

ROBERT HENRY MOSER
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EDUCATION

Brown University (Providence, RI)

Ph.D.	Portuguese and Brazilian Studies	May 2002
M.A.	English as a Second Language and Cross-Cultural Studies	May 1996

University of California, Berkeley (Berkeley, CA)

B.A.	Comparative Literature (English/Luso-Brazilian)	May 1991
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DISSERTATION

“O Defunto Carnavalesco: Death and the Dead in Modern Brazilian Literature”

This dissertation explores the emergence of a specific motif in modern Brazilian fiction, namely that of a deceased character (or narrator) who returns from the dead and interacts with the living. I examine the form and function of this motif in Machado de Assis's *Memórias Póstumas de Brás Cubas*, Jorge Amado's *Dona Flor e seus Dois Maridos* and *A Morte e a Morte de Quincas Berro D'água*, and Érico Veríssimo's *Incidente em Antares*. Part Menippus and part *malandro*, the *defunto* serves to expose underlying social fissures in Brazilian history and, by adopting a carnivalesque form, (in the sense proposed by Mikhail Bakhtin) calls attention to the social order or institution responsible for the existing crisis. Incorporating elements of both a celestial advocate and an untrustworthy specter, *o defunto carnavalesco*, I argue, also serves as an analogy for one of modern Brazil's greatest dilemmas: reconciling the past with the present.

Advisor: Nelson H. Vieira

Readers: Luiz F. Valente, George Monteiro

SPECIALIZATIONS

Brazilian Literature; Portuguese and Lusophone African Literatures; Education in the Lusophone World

TEACHING COMPETENCIES

Brazilian Literature and Society; Portuguese Literature and Society; Literature of the Lusophone World; Portuguese Language; Education in the Lusophone World; Comparative Education; Latin American Literature

PUBLICATIONS

- November 2002 "A Busca de Adélia: Narrativa Póstuma em *Testamento do Senhor Napumoceno da Silva Araújo* de Germano Almeida." *Portuguese Literary & Cultural Studies*, UMass-Dartmouth, N.º 8. (in press).
- October 2002 "The Carnavalesque *Defunto*: Death and the Dead in Modern Brazilian Literature," in *Representations of the Dead: Images Corporeus from the Early Modern to Contemporary Moment*, ed. Elizabeth Klaver (publication forthcoming by The University of Wisconsin Press).
- September 2002 Book Review of *A Master on the Periphery of Capitalism* by Roberto Schwarz. *Hispania*, September Issue (in press).
- January 2002 "A Morte em Ação – A Morte e os Mortos em *Memórias Póstumas de Brás Cubas* de Machado de Assis," *Encruzilhadas/Crossroads*, N.º 6, Winter 2001, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA (in press).
- December 2000 "The Diary of an Anonymous Portuguese Cartographer in Dieppe, France in the mid-16th Century." *Gávea-Brown*, Vol. 21.
- August 2000 "O Contributo de Jaime Cortesão para a História da Cartografia no Brasil." *Leituras: Revista da Biblioteca Nacional*, Lisboa, N.º 6, Primavera 2000, 237-262.
- December 1999 Book Reviews of *I'm Going to Have a Little House: the Second Diary of Carolina Maria de Jesus* and *The Unedited Diaries of Carolina Maria de Jesus. Brasil/Brazil*. Volume 22, 1999. (Journal published by Brown University and PUC – Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil) 146-152.

PRESENTATIONS

- July 2002 "Deceased Narration and Machado de Assis," AATSP Annual Meeting, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (also chaired APSA session entitled "Re-examinations of National/Colonial Identity").
- April 2000 "A Morte em Ação – A Morte e os Mortos em *Memórias Póstumas de Brás Cubas* de Machado de Assis," XXIII Symposium on Portuguese Traditions, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.
- February 2000 "Algumas Reflexões sobre a Lusofonia no Contexto da Educação Comparada," III Congresso Luso-Brasileiro – História da Educação: Escolas, culturas e identidades, Coimbra University, Portugal.
- July 1998 "Personal Reflections on Second Language Acquisition," 38th Seminar for EFL Teachers – ACBEU (Associação Cultural Brasil-Estados Unidos), Salvador, Brazil.
- May 1998 "The Contribution of Jaime Cortesão to the History of Cartography in Brazil," *The Evolution of the Portuguese Atlantic: Quincentenary Reflections*,

1498-1998, Program in the Carolina Lowcountry and the Atlantic World,
College of Charleston, Charleston, SC.

- March 1998 Panelist in Roundtable Discussion on Jorge de Sena entitled "Variações Sobre o Peixe-Pato: as Relações entre Poesia, Prosa e Crítica." *APSA (American Portuguese Studies Association)*, Yale University, New Haven, CT.
- March 1998 "Vestido de Luto: Death and Theater in the World of Nelson Rodrigues," *4th Annual Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- May 1997 "Shakespeare Visto por Fernando Pessoa: Autor 'daquilo de que os sonhos são feitos,'" *Graduate Student Conference "New Readings of Hispanic Literatures,"* The Dept. of Hispanic Studies, Brown University, RI.
- March 1997 "Terra Sonâmbula by Mia Couto: Manifestations of an African 'Odyssey' from Post-Colonial Mozambique," *3rd Annual Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures*, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- February 1997 "Garcia da Orta and Luso-Tropical Medicine in the Portuguese Discovery Era," *Mephistos 1997, The 16th Annual Graduate Student Conference in the Philosophy, History, and Sociology of Science, Technology, and Medicine*, University of California, Los Angeles, CA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia
Fall 2002

Assistant Professor of Portuguese & Brazilian Literature, Culture & Language, Department of Romance Languages.

Harvard University
Fall 2001

Teaching Assistant, PortA: Intensive Elementary Portuguese. Instructor at Dept. of Romance Languages and Literatures. Teach fundamental communication skills and introduce students to Luso-Brazilian cultures. Course continues into Spring 2002.

UMass-Dartmouth
Summer 2001

Instructor, Summer Program in Portuguese. Taught intensive introductory level and intermediate level language courses.

Brown University
Fall 2000

Co-Instructor, PB61: Modern Brazilian Literature and Society. (w/N. Vieira) Presented advanced subject material and led class discussions.

Spring 2000

Teaching Fellow, PB40: Writing and Speaking Portuguese. Instructor. Responsible for all aspects of Intermediate level language course.

Fall 1999

Teaching Fellow, PB11: Intensive Portuguese. Co-Instructor for highly intensive introductory level language course. (w/ L. Valente)

- Spring 1999 **Co-Instructor**, PB160(17): Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Education: Education and the Portuguese-Speaking World (w/ A. Becker). Created, prepared and taught new, upper-level course. Developed course syllabus and reader. Presented lectures. Advised students. Graded written and oral presentations. Organized lecture-series in conjunction with course.
- Spring 1999 **Teaching Assistant**, PB19: Writing and Speaking Portuguese. Instructor. (See PB40)
- Fall 1998 **Teaching Assistant**, PB10: Intensive Portuguese. Co-Instructor. (See PB11)
- Spring 1999 **Awarded** Sheridan Teaching Certificate from The Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning in higher education, Brown University.
- Summer 1995, 1994 **Instructor**, Brown University's Summer Intensive EFL (English as a Foreign Language) Program. Taught English to intermediate level students. Completed teacher training and pedagogical program.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- Spring 2002 **The 2002 Joukowsky Outstanding Dissertation Award in the Humanities at Brown University.**
- 2000-2001 **R & E Salomon Dissertation Writing Fellowship**
- Summer 2000 **Joukowsky Summer Research Fund**
Developed music-based curricular material for Portuguese language course.
- Summer 1998 **FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Study) Fellowship.**
Used for study in Salvador, Brazil. Conducted research on Brazilian educational system. Visited community based schools and interviewed educators.
- 1997-1998 **FLAS Fellowship** for academic year.
- Summer 1997 **Research Fellow**, National Library in Lisbon, Portugal. Sponsored by the Luso-American Foundation. Conducted research on unedited manuscripts of Portuguese historian Jaime Cortesão.

SERVICES TO BROWN UNIVERSITY

- October 2001 **Moderator** for Faculty Forum entitled "Atlantic Encounters in Literature and Society" during events for the inauguration of Ruth J. Simmons at Brown University.

- Summer 2000 **Developer** of Portuguese language curriculum based on Luso-Brazilian music, entitled "Ouvindo, Cantando e Aprendendo," for use in Brown's Portuguese program (w/ L. Valente).
- Spring 1998 **Co-Creator/Organizer** for Conference sponsored by Brown University's Department of Portuguese & Brazilian Studies. *Images of Culture Contact Across the Portuguese Speaking World: a Festival of Film and Video*. Coordinated Festival of feature films and documentaries intended to examine cultural, political and intellectual processes in the Lusophone world. Organized lectures and panels made up of scholars, film directors and members of Lusophone community.
- April 1998 **Contributor** to the organization of the 3rd Annual Graduate Student Conference, *The Sensual Text: Sense and Perception in Hispanic Literatures*, The Department of Hispanic Studies, Brown University. Moderator of session entitled "Film and Literature."
- 1996-1997 **Editorial Assistant** for the academic journal *Brasil/Brazil*. Editors: Nelson H. Vieira and Regina Zilberman. Duties include proofreading and editing of selected articles, editorial administration of journal; creation of a new data base to manage journal subscription.

OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

- August 2001 **Presenter** at 2001 Content and Immersion Summer Institute at Harvard University. Presented two lectures: "Portuguese Visionaries of the 15th & 16th Centuries" and "O Jogo de Capoeira: fight, dance and afro-brazilian history." Led workshop w/ participating public school teachers in Portuguese.
- 1999-present **Co-Editor** of book project entitled, *Imperial Lessons: Education and the Portuguese-Speaking World*. Organized volume of essays dealing with the history of education in the Lusophone world. Created publishing proposal. (Recommended for publication with Routledge Press by an external review).
- 1998-present **Researcher** for Educational Study, *Dimensão Psicossocial do Rendimento Escolar nos Alunos do 4º Ano do 1º Ciclo do Ensino Básico: Um Estudo Comparativo*. Member of research team evaluating school achievement for fourth graders in Ponta Delgada, Azores and Portuguese-American fourth graders in Fall River, MA. Conducted interviews with parents and students.
- March 1998 **Organizer and Chair** of session entitled "Portuguese and Lusophone African Literatures," *4th Annual Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 1997-1998 **Participant** in Creative Writing Seminars with writers in residence from Brazil; 4-week Seminar with Moacyr Scliar on writing "Crônicas," 4-week Seminar with Sérgio Sant'Anna on writing "O Conto," Brown Univ.

Summer 1996 **Participant**, *Seminário de Portugal, Atlântico e Açorianidade*, Universidade dos Açores. Invited by Azores Regional Government to participate in seminar aimed at promoting Azorean culture to Portuguese language instructors.

Spring 1996 **Master's Thesis**, Department of Portuguese & Brazilian Studies. Completed thesis entitled, "Beyond the *Sacred Factory of Souls: An Inquiry into the Educational Aspirations of Recent Portuguese Immigrants.*" Conducted interviews of Parents' Groups of Portuguese children attending school in East Providence, RI and Taunton, MA.

TRANSLATIONS

September 2001 Translation from Portuguese to English of "From Memory to Fiction through History," lecture scheduled to be given at N.Y. Public Library by José Saramago, winner of the 1998-99 Nobel Prize in Literature.

April 2001 Translation from Portuguese to English of "The Illusion of Democracy," the Chancellor's Distinguished Fellows Lecture given by José Saramago at University of California Irvine.

October 1999 Translation from Portuguese to English of Address given by José Saramago, at ceremony to confer the title of Doctor Honoris Causa upon him at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

October 1998 Translation from Portuguese to English of 4 articles to be included in English version of the book, *O Tempo de Vasco*, The National Commission for the Commemoration of the Portuguese Discoveries, Portugal.

Fall 1997 Translation from Portuguese to English of sections from book *Famílias Faialenses (Families of Faial)* which appeared in a series of issues of "Bulletin Board," newsjournal of the American-Portuguese Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc.

December 1996 Translation from Portuguese to English of "A Note on Maria José Ritta, First Lady of Portugal from the Office of the President of the Portuguese Republic," in preparation for the First Lady's arrival at Brown University.

OTHER ACTIVITY

1997-2001 **Instructor** of Capoeira (Brazilian martial art) class at Physical Education Dept., Brown University.

1998-1999 **Volunteer** as bilingual tutor for recent Portuguese speaking immigrant students at Nathan Bishop Middle School, Providence, RI.

1991-1992 **Expedition Coordinator**, at *New Century Conservation Trust, Inc.* for The Rio Roosevelt Expedition 1991-1992, which retraced the 1914 journey led by President Theodore Roosevelt down a remote tributary of the Amazon River in Brazil. Project goal to shed greater awareness on the region's historical

and environmental significance. Areas of responsibility included public relations, travel arrangements, media coverage, trip preparations, and interpreting.

LANGUAGES

Fluency in Portuguese

Oral and Reading Proficiency in Spanish

Reading Proficiency in Italian