

BIONOTES
IN
NEGATIVE

BIONOTES IN NEGATIVE

PEDANTIC PEDESTRIANS

2019

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Pedantic Pedestrians' *Bionotes in Negatives* aims to invert the function of a material that usually enumerates writers'/artists' "accomplishments," to mess with a locus usually reserved for highlighting institutional affiliations, past works, publications or exhibitions. The project derives from a number of inspirations, turns of phrase, earlier formulations, interventions and controversies, semblances of the sardonic: The last sentence in an Antares Bartolome bionote, "He enjoys reading bio notes to check for social climbers"; The first sentence in an Adam David bionote—"[Siya ay] hindi nagtapos ng Malikhain Pagsulat..."—in a literary anthology published by some established publishing house; Epoy Deyto's self-description in his blog as a "beggar outside of CCP"; Lyra Garcellano's hint at the allure and prestige of the "international": "to penetrate competitions of worldwide caliber is considered a mammoth of an order"; Caroline Hau's comment on "opportunistic invocations of the term [Southeast Asia]... serves as a mere pretext for CV-padding, ego-priming junkets and rackets"; Lina Sagaral Reyes' much-shared piece on the literary "hoax" of a Cagayan de Oro-based writer; Angelo Suarez' Leisure, "a collage of excerpts from Filipino poets' bios... in which they disclose what jobs they hold for the accumulation of capital other than the writing of poetry."

This Call aims to collect several bionotes in the negative from writers and artists in the Philippine cultural scene.

With their contents often excessively valorized, fetishized, and as recent events showed, possibly falsified, bionotes are crushed by the exigencies of self-promotion, called forth by the demands of tenureship and point systems, cultural capital, and making a living. Still operating within the terms of the 'individual,' this project would not speak of all the effaced labors and external conditions which helped in realizing individual 'achievements.' It would merely poke fun at the supposed loftiness of bionotes, inviting constructions that could embody humility, purposeful laziness or sheer disinterest.

The constraints for the submissions: every sentence in the bionote must have a negative modifier (no, not, none, never, wala, hindi). It is up to the contributors how to make use of the negation. They can speak of rejected applications, workshops they have never been to, ideologies they do not uphold, contests where they never won or they never bothered to join in, or completely non-literary, mundane matters (A is not into crocodiles; Walang tubig ngayon sa bahay ni B). It is also up to the contributors how to identify themselves, the degree of anonymity they want to achieve, and the extent of the revelation of identity in the bionote. All bionotes must have at least one sentence, with no minimum word count as long as a negative word is already in place.

Ivan Labayne, editor

LEXTER VITORIO is a full-time artist but only a part-time human being. He has opened four workshops in the last four months and all of them were canceled due to non-attendance. He has attempted suicide a few times but has so far failed. He's trying to try and rejoin the human race but isn't all that convinced with its merits.

Si ARLO MENDOZA ay isa sa iilang untenured fakulti na kasapi ng Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas, UP Diliman, na hindi kailanman magwawagi ng National Book Award, hindi kailanman sasali sa Palanca, hindi kailanman magkakamit ng anumang parangal o gawad pampanitikan mula sa kanyang lungsod ng kapanganakan at mga pambansang institusyong pangkultura (sinunog na niya ang natanggap na sertipiko ng partisipasyon at parangal mula sa Iligan National Writers Workshop simula nang sumirit sa isip at pluma ng “matriarch” ng naturang palihan ang pangungusap na “Mindanao is not on fire...” sa harap at sa kabila ng malinaw at walang-patumanggang pandarahas ng militar at iba pang aparato ng estado sa rehiyon), at hindi kailanman maisasama sa anumang tomo ng CCP Encyclopedia bilang isang “premyado,” “dekampanya,” “lehitimo,” at “aktuwal” na manunulat. Bukod sa mga minsanang padaplis na patutsada sa pagdadrama, pagpapakabiktima, at oportunismo ng mga “aktuwal” na manunulat sa bansa, isa sa iilang tagumpay ng ngangayuning manunulat na ito ay ang minsang pagkakasuplong sa kanya ng ilang beteranong manunulat kay Gelacio Guillermo dahil umano sa kanyang nag-uumapaw na kayabangan. Ilalabas sa susunod na taon ang kanyang dalawang akdang sinasabing tatapos sa kanyang karera sa akademya: ang Hindi ko naman sinasabing hindi kayong magaling..Kaso ang problema e nasabi ko na at Malikhaing Pasismo: Palihan, Patutsadahan, Patimpalak, at Pagsugat.

KEIVSB is "a queer writer from the south has an unfinished MFA in Creative Writing. In younger years, she applied twice but was not accepted into the Siliman Writers Workshop. She didn't try again. She does not like the distinction between "established" and "promising" writers. She questions the literary canon and cannot understand why the Manila Critics's Circle judges the National Book Awards, National Book Awards. National. Manila. National Manila. She asks, subsequently, who judges what is and what isn't art? A few years ago, an "award-winning writer" told her that she should win a Palanca too, because otherwise, she will just be known as that girl with the unfinished degree in Creative Writing. Just another writer from the "regions", a token representative in national events to assuage the guilt of Manila-based literary gods. She sees how this fuckery has messed up the brains of younger writers. Some lie about their credentials, while others suck up to the "pillars" of Philippine literature just to get published. She wonders: when these pillars tumble, will Philippine Lit crumble into the dust?"

Si J.G. DIMARANAN ay hindi tinapos ang kaniyang masteradong degree sa Comparative Literature sa UP Diliman. Wala siyang obrang aklat ng mga personal na sulating inilimbag sa kanyang pangalan, bukod sa mangilan-ngilang tula dyan-dyan. Hindi siya nagkamit ng kahit anong pagkilala sa kahit anong pampanitikang patimpalak tulad ng Palanca, Maningning Miclat Awards, atbp. dahil hindi naman siya sumasali sa mga ito. Hindi rin siya mahilig lumahok sa mga rehiyunal o pambansang palihan na madalas pugad ng mga karerista at kunwaring hindi karerista.

Lumayas siya sa mundo ng akademya para mamuhay ng tahimik sa barrio. Hindi na siya nagsusulat gaano sa papel bukod sa listahan ng mga bilihan sa palengke, ngunit madalas pa ring maririnig sa hangin ang kanyang mga tula.

AUBREY DE FRANCISCA did not finish a degree in Creative Writing. She is not a member of any literary organization, writing gigs, or any school-paper-slash-only-literature-majors-can-write-ordeal. While writing this down, she recounts the memories of rejecting her own dream in exchange of pursuing a family's request. She attempted to revive herself with writing but no one likes to save her. Except for some daily dose of critical facebook posts, her writings always end up in the trashbin next to her bed.

An approximation and at times a negation, TILDE might not be.

Si LEVI MASULI ay isang kontraktuwal na manunulat at musiko. 99% ng kaniyang sinusulat ay hindi nalilimbag sa kaniyang pangalan.

Hindi tinapos ni KUWAN ang kaniyang kursong BA Malikhaing Pagsulat sa Filipino. Naging kasapi ngunit nagbitiw siya sa isang organisasyon ng mga manunulat na puro pseudo-progresibo at karerista. Hindi siya lumalahok sa mga patimpalak tulad ng Palanca. Pinag-iisipan niya kung may naitulong ang paglagay niya sa CV na naging fellow siya sa ilang pambansang palihan upang matanggap sa trabaho bilang offshore content strategist ng isang startup sa Amerika.

A.E.M. does not know how to write a proper bio note because she hasn't published anything beyond her works of naïveté in their college folio more than a decade ago. Then wide-eyed and young, it confused, though thrilled her to gain the approval of the "literati" when she was hugged by a professor just for being the great-granddaughter of someone, and when, later on, she didn't back out of a "prestigious" writers' workshop in the name of artistic self-discovery. She did not finish her MFA, which the Literature department that eventually hired her generously sponsored, as it seems the only thing she succeeded at discovering was how being immersed in the "scene" only made her feel like a misfit. She formed a habit of secretly yearning for and then deflecting attention, eventually hiding from the people who encouraged or showed interest in her work, as she never truly understood how to handle the ladderized social movement that hums, also hisses, outside of her basic desire to write— except for when she was teaching. Teaching was the only social aspect of writing that did not make her feel out of place. She briefly handled art appreciation and creative writing classes, but could not continue when an MFA became mandatory for a lowly, part-time educator to earn. She moved to Baguio in 2011 and immersed herself in the manual labor of motherhood for 7 years. This period of creative quiet could not have been more crucial, as the outside noise became more decipherable, and it became clear to her what she precisely did not want to be, which she could have made the mistake of becoming. She has long done away with the desire to please, is displeased with the system that perpetuates this and creates delusions of grandeur for the ones who don't know any better, and continues to commit herself to writing, not because she deserves to be heard, but because things deserve to be written.

Si B ay isang wannabe manunulat/makata. Kalakhan ng kanyang mga akda ay mga pahayag ng organisasyong kinaaaniban niya at hinding hindi ipapangalan sa kanya. Mayroon siyang pagmamay-aring kwaderno na naglalaman ng kanyang mga akdang tula at kwento na sinunog ng kanyang dating asawa matapos ang isang mainitang diskurso.

Sa kasalukuyan ay pinag-iisipan nitong magsulat muli ng tuloy-tuloy subali't natitiyak na niyang hindi ito matutupad una, dahil sa hindi nya pagbibigay panahon dito. Pangalawa, dahil takot siya.

Si ALJO LUMEN Lumen ay de nakapagtapus nang korsong walang kinalaman sa pagsusulat. Kasalokoyan siyang walang padreno kaya hinde alam kong rayter o rayter-rayteran lang. Toweng walang ginagawa o kahet may ginagawa ay de siya makekita sa barkadahan nang ma nga manonolat sa Cubaw Ekspo.

Bubu den siya sa ma nga teoriya pro prawd na HINDE DDS! At sa holeng tsek niya sa kadireng Wattpad wala pa sa pipite ang nagbasa nang gawa niya.

Mahilig mag-basketball si JO TANIERLA pero hindi laging magaan sa loob niyang mag-ambag sa pa-ilaw. Bilang baller, hindi niya maintindihan kung bakit uso pa rin ang kasanayan ng de-skilling sa sining-biswal. Nagtataka din siya sa kawalang pagkilala sa mga mismong gumawa ng piyesa, at kung bakit yung artist lang na naka-isip ng piyesa ang pumipirma dito.

Sa palagay niya rin, magaling mag Rothko ang mga nagmamasilya sa talyer, at walang dudang may talento ang mga kapitbahay niya sa Krus na Ligas sa industrial assemblage.

Taimtim siyang magpinta at maglapis, at kahit mahirap ay may hinahon doon.

Nagpasa si P ng mga tula sa mga writing workshops para sa libreng bakasyon sa Dumaguete, Baguio, Iligan o QC, libreng hotel, buffet at unli beer, at maka-spot ng mga cutie na pwedeng makalandian during o after workshops pero hindi s'ya natanggap kahit saan. Nag-masters pa s'ya ng Malikhaing Pagsulat at sumali sa isang writing org ng mga circle jerks na DOM sa lagay na 'yan pero olats pa rin.

Walang akda si **C** na nailathala na sa kahit anong publikasyon. Nasubukan na niyang magsulat ng kung ano-ano ngunit wala namang naidulot na maganda sa kanya ang mga ito. Sa kasalukuyan, pinipilit niyang tapusing isulat ang isang kathang alam niyang hindi naman talaga niya matatapos.

Hindi pa rin naisusulat ni LEE ENCIO ang aklat na sinabi niyang ililimbag niya. Iniwan niya ang pangakong ito sa isang liblib na lugar na kung tawagin ay Bukas upang pag-ukulan ng panahon ang gabultong sulatin ng kanyang mga estudyante at mga rekisitong saliksik ng kanyang propesor. Hindi niya mabisita ang Bukas.

JVT an unironic literature graduate from a 'premiere' teachers' institution. currently employed (for now) at some private school. in a few months time, probably going hungry. guilty of doing literary productions but only in desperate times (call for desperate measures) to pay necessary fees. shitstorming poetry on twitter 6/7 days a week. loitering outside cultural spaces and begging for scraps and cigarettes in maginhawa and up. can be seen regularly scavenging for left over beer left on tables at cubao expo.

Do not hail His Grace, RIAN SIMON of Houses Magtaan and Cabatingan, First of His Name, The Narcissistic/Apolitical Social and Cultural Visionary of Sining Collective, PAPEL, Dakila, Para Sa Sining, PLUS: The Art Collective, and the Rianism, Dictator of BAON Collective, King of the Planet Stardust and the Last Men, Lord of the Coffeeway Galaxy, and not a Protector of the Realm is just your normal, everyday stupid and "not so good looking-slash-unpaid-slash-exploited-slash-we'll keep you in touch but still waiting" theater and film actor, pretentious filmmaker; frustrated writer, musician and spoken word artist attempting to feed his family of one while making a living as a social climber homo sapiens. Or bumalik na lang sa pangangalakal ng basura at sa mga tropang nagnanakaw ng bakal sa pabrika ng mga intsik sa Malabon, kung saan hindi kailangan magpanggap na burgis at matalino; mas sure pang may pambili ng bigas at fish fillet de el niño.

Kaya lang naman nasali si DON VIRROTIO VILLASIN sa mga literary circles at writing workshops ay dahil sa mahilig siyang mag-name drop ng mga high-brow writers at artists in every 1 or 2 sentences e. Something like, "Uy, your poem has the tempered language of Szymborzka, but retains the density of Ginsberg" something-something to that effect. Nagpapalibre ng beer kapag may mga event, tapos makikipag-diskusyon tungkol sa philosophy na nakuha lang naman niya sa pagbabasa ng Sophie's World at pag-follow sa mga philo memes sa Facebook (it should also be noted na nalalaman niya lang ang ibig sabihin dahil sa mga Captain sa comments section).

Nakapaglimbag na siya ng dalawang libro noon, kaso ngayon yung publisher niya ay nag-focus na sa paglilimbag ng mga wattpad works at pagsasa-nobela ng mga pelikula. Kaya nauwi na lang siya sa pagpapa-xerox ng mga zines niya at ibebenta sa mga convention tapos icu-curate niya as art form. Marami pa siyang stock sa kanyang kwarto kasi kaunti lang ang bumibili.

As of this writing, hindi pa niya nakukuha ang bayad sa librong inedit para sa isang major publishing house. Inedit niya ang libro nung September.

He believes that he is ahead of his time while behind everything else. A distinction without a difference. Plagiarized quote yan.

Si BALASANG ay isang birheng pokpok na gabi-gabi kinakantot ng mga tulang hindi niya maisulat. Mahilig si balasang sa mga hindi tapos/hindi tinapos na akda at mga porn site (na ngayo'y banned na) sa tumblr.

Kung totoo ang usapan, si balasang ay isang struggling na estudyante (na hindi literature/creative writing ang major) na hindi matapus-tapos ang thesis (na wala ring kalamayan sa literature/creative writing). Mayabang siya sa mga normal na panahon, pero kailangan niya ngayon ng pera. Bigyan niyo ng pera si balasang.

lielow na tibak at tambay sa sariling bahay si C. feeling niya ay wala na siyang ibang choice sa kasalukuyan kung di maging isang mabuting peti-burgis na mamamayan. madalas niyang kumbinsihin ang sariling magandang material ang mga shit na desisyon niya sa buhay kaya madalas din siyang magkunwaring manunulat.

Si X ay sawa na sa mga bionote na nasa 3rd Person POV. Kaya susubukan kong mag-1st Person POV. Paborito kong mag-almusal ng pandesal at kape habang nagbabasa ng rejection letters. If my memory serves me right, may ilan na ring akong publikasyon, workshops at award mula sa mga nakasusukang literary hegemony sa Pilipinas. Nagpasa ako sa mga ito kasi, bata pa ako noon at nagkakamali rin. Hindi ako magso-sorry kahit kanino! I'm young back then, I need validation. Ha ha ha.

Sa kabutihang palad, hindi pa naman ako karerista at oportunistang tarantado na astang 'actual poet/writer' at ginagamit ang anumang adhikaing makabayan bilang pronta ng pagsusulong sa sarili. Exhausting talaga mag-1st Person POV kaya try ko rin mag-2nd Person POV. Kaya ikaw, kung ako sa iyo, huwag kang papasilaw sa awards-awards na yan. Hindi yan ang simula at katapusan ng pangarap mo. Gusto mo ba, Hall of Famer ka na pero sumasali ka pa rin at nananalo sa Palanca, made ka na pero gago ka? Delikadesa naman, tangina mo! Gatekeepers' mudderpackers!

Dagdag lang: Colmenares for Senator!

Hindi po SIYA nakapagtapos ng kursong Malikhaing Pagsulat. Sa katunayan, hindi po siya nakapagtapos ng kolehiyo. Pumasok po siyang iskolar at lumisan bilang dropout. Sa pagnanais niyang maging isang serious writer, inilako po niya ang kaniyang mga tula at sanaysay sa kung anu-anong palihan. Ngunit, hindi rin siya pinalad na maging token fellow from the regions. Hindi po siya nanalo bilang "Labing Masaarong Bag-ong Magsusulat sa Bisaya" na iginagawad ng Bisaya Magasin. Iisang tula lang po yata ang isinumite niya. Napatalsik po siya bilang miyembro ng organisasyong siya mismo ang nagtaguyod dahil nag-AWOL po siya. Kasalukuyan po siyang nagtatrabaho bilang manunulat ng isang BPO company. Tumatanggap pala sila ng dropout basta makapasa sa rekisitos: cheap labor.

NT hates people; at sa temporeong mundo na ito ng sining, huli na nang natuklasan niyang di naman pala talino at husay ang palaging kailangan upang maging isang established na artist. Kailangan lang alam mo kung kani-kanino ka lalapit, kakalabit: kanino magpapachups, magpaporjack. Sa daigdig na ito, mas makapangyarihan ang mga linta kaysa sa sadyang magaling. So papaano na tayo ngayon, beshiecake? Paano natin maisusulong ang mga sari-sarili nating sining kung ganoon?

PETER MUTUC didn't not finish his journalism degree so he could anonymously write thousands of pages of web content, he didn't do it so he could pursue but also not finish his fine arts degree. When he's not spending time not taking his job seriously, he doesn't enjoy no longer being able to take long bike rides with his dog Berting Labra, a huge and hilarious black lab who doesn't live with him anymore.

Si BEBANG SY ay ay isang nanay, pero wala na siyang oras sa pamilya dahil kailangan niyang magtrabaho nang higit pa sa nararapat na oras sa laksa-laksang gawain sa trabahong gobyerno. What keeps her sane ay ang pagsusulat habang siya ay nasa opisina. Kaya puro nega tuloy ang naisusulat niya lately. Ganoon karami ang nega sa work place niya. Pero, wala, e, kailangan niyang magsulat, working for buwanang sahod and working for this fucked up government are life, but writing is lifer. Kung hindi siya magsusulat, baka bigla na lang siyang mamatay. Brain dead ba. Di puwede. Kawawa naman ang mga anak niya, dalawa sa tatlo, ang liit pa. More written rant ba kamo? Visit www.babe-ang.blogspot.com.

KELLY RAMOS is an artist and a writer but not at all a graduate of the University of the Philippines in Diliman where she studied. She is an art school dropout.

Oftentimes mistaken as an academic and a university professor. Sometimes asked to apply for positions at institutions that then require fancy diplomas which she doesn't have.

Mamamatay na si AMAVI SAUDADE, ang alter ego ni MARIA VILMA ESTRELLADO na tinatawag niyang “pen name”, pero umaalingasaw pa rin ang taeng binulwak niya sa maikling panahon ng kanyang buhay. May sariling blog pero hindi na mabuksan dahil sa sariling katangahan. May website na hindi na magawang bayaran kaya ayun, dead link na lang. Ilang beses “nagtanghal” na nilangaw din naman. Nakasali sa Theater Festival na taehan ng mga burgis para lang taihan uli. Buong buhay niya bilang “manunulat” ay TAE. Kaya sinisikap niyang baguhin ang tae sa pamamagitan ng pagbuhay sa isang panibagong tae sa mundo: si HIRAYA MARQUESES.

Ngayon ang aabangan na lang ay kung mahuhuli siya at makakatagal dahil napag-alamang may sikretong pagkatao ang napili niyang lalangin sa mundo.

Hall of Famer na sa pagiging talunan sa mga contest ng pagsulat ng sanaysay at tula si **ROMMEL A. PAMAOS** simula elementary hanggang kolehiyo. Hindi siya fellow ng national workshops at ang mga akda niya ay hindi rin nailathala sa iba-ibang journals. Test papers lang ang published works niya. Kahit ang mga estudyante niya, hindi siya binabasa.

Hindi nailalathala sa mga antolohiya ang mga pinapasang akda ni ANSHERINA MAY D. JAZUL kaya naman nag-publish na lang siya ng mga gawa niya sa kanyang Facebook. Naisip din niyang gumawa na lang ng sariling writing contest dahil hindi naman siya nananalo sa mga patimpalak. Napuno na rin niya ang kalendaryo ng mga deadline ng writing workshop pero parang walang gustong tumanggap ng mga sulat niya. Ang sabi niya, ipagpapatuloy na lang niya ang pagtuturo dahil mga estudyante lang naman niya ang naniniwala sa mga kwento niya.

Si TINAY ay isang nanay na nagtatrabaho bilang guro sa pampublikong paaralan. Madalas ay hindi na sya nagiging nanay sa kanyang munting anak dahil sa rami ng kanyang gawain sa paaralan. Mahilig syang magsulat ng mga tula at sanaysay bilang pantanggal stress na pinopost nya sa kanyang mga social media accounts. Walang naglalike ng kanyang mga gawa. Hindi na sya ulit nagsulat.

RAINCE believes herself to be a writer but she does not believe in anything she writes. She fails to identify with the words she has written for she finds them too distant from her thoughts. She will never admit that a thesaurus lies defeated beside her, its pages cut with neon yellow and coffee stains. Like all defense mechanisms, she does not cry at the mere illusion of creativity; and she does not laugh at the solid mockery of pretentiousness. Despite her lack of trust, she firmly holds the pen and begs it to bleed just the right words~ right enough for the warrior beside her to constantly plaster with an epigraph that says she tries too hard.

Hindi na yata makakapagtapos ng kahit anong kurso si J. Walong taon na nung nagdesisyon siyang mag "soul searching" sa Norte. Hindi na natupad yung sinabi niyang magiging magandang writing experience ito. Dahil pag uwi niya 5 years ago tumigil na siyang magsulat. Kasalukuyan siyang naghahanap ng kahit anong raket dahil natanggal siya sa trabaho.

Sa tingin ni J hindi na niya makukuha ang sea legs niya in this wild wild world. Hindi man magkamit si J ng mga awards at pagkilala, consistent naman siyang nakakapag ipon ng birth certificate. leche.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.

Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works

We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and
for textual explorations.

Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.
Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.

Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works

We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.
Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.
Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.

Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works

We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.
Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.
Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Pedantic Pedestrians is a writing group and platform
for textual explorations.
Our work can be accessed at
pedanticpedestrians.wixsite.com/works
We're on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

