

**AIMEE SUZARA**  
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### EDUCATION

- Master of Fine Arts degree, English: Creative Writing (Poetry), Mills College (2004-2006)
- B.A. with Honors in Religious Studies; minor in Women's Studies and Creative writing, University of California, Berkeley (1994-1999)

### WRITING AWARDS, RESIDENCIES AND GRANTS

- WILLA 2015 Award Finalist for book of poetry, SOUVENIR (Word Tech Editions 2014)
- Finalist, Playwright's Foundation, Bay Area Playwrights Festival 2015 for *A History of the Body*
- Artist resident with University Dance Theater for their work, "Tiny Fires," choreographed to Suzara's poem, "Tiny Fires" (in *Souvenir*) (Spring 2015)
- Guest playwright in Theater, Dance, Performance Studies, UC Berkeley for *A History of the Body* (Spring 2015)
- Spirited Woman Fellow Awardee and Accepted Contributor, A Room of Her Own Foundation – 2015
- *YBCAway Award*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (2013-2014 season)
- Resident Writing Pool, Playground at Berkeley Repertory Theater, Seasons 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015
- Semifinalist, Playwrights Foundation, Bay Area Playwrights Festival for *A History of the Body*, 2013 and 2014
- *A History of the Body*, theater production, selected for United States of Asian America Festival; awarded East Bay Community Foundation Commission, City of Oakland Cultural Funding Program, National Endowment for the Arts and Zellerbach Foundation (2009-2012)
- Associate Artist in Residence, Atlantic Center for the Arts (2011)
- Resident Artist, Hedgebrook Residency (2009 and 2013)
- *Pagbabalik (Return)*, original multidisciplinary production Awarded Zellerbach Community Arts Grant, Gerbode Foundation in 2006 and 2007, selected for APature Asian Arts Festival and CounterPULSE's Emerging Performance Festival (2006); Artist-in-Residence to develop work with Kularts, Inc (2010); selected for *Second Sundays*, CounterPULSE (2009)
- Artist-in-Residencies w/Deep Waters Dance Theater; and Frances Sedayao; CounterPULSE, Laney College (2008)
- *Curve Magazine's* "Best Lesbian Theatre Award" to Kreatibo for the collectively-written "Dalagas and Tomboys: A Family Affair" (2004)
- Chapbook, *the space between*, nominated for California Book Award (2008)

### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND LITERARY CREDITS – Selected

#### **THEATER and CROSS-GENRE PRODUCTIONS**

- *A History of the Body* (multidisciplinary theater) production at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center (see Awards for list of sponsors and commissioners below) (2013). *A History of the Body* presented by CSUMB's World Theater, sponsored by Humanities and Communication Department, Otter Cross-Cultural Center (2013)
- **Short Plays:** "Simmering Tomatoes" selected and premiered at the Berkeley Repertory Theater for PlayGround (2013); "New Oakland" and "No One's Here," premiered at the One Minute Play Festival (2013); "Connect" premiered at the One Minute Play Festival (2012)
- *Pagbabalik (Return)* (multidisciplinary theater) production presented by Las Positas College Department of Arts and Communication and Theatre Department (2007), presented by La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley (2006), presented by Bindlestiff Studios, San Francisco (2006), featured at Kularts' "Pinay Stories," Somarts, San Francisco (2007), presented by La Pena Cultural Center (2006), selected for APature festival (Kearny Street Workshop), Intersection for the Arts, San Francisco (2006), selected for STREAMfest: Emerging Performance Festival, COUNTERpulse, SF (2006)
- **Theatre and Dance Collaborations:** with Deep Waters Dance Theater for "Our Daily Bread" (2008-2011), with Kreatibo for "Dalagas and Tomboys: A Family Affair" (2004). With Dancers Without Borders, women's dance and performance ensemble (2001-2003); with San Francisco State University Dance Theater (2015)

**PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS - selected**

- Guest Lecturer, Center for Women Writers, Salem College, North Carolina (Fall 2014)
- Featured Workshop Facilitator, *Northwest Filipino American Student Association Conference* (Spokane 2014)
- Featured Workshop Instructor and Reader for *Writer's Week*, UC Riverside (2014)
- *Race, History and the Body: Social Acts of Writing* – Moderator and Presenter, AWP (2015)
- *Social Action Writing: Our Words in the World* – Moderator and Presenter, AWP (2014)
- *Be/aring Anger: Race in the Creative Writing Classroom* - Moderator and Presenter, AWP (2013)
- *Teaching Social Action Writing and Service Learning* - Presenter, AWP (2012)
- *Meeting in the Margin: Discourses on Reading and Writing*, English Conference for Two Year Colleges (ECCTYC) - Featured Speaker, San Francisco, CA (2011)
- *Mills College Annual Professional Development Conference on Writing, Publishing, Teaching* - Presenter, Oakland, CA (2008, 2011, and 2013)
- *Indigenizing the Filipino Aesthetic* - Panelist, Kularts, Inc, San Francisco, CA (2010)
- *Marin Academy Literary Festival* - Presenter/performer, San Rafael, CA (2011 and 2009)
- *Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month* - Featured presenter/Performer, CSU Monterey Bay (2009)
- *Immigration Politics and the Body* - Panelist, Counterpulse, San Francisco, CA (2009)
- *Pilipino Cultural Night* - Keynote speaker/performer, Kaibigan at Portland State University, Portland, OR (2008)
- *Arts and Entrepreneurship* for UC Berkeley Career Day - Panelist, Berkeley, CA (2007)
- *Queer Pin@y Conference* at UC Berkeley - Keynote Speaker and Performer (2008)
- *Organizing Youth Summit (OY!)* - Presenter, Performer, San Francisco, CA (2005)

**LITERARY READINGS AND PERFORMANCES - selected**

- Featured performer, Featured Performer, Litquake at Yerba Buena Gardens Festival (May 2014)
- Featured Performer, SFJazz Poetry Festival, curated by Ishmael Reed
- “Inside the Mind of Aimee Suzara,” Guest Presenter, Fresno City College (April 2014)
- UVerse, University of Miami, Miami, FL - Featured Performer (2013)
- Utah Literary Arts Festival, Salt Lake City, UT - Featured Performer (2013)
- “In Our Nature,” Litquake Festival official literary event – Featured Reader, San Francisco, CA (2013)
- United States of Asian America Festival and Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center-sponsored reading for *Finding the Bones* (Finishing Line Press) – Performer, East Wind Books, Berkeley, CA (2013)
- “Lunada” Literary Showcase – Featured Performer, Galeria de La Raza, San Francisco, CA (2011)
- Women’s History Month Festival - Featured Performer, City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA (2009)
- APIQWTC (API Queer Women / Transgender Community) Banquet, Feature, San Francisco, CA (2008)
- APature Festival – Featured Performer, Kearny Street Workshop, San Francisco, CA (2008)
- “Pinta tu Propia Mundo” – Featured Performer, Galeria de la Raza, San Francisco, CA (2008)

**PUBLICATIONS - selected**

- “On Solidarity,” an essay, forthcoming in College Language Association Journal (CLAJ) special edition, “Hands Up, Don’t Shoot!” (2015)
- Fiction pieces forthcoming in Mission and Tenth, publication of California Institute for Integral Studies (CIIS)
- *SOUVENIR*, Poetry Book (WordTech Editions 2014)
- *Finding the Bones*, chapbook and *the space between*, chapbook, (Finishing Line Press 2008 and 2013)
- Finalist in Ian McMillan Award, *Hawaii Pacific Review* and publication in journal (Feb 2014)
- Poems in: *Enizagam* (2013), *Hanggang Sa Muli: Homecoming Stories for the Filipino Soul* (2011), *Conversations at a Wartime Café* (2010), *Lantern Review* (2010), *Walang Hiya (No Shame): Literature Taking Risks Towards Liberatory Practice*, anthology (2009), *Kartika Review* (2010), *580 Split* (2010), NAACP Image Award-nominated *Check the Rhyme Anthology of Women Poets and Emcees* (2006), *The Walrus* (2006), *CRUX magazine* (2006), *The Womanist* (2004 and 2005), *Konch Magazine* (2009, 2005), *Maganda Magazine* (1995, 1996, 1998, 2001)
- Non-fiction articles in: *Tea Party Magazine* (2006), *Filipinas Magazine* (2001), *San Francisco Chronicle* (2001), *Call of Nature* (2000-2002), *Philippine News* (2001), *Mabuhay News* (2001), *Ang Peryodiko* (2001), *Race, Poverty and the Environment* (2001) *Jade Magazine* (2001)