

I am a singer, writer, performance artist, musicologist and doctoral student with training in literature, ethnography, performance, music, and cultural and media studies. I started my academic career at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez. As an undergraduate, I read various novels of the post-dictatorship in the Dominican Republic using the framework of the twelve senses of Rudolf Steiner and theorized new forms of reading internal migration (countryside to the city) from a sensorial perspective from which sound was a central element.

I also hold an MA in Communications from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, for which I did research on Dominican radio stations in Puerto Rico. For this research, I studied the Dominican music scene in Puerto Rico and began doing fieldwork in popular dance venues around which the Dominican music scene had coalesced. The resulting ethnographic study was presented in Puerto Rico, the U.S., the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

In 2015, I started my doctoral studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. With a focus on Dominican music and sound and gender studies, I worked on a project entitled *The Queerness of Bachata: Mapping Dominican Masculinities through Rhythm*, for which I was awarded the National Supermarket Association Dominican Studies Fellowship granted by the Dominican Studies Institute of the City College of New York. With this award, I further developed my work with presentations on the topic in New York City and LASA Barcelona, and organized a myriad of events at the Graduate Center where numerous academics held important conversations on music, resistance, Blackness, gender and Dominican sounds. A year later, I was awarded a grant to become one of the research writers of the National Endowment for the Humanities digital project "A History of Dominican Music in the U.S." That year, I also won an award to establish the teaching and performance project "Culture, *Latinidad*, and Academia: Reimagining Teaching Methodologies through the Poetics of Performance Art" at the CUNY Graduate Center's Teaching and Learning Center.

Prior to continuing my doctoral studies at UT Austin, I served as a Graduate Teaching Fellow and Lecturer in the Department of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at Brooklyn College, CUNY, where I taught courses on performance and *Latinidad*, Latino cultural studies, and Dominican heritage. I have been interested in voicing students since my early years in academia, the reason for which I now serve as the President of the Graduate Student Organization of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and have implemented several initiatives for the professionalization of my peers and have strengthened the relationships between the administration and the students for better studying conditions within our department, the College of Liberal Arts, and the broader UT community. At UT Austin, I also founded the Dominican Studies Reading Group, which has served as a forum for students interested in knowing more about the intellectual state of the field.

My academic and artistic work has been published or presented in Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Cuba, Spain, and the United States. I have presented my performance art and have sung at important venues such as the Harlem's Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling, the Grand Opera House of Delaware, the headquarters of Verso Books, among many other spaces. As a literary writer, I founded an independent editorial project called La

Société Book Project, where I published my first book of short stories, *This Ability* (2018). My short stories have appeared in international publications such as the collection *San Juan Noir* (Akashic Books, 2016), edited by Mayra Santos Febres.

My academic publications have dealt with Puerto Rican poet Julia de Burgos and her significance in the Dominican Republic: "El viaje inconcluso" in the collection *Hablan sobre Julia de Burgos* (Ediciones Gaviota/Casa Paoli, 2014). My other academic works have been published in *Revista Intersecciones*, "Un ebbo diaspórico: Entre Ada Monzón, San Miguel y una almohada en el Bronx" (2018); and *Revista Conjunto* of Casa de las Américas, "Academia espiritual: Performance y sanación en el aula neoyorquina" (2017). For the latter article, I have been invited to present on topics of performance, queerness, spirituality and disability in various institutions in the United States. I have also published in *sx salon*, "Offerings to Eternity, Longing of Remembrance" (2018), on the most recent poetry collection by poet Edward Brathwaite. Forthcoming publications will appear in *CENTRO Journal* of the Center of Puerto Rican Studies in 2020.

I am also a proud *espiritista* from the Mesa Blanca tradition of Puerto Rico. Since I was seven years old, I have been offering my spiritual services which are now housed in my online shop Sweet Wisdom. I also serve as the co-producer of *Hablemos Escritoras Podcast*, a project that portrays the works of over 200 Mexican and Latin American women writers.