

CONTRIBUTORS

Benn Adriatico, armed with only an AB Mass Communication and three years' experience as information editor at the then Ministry of Education and Culture under the Marcos regime, went for the green-pasture cliche in Denmark in the late 1970s, ending up to work in a travel agency. As typical immigrant, he has tried all sorts of service jobs: clerical, academic and menial like waiting in restaurants and cleaning offices and self-employment. Editor of community publications in Denmark, Benn is one of the opinion leaders of the Filipino community in Copenhagen and a credible social critic. To his "fans," Benn is an experience.

Gene Alcantara is the editor of *EuroFilipino Journal*, a London-based newsmag, and is a correspondent for ABS-CBN The Filipino Channel's *Balitang Europe*. He has been involved with various community publications in the UK since he arrived in the early 1980s such as *Tapayan*, *Bangka*, *Kumusta*, *The Filipino and Philippine Express International*. He speaks Russian and enjoys reading and writing essays, poetry, short stories and translations. Apart from his literary endeavours, he has the distinction of being the only British-Filipino to run for local government office (Westminster, 1997) and for a seat in the British Parliament (West Ham, 2005). He has a BA in Russian Studies and PGDip in East-West Trade from the University of Westminster, an MBA from Oxford Brookes University, and a Certificate in Employment Law from the College of North East London. He worked for the British Council for 21 years in various capacities, including stints in Prague and Warsaw. He now works as an independent Immigration Adviser, registered with the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC). He lives in central London with his spouse Carmila Legarda and daughter Melissa, with another daughter in Edinburgh and a son in Manila.

Ildefonso F. Bagasao is a product of the Ateneo Law School. He hurdled the Philippine bar in 1970, and has, to date, some 35 years of immigration law experience. He spent 12 years with the Philippine Bureau of Immigration as Chief of Investigation and Research. In 1981, he joined the Quasha Asperilla Ancheta and Nolasco Law Firm, eventually becoming partner until his retirement in 1996. During this time, he co-founded and became president of the Immigration Lawyers Association of the Philippines. He co-chaired the Geneva Forum for Philippine Concerns, and was board member of the Commission on Filipino Migrant Workers in Geneva,

Switzerland from 1996 to 2004 when he was a resident. In 1999, he co-founded the Economic Resource Center for Overseas Filipinos (ERCOF), which now has a presence in Switzerland, the Benelux countries, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, US, and the Philippines where Mr. Bagasao sits as current chair. ERCOF Philippines operates projects such as ongoing savings and investment programs in microfinance, etc., for Filipino migrants, and is a regular resource organisation of the BSP Financial Literacy Campaign for OFWs and their families. Mr. Bagasao has presented papers in various national and international conferences on migration, remittances and development convened by the AIM Policy Center, Commission on Filipinos Overseas, the Ateneo Center for Social Policy, World Bank, the DFID, ADB, MIT and APEC. He was also consultant to the ILO and served as Lead Consultant for the 2004 ADB study on Enhancing the Efficiency of Remittances for Overseas Filipino Workers. He chairs the Institute for Migration and Development Issues, a think-tank organisation based in the Philippines.

Charito Basa has a BA Economics from the Philippine Women's University. She came to Rome in 1986 to work as a domestic helper, and soon found work with Isis International. There, she became interested in issues related to Filipina migrant workers in Italy and founded the Filipino Women's Council. She became a major spokesperson on migrant issues in Italy. In 2002 she was awarded the honorary title of Cavaliere della Repubblica by Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi for her advocacy work. She has worked with many Italian and international organisations and among her latest affiliations as researcher-consultant are: UN-INSTRAW; Mama Cash Foundation; FAO Livelihood Support Programme, at Università Roma Tre, ("Networking among Migrant and Native Women in Europe"). As Project and Research Coordinator for the Filipino Women's Council's and EU's EQUAL research project, entitled "Image of Migrants in Italy through Media, Civil Society and the Labour Market," she co-wrote the report entitled "Me, Us and Them: Realities and Illusions of the Filipina Domestic Workers," which has been abridged for inclusion in the current volume.

Maria Ophelia Butalid-Echaves was born in Cebu City in 1957. She studied at the University of the Philippines from 1974 to 1980 and has since earned a Master's degree in Child and Youth Psychology and Crosscultural Psychology, from the University of Tilburg, The Netherlands. She has been doing social work among disadvantaged families and with refugees from Sierra Leone in the Tilburg community. She has worked as staffer for *Tinig Pilipino*, a publication for the Filipino community in The Netherlands.

She was Chairperson of the Board of Bayanihan Foundation, Centre for Philippine Women in The Netherlands from 2000 to 2005. At present, she is Coordinator at the Centre for Women and Children, as well as case manager of Bureau for Youth Care, both in Tilburg. Since 2003 she has been City Councilor of Tilburg, The Netherlands.

Fr. Roel Castañeda was born in Carmona, Cavite. He was ordained into the priesthood on 12 December 1991. He earned his AB in Philosophy and Theology from the Divine Word School of Theology. He later earned another degree, BS Theology at the Pontifical Urbanian University in Rome. His Licenciate in Canon Law was earned from the University of Navarre in Pamplona. Fr. Roel has been the Rector at the Filipino Personal Parish in Barcelona, Spain.

Basco Fernandez started his field work as a sociology major at the University of San Carlos in 1978 evaluating family planning methodologies in Bantayan Island, Cebu. He became a proponent in community- and action research within the NGO community in the Philippines. Coming over to The Netherlands, he spearheaded the Federation of Filipinos' five city consultations in 1997 and wrote his masters thesis on "Transnational Agency Formation: The Philippine Migration Experience of the 1990s." After finishing his MA in International Relations and Public Policy, he pioneered the field research in Rotterdam to evaluate the working conditions of Filipino seafarers on board Dutch ships upon the request of Philippine labour advocates. He continues to be involved in maritime policy advocacy in the Philippines, updating research with upcoming economic studies and via regular field visits to maritime partners in the Philippines. He is now busy taking his second Master's degree in Technology Applications for Education and Training at the University of Twente, The Netherlands.

Eric Gutierrez moved to Europe in 1998, living in Germany and then in London. In 2003, he moved with his young family to Africa, first living in Malawi, and now in South Africa. When asked where he lives now, he points to his suitcase as his 'permanent address.' Eric Gutierrez works as International Policy Coordinator for the aid agency Action Aid (www.actionaid.org).

Nonoi Hacbang is currently Director of the Commission for Filipino Migrant Workers (CFMW) based in The Netherlands and is spokesperson for Council of the Platform of Filipino Migrant Organisations in Europe. He has also worked with and is currently a Board Member of the Philippine Seafarers Assistance Programme (PSAP). Formerly he was Vicar General

of the Diocese of Calbayog, Samar and was involved in Social Action and Human Rights movement during the Marcos period. He was placed under an arrest order by the Marcos dictatorship and came to The Netherlands as a political refugee in 1984.

Marylou U. Hardillo-Werning freelances in between her itinerant schedule: publications, teaching, cultural blogging, translation and advocacy work for migrant women. She studied ethnology, sociology and English literature at the University of Muenster. She co-founded the Philippine Women's Forum and worked as Chairperson of Babaylan, the Philippine Women's Network in Europe from 2001 to 2004. She co-authored the book, *Philippinen, Paradies in Aufruhr, Berlin* and *Verhalten aus den Philippinen* and edited the book *Trans-Euro-Express, Filipinas in Europe*. She teaches English, Pilipino and Landeskunde in Inwent (International Capacity Building and Development).

Anny Misa Hefti has lived in Switzerland for 30 years. After earning her BA in Psychology from the U.P. Diliman, her two masteral degrees (MA Guidance and Counseling from University of San Carlos, Cebu City; and MA in Counseling Psychology from Chapman University, Orange, California, USA), she continued with post graduate seminars in Switzerland on systemic family therapy and brief counseling. She is a member of the Federation of Swiss Psychologists; is active in women's and migrant issues in Switzerland; was an NGO delegate to the UN World Women's Congress in 1995 in Beijing/Huairou. She continues to facilitate workshops on women empowerment; and is a member of various national commissions/committees. She also has worked as counselor for foreign women, and coordinator of a Migrant Integration Centre in Berne.

Sister Victoria Joson, RGS, served as Pastoral Worker for migrants in Paris, France from 1991 to 1997; Genoa and Milan, Italy 2000-2003; Barcelona, Spain, March-September, 2003. She earned her Bachelor of Arts at the University of the Philippines. She majored in Interior Decoration at the New York School of Interior Design and has residential education with the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in England.

Fe Jusay is currently Coordinator of the Women's Programme of the Commission for Filipino Migrant Workers (CFMW) based in The Netherlands and also coordinates the RESPECT Europewide campaign on Rights for Migrant Domestic Workers (MDWs). She has worked for a number of years with the Stichting Tegen Vrouwenhandel (STV), the Dutch-based Foundation against Trafficking in

Women. She is a teacher by profession and was also involved in the Justice and Peace Movement in Lanao Norte, Mindanao. She had to seek asylum in The Netherlands as a political refugee during the period of the Marcos dictatorship.

Roos Krootjes is Dutch-born and her one-month study on onboard conditions in two Dutch ships and four months fieldwork in the Philippines were conducted in pursuit of her Cultural Anthropology Master of Science degree from the University of Utrecht. As a daughter of a Dutch merchant marine captain, she felt the industry deserved more attention from policy makers and researchers.

Cristina M. Liamzon has been involved for over 25 years on issues of agrarian reform and rural development, food security, gender and development, local economic development, civil society organisations (CSOs) and networking and since the mid-1990s, migrant concerns. She currently works as a development consultant with international CSOs and UN agencies, among others on project formulation, evaluation and strategic planning. She is also the president of Associazione Pilipinas OFSPES (Overseas Filipinos Society for the Promotion of Economic Security), an NGO which focuses on the socio-economic and cultural empowerment of overseas Filipinos in Italy. She is likewise co-director of the Family Ministry of the Sentro Pilipino Catholic Chaplaincy in Rome. She has a PhD in Social Science from the Pontificia Universita Gregoriana (PUG) in Rome, an MPA from Harvard University in Cambridge, an MSc in Human Settlements Planning from the Asian Institute Technology (AIT) in Bangkok and a BA in Economics from the University of the Philippines. She has been living in Rome, Italy since 1990.

Filomenita Mongaya-Högsholm earned her BA in Journalism at the University of the Philippines (IMC, 1967) and her MSc in TV-Radio and Film from Syracuse University (Newhouse School of Communications, New York, USA, 1970). She has lived in Europe for the last three decades straddling jobs as journalist, editor, documentary film maker and lecturer focused on human rights, gender and ethnic equality; while also engaging in advocacy work and networking on anti-discrimination, integration and migration issues. Awarded the Grassroots Foundation Award for the magazine *Soldue*, she has edited Philippine conference proceedings on migration, development, peace, among others, and spearheaded the participation of Denmark's migrant women at such milestones as the UN Social Summit (Copenhagen), UN Women Conference (Beijing) the Nordic Women's Forums (Norway and Finland). A founding member of Babaylan Europe

(1992), she later cofounded Babaylan Denmark in 1997 and its quarterly publication, *Abakada* (2001). Ms. Högsholm was elected President of the Black Women and Europe Network in 1996, and anno 2007, has just been elected to the Board of KULU, the only women and development NGO in Denmark. In 2002, she acquired a Diplomate in Adult Education Paedagogics from the Copenhagen Teachers' Seminarium.

Maria Thelma Noval-Jezewski left the Philippines in 1971, after studies in St. Theresa's College (Cebu), Asian Social Institute (Manila) and a short stint as City sociologist of Cebu City. She stayed in England up to 1975, when she finally chose to settle in Paris, and became active in the Paris Philippine community, mostly as part of her involvement in the association Babaylan, Femmes Philippines en France (Philippine women in France).

Diana Oosterbeek-Latoza earned her BA major in English (magna cum laude) and BS major in English, minor in History from the University of Iloilo, and MA studies in Teaching English as a Second Language. She has been a researcher for various projects on migrant women in Europe, (e.g., Migrants and Natives: Networks of Experience; Networks of Welcome (Networking and Good Practices); Bayanihan's Lobby Work on Filipina Au Pairs in 2003-2004; and has inputted into an Expert Meeting on the topic "Au pairs in The Netherlands in preparation for the United Nations Report Meeting 2004." She was a member of the Supervisory Committee Research on Au Pairs, Scientific Research and Documentation Centre, Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands in 2003. She is a co-founder of Bayanihan Foundation, The Philippine Women Centre in The Netherlands; *Diwang Pilipina*, a network of Philippine women organisations and individuals in The Netherlands. She was a member of the Executive Committee of Babaylan, Philippine Women's Network in Europe from 1998 to 2004. Currently, she is a social cultural worker with Bayanihan Foundation, Philippine Women's Centre in The Netherlands while trying to finish her studies at the Institute for Social Work in Utrecht.

Jeremiaiah M. Opiniano is Executive Director of the Institute for Migration and Development Issues (IMDI, www.filipinodiasporagiving.org), a three-year-old nonprofit think-tank that does research, advocacy and development journalism on international migration and development issues in the Philippines. He was technical editor of a forthcoming report by the Commission on Population, the *Fourth State of the Philippine Population Report*.

Malu Padilla has been active in Europe-Philippine solidarity and development work for almost three decades. In the early 1980s, she co-

founded Alay sa Bayan, a cultural group which pioneered in using dances, songs and theatre in doing educational work among the Dutch public on Philippine issues. From 1991 until 1997, she served as Executive Director of the KSP-Philippine-European Solidarity Center, established to facilitate people-to-people solidarity linkages between Philippine people's organisations and NGOs and their European counterparts. She became involved in Philippine women migrant issues in the early 1990s and served as Chairperson of Babaylan Philippine Women's Network in Europe from 1994 to 1998. She is co-founder of *Diwang Pilipina*, the Babaylan network in The Netherlands. Since 2000, Malu Padilla has been the coordinator of Bayanihan Philippine Women's Centre in The Netherlands based in Utrecht. She is currently a member of the Interim Executive Committee of Babaylan and sits in the steering committee of the European Feminist Forum. Most recently, she started working at the Global Society Foundation, an organisation of and for refugees in The Netherlands. Malu Padilla finished her BS in Industrial and Management Engineering at Adamson University.

Nathan F. Quimpo is currently Associate Professor in politics and international relations for the Doctoral Program in International Political Economy at the University of Tsukuba (Japan). He was an Assistant Professor in political science and sociology at the University of the Philippines, and then a lecturer in international relations at the University of Amsterdam. He finished his PhD in Political Science and International Relations at the Australian National University. Prior to his academic career, Nathan was a long-time political activist in the Philippines, spending seven years in the southern Philippines. He has contributed extensively to books and journals on politics, human rights, democracy, security and peace issues in several countries in the Asian region. He is preparing *Contested Democracy and the Left in the Philippines after Marcos* (New Haven: Yale University Southeast Asia Studies) for publication in 2007.

Rosalud de la Rosa was born and raised in Manila. Living in New York for 16 years, she has worked with the UN and received her Master's Degree in Public Health from Columbia University. She currently resides in Rome where she works as a gender and rural development consultant for UN Rome-based agencies. She has worked with a wide variety of international organisations on diverse development issues (i.e., agenda of the global summits of the UN). She has been in the forefront in advocating women's rights related to sustainable development, migration, reproductive health and access to land and water, particularly in the African and Asian region. Deeply involved in supporting participatory research, policy participation,

coalition-building, and engaging diverse stakeholders to work together on the implementation of joint programs, she has designed and coordinated several global and grassroots collaborative programs. She is the founding chairperson of Women Organising for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (WOCAN); a member of the International Board of Directors of Environment Liaison Center International (ELCI/Kenya); the International Steering Committee on Global Governance of the World Civil Society Conference Follow-Up (Canada and Switzerland); and the Executive Council and Research Trainer of the Filipino Women's Council (Italy).

Joyce del Rosario obtained her BA in Art History from the Santa Clara University, California U.S.A in 1983 and completed her MA in Management and Information at the Institute of Development Policy and Management (IDPM), University of Manchester, UK in 2001, focusing on information needs and role of ICTs among marginalised groups. For the last 15 years, she has continued to be an active member of the Samahan ng Mga Manggagawang Pilipino sa Belgium, a 24 year-old migrant Filipino workers' association in Belgium. Her work experience has been in the non-profit sector, mostly international nongovernmental development agencies. Last year, she joined a polling and research organisation in Brussels as Project Manager.

Sally Rousset left the Philippines in 1980 and presently lives in France. She is a member of Babaylan-femmes Philippines en France and currently works at the Centre International Lebret-Irfed in Paris.

Jun Terra studied BA in English and Comparative Literature at the University of the Philippines, and became features and literary editor of the *Philippine Collegian*. Author of the book *Juan Luna Drawings, Paris Period (in the collection of Dr. Eleuterio Pascual)*, Jun Terra has also edited various Filipino community papers and glossy magazines published in London which include the following: *The Filipino, Filipinos Abroad, Philippine Express International*. Currently he is the feature editor of the *Euro-Filipino Journal*. As art historian, he is a member of ICOM (International Council of Museums) based at UNESCO in Paris, France. He has lectured on art and Philippine affairs at the Slade School of Fine Arts, University College, London; School of Oriental and African Studies, London; School of Epistemics, Edinburgh University; City Literary Institute, London. He has also published articles on art and politics in: *The Third Text, London; Les Temps Modernes* (edited by Jean Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir and Claude Lanzmann), Paris; and also in *Eastern Horizon*, Hong Kong.

Dennis Nonato C. Yaun was born in Mandaue, Cebu and settled in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as a naturalised Belgian citizen. He has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering degree from University of San Carlos, Cebu and a B.A. Psychology from De La Salle University. After finishing his Theology degree from Maryhill School of Theology in the Philippines, he earned his Masters degree in Development Management at the Asian Institute of Management. In the late 1980s, he served as missionary in Dakar, Senegal. From 1992 to 1998, he was Assistant to the Secretary General, Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité (CIDSE), Brussels, Belgium. He has had short consultancies in the Philippines before assuming his current post as Assistant Advisor at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NGDOs of Luxembourg on development programs in the South. In his spare time, he works with an NGO of Europeans and Migrant Filipinos which supports microfinance, microenterprise and cooperative sectors by mobilising investments and donations in Luxembourg. He has served as President-auditor of Damayan Luxembourg, and has been Luxembourg and Belgium's focal person for the Economic Resource Center for Overseas Filipinos (ERCOF) since May 2002. He has been speaker at various conferences and was recently the principal speaker during "Philippines: Quelle Voie de Développement à Suivre" given at the Université de Notre Dame de la Paix, Namur, Belgium.

Teresita Zurbano-Ruutu was born on 29 November 1948 in Daet, Camarines Norte. She currently lives in Vantaa, Finland with her Filipino-Danish family. She currently works with the National Opera of Finland Ballet Academy with which she has been connected since 1986. She was Founding chairman and currently Cultural Coordinator of the Finnish-Philippine Association. Also, she was musical director and choreographer of Pagdiriwang Cultural group in Helsinki. She sat as board member of UNIFEM (Vantaa chapter), of MONIKA (a multicultural's women's helpline group), and of KASSANDRA (a multicultural women's artists group). She has been speaker at among others, ECOFIL (European Conference of Filipino Organisations), Pulong ng Bayan in Oslo (Conference of Filipino Organisations in the Nordic countries), and has represented Finnish immigrants in the EU Migrants' Forum. Of humanitarian deeds awards, Tessie has been awarded the Vuoden Kellokas 1995 (Bell Bearer of the Year) given by the Finnish Female Reporters' Association. She also received The Shelter Deed Award 1995 from the Shelter Homes Association of Greater Helsinki.