koul, Alberto Quintero, Mai Wang, Helena Hu, Luke Williams, Alex Sherman, Emma Brush, Chiara Giovanni, and Chloe MacKinnon. So many insights that appear here were tested out in my class on the Indian novel, with its brilliant undergraduates, including Maddie Sunmi Kim, Ryan Sud, Nibha Akireddy, and Karunya Bhramasandra, among others. Much of the archival research in this book was made possible through generous funding from the Department of English, the Hellman Foundation, and the Department of Human Biology. The Stanford Humanities Center hosted an invaluable manuscript workshop organized by Kelda Jameson. I am deeply grateful to Ulka, Anjali Nerlekar, Sandra Berman, and Héctor Hoyos for their incredible generosity, insightfulness, and encouragement as readers. The book in your hands was deeply shaped by you.

Several libraries, collections, and archivists molded this project. As a graduate student, I profited from my proximity to the incredible Harry Ransom Center. I had no idea when I dropped by on a whim during my first year of graduate school that archival research would become such a key part of this project. I also benefited greatly from spending time at the Bombay Poets Archive at Cornell. In addition, this project was enriched by finds from the Widener Library at Harvard and the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley. This book was transformed by access to the collections of little magazines in the British Library and the

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companionship of so many other researchers in the Oriental and African reading room – especially Liza, Katie, and Fatima Burney. The Tinker Foundation funded my research in Chile, where I owe thanks to the Biblioteca Nacional and the Fundación Pablo Neruda, and their affiliates Javier Ormeño Bustos and Darío Osés Moya. Some of the most important meetings and finds happened in India. My former boss B. N. Varma at Primus Books tried his best to make me a precise reader and gave me a first-hand look into Indian publishing. The teachers at the American Institute of Indian Studies in Jaipur encouraged my explorations in Hindi. Rashmi Sadana wrote the most insightful book on that subject, *English Heart, Hindi Heartland*. She has always been generous with her advice, including the providential suggestion that I hang out at the Sahitya Akademi to “see what happens.” Vibha Maurya is one of those who has long worked on a project like the one in this book. She was so generous with her time and resources regarding Neruda. Subhro Bandopadhyay built his own version of the countershelf at the Instituto Cervantes.

Workshops and conferences provided the space to hone these arguments. These were also places where many publications and many friendships were born. The 2015 Yale South Asia Workshop put together an unparalleled group where I met Madhumita Lahiri, Chris Moffatt, Katy Hardy, and Ethiraj Gabriel Dattatreyan, all of whom have had a hand in the direction of this project. Madhumita and I also collaborated on two other gatherings, a seminar at ACLA in 2016 and a preconference at Madison that fall. It has been a pleasure to think through the conundrum of the Global Anglophone with her. Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra invited me to work through ideas related to this project as part of the CLCS Global South at MLA in 2018. Her scholarship on dictator fiction has been foundational for this book. Susan Wadley has been organizing the Madison “Dissertation to Book” Workshop for years, which helped me measure my dissertation against more mature projects of many scholars who are now also friends. Fatima brought me to SOAS for a talk in 2017 and encouraged me to attend the 2019 Postcolonial Print Workshop organized by Francesca. Literally all of the presentations were brilliant, but this book has been particularly shaped by Neelam Srivastava, Duncan Yoon, Hala Halim, Laetitia Zecchini, Venkat Mani, Ruvani Ranasinha, Shital Pravinchandra, and Paulo Horta. Anjali, who built the Bombay Poets Archive, wrote the book on it and then suggested that, perhaps, I should make a serious search for the lost 1970s inside. This swept away the book I had been planning and set the foundations for this one to rise in its place.

Ragini Srinivasan had the idea to craft an intellectual community out of a cohort of job seekers. This is the group who have seen more of this book than almost anyone: Nasia Anam, Monika Bhagat Kennedy, Akshya Saxena, and our more recent addition, Kalyan Nadiminti. Nasia also facilitated friendships with Fatima, Isabel, Renee, Marina, and later Duncan and Yu-ting Huang. I'm awed by their collective brainpower. Fellow travelers like Daniel Elam and Paul Nadal, who didn't even know me when they offered a keen editorial eye but have since become friends. This whole cohort of scholars came of age in the "meantime" between economic emergencies. Along with those crises came a set of terms including "the Global Anglophone" and all of their many conditions. We did not choose them, but we did not shrink from them either.

My search has been buoyed by others looking for the countershelf, who inspired me to keep going. My deep thanks to Subhro, Vivan Sundaram, Taimiya Zaman, A. K. Mehrotra, and Karan Mahajan, who spoke to me directly about their brilliant work. Atreyee Gupta, Bhavya Tiwari, Gayatri Gopinath, Vibha, Shital, and Deb are all investigating literary and artistic connections between these two regions. They are, collectively, "another hand, unknown to you," one that reached out to me and to this project. There is so much yet to be done, and I can't wait to see how they will do it.

I owe the deepest debt of thanks to my family. My parents Susan Sharp and Glenda Sharp and my little sister Azure Sharp never, ever doubted. My twin sister Sonja Sharp began pushing me in the womb and never, ever stopped! She has talked through every notion that ever had to do with this book, while her husband Tal Sholkklapper and her son Ram Sholkklapper provided joyful breaks in between. My grandmother Gladys Kruger mailed me books by the boxful. I attribute my early interest in the world of letters to her. My aunt Karen Kruger pushed me out the door and into the world. She and my cousins Clare Kruger, Noah Pen-Kruger, Aaron Pen-Kruger, and Elijah Pen-Kruger created a home away from home for me growing up. My Connecticut family, David Kruger, Riva Lewinter, Ben Kruger, Joel Kruger, and Sophie Kruger, made me welcome all the years I visited and lived on the East Coast. My family by marriage, Patricia Kantor, Alan Kantor, and Danielle Kantor, welcomed me with open arms. I have been tinkering with this idea the whole decade we have known each other, and their support has meant the world to me. Their extended family, the New York and San Francisco Kolnicks, the Boston Kerbels, and the London Kantors, likewise have done so much to support me and this research over the years. There are also friends who have become like family: the Scanlons, the Brownsteins, the Leaffers, and the Azads.

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My husband, Hayden Kantor, has thought with me about this project more than anyone. This book and its author would have been adrift without him. Hayden read every word of every draft multiple times. If you object to a line in this book, I likely kept it against his objections; if you like something, you can be sure he has approved it. This book is dedicated to you, my most careful and constant reader, and to the other collaborative project that we recently brought to fruition: our daughter Emmanuelle.

English
Cambridge University Press

978-1-316-51679-7 – South Asian Writers, Latin American Literature, and the Rise of Global
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