



COLOMBIA: HISTORY, NARRATIVE & POETRY

ANGELA BECERRA

The renowned Colombian author and poet has been awarded the Chicago Book Festival Latin Literary Award on three occasions: in 2004 for her first novel, *De los amores negados* (2003); in 2005 for *El penúltimo sueño* (2005) and again in 2007 for *Lo que le falta al tiempo*. Her 2nd novel, *El penúltimo sueño*, was also named as the Best Colombian Novel of 2005 and was awarded the Azorín Prize. She is a regular columnist for the newspaper *ADN* and currently lives in Barcelona where she is writing her next novel.

JUAN ESTEBAN CONSTAÍN

The Colombian historian and author is Professor of Cultural History at Rosario University in Bogotá, where he also translates the Ancient Library of Latin and Greek books. He has published: *Librorum* (Latin translations); *Ideas Políticas* (intellectual and cultural history); *La formación del mundo contemporáneo* (modern history); *Los mártires* (historical fiction); *El naufragio del Imperio* (historical novel); *Las raíces de nuestras ideas* (intellectual History; a reflection on the Medieval heritage of American culture) and *La descripción del mundo contemporáneo*. He is currently working on the essay *Las esquirlas del florero* which will be published next year.

GERALD MARTIN

The British author of *Gabriel Garcia Marquez: A Life* is Andrew W. Mellon Professor Emeritus of Modern Languages at the University of Pittsburgh. Between 2000 and 2004, he was President of the International Institute of Ibero-American Literature (USA). He is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies (London), and since 1983 he has been the only English-speaking member of the Scientific Committee of the Archive of Twentieth-Century Latin American, Caribbean and African Literature based in Paris (Nanterre-CNRS) and Poitiers, and supported by UNESCO. Gerald Martin has spent the last 18 years working on his epic biography of the Colombian Nobel Prize Winner.

ANTHONY McFARLANE

The British historian is Professor of Comparative American Studies at the University of Warwick and is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He has written extensively on the history of Colombia, specifically within the context of the history of the Spanish world during the 16th and 17th centuries. Publications include: *El Reino Unido y America: La Epoca Colonial* (1992); *Colombia before Independence: Economy, Society and Politics under Bourbon Rule* (1993); *The British in the Americas, 1480-1815* (1994); and *Colombia antes de la Independencia: Economía, Sociedad y Política bajo el Dominio Borbón* (1997).

PLINIO APULEYO MENDOZA

The Colombian journalist and author won the Plaza y Janés Premio de Novela, the Spanish Literature Prize from the prestigious publishing house for his work, *Años de fuga - Years of escaping* (1979). Other works include: the book of essays, *Primeras palabras*; the short story, *El desertor* (1974); the report on Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *El olor de la guayaba, conversaciones con Gabriel Garcia Marquez* (1982); *La llama y el hielo* (1984); and *Nuestros pintores en Paris* (1990). Mendoza has been a very close personal friend of Garcia Marquez since the age of 16.

DASSO SALDÍVAR

The Colombian author is also a cultural journalist and literary critic for a diverse range of European and Latin American newspapers and magazines, such as *El Viejo Top*, *Estafeta literaria*, *El País*, *Diario16*, *Cuadernos Americanos*, *El Paseante* and *Afrique-Asie*. He has also worked as an advisor and editor of cultural programmes on Spanish Television and in 1981 he received the Juaja de Cuentos Prize. His biography of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *El viaje a la semilla* (1997), which he spent 20 years researching, has been translated into ten languages. Saldívar has also published *XIX Del Siglo XX* on Colombian 20th Century authors and their published works. He is author of the collection of poems *Voces del barro* and is currently working on two novels: *Los soles de Amalfi* and *La subasta del fuego*.