

AWP 2023 Event Outline

Event Title:

Before, After, and Beyond the Garden: Queer/Transgender Eco-Literatures of Color

Panelists:

**Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán, K. Ka‘imilani Leota Sellers, Amy M. Alvarez,
D. Keali‘i MacKenzie, & MK Chavez**

Event Organizer & Moderator:

Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán

Event Description:

Plural like our ancestries, genders, desires are our remappings of the re-territorialized borders between our lands, bodies, and waters. Resisting Euroheteropatriarchal constructions of the cosmos that perversely pastorally prefigure white/straight/cis-male-ness as exclusively normative in nature, womanist/LGBTQ writers, performers, and editors of color share geohistorical perspectives on where and when we re-enter, subverting dialogues around ecology, and decolonizing environmental literatures.

Statement of Value:

Furthering conversations in intersectional, womanist, LGBTQ, and pan–people of color place-based creative production, this panel welcomes editors, writers, and educators surfacing stories grounded in diverse eco-realities. This gathering of artists, educators, and editors complicates and elucidates, unweaves and reweaves the enlacings of rural/urban ecology, terrestrial testimony, the nations within our narration—showing how queer/trans ecopoetics of color are deeply rooted, crafted, necessary.

Event Agenda:

1. The audience will be welcomed.
2. Panel will begin with Indigenous land acknowledgment.
3. Accessibility will be discussed and materials distributed.
4. The panel will be described, agenda forecast, and panelists introduced.
5. Each panelist will present.
6. There will be a dialogue beginning with questions from the moderator and then panelists.
7. The panelists and audience will be thanked.

A/V Statement of Need:

An LCD projector will fully showcase the multimedia range of panelist work. Audiovisually, we will be sharing individual text-based works; cover, page, and overall journal, solo/co-authored book, anthology, press, and digital/website design; photographic stills and audio/video clips of promo materials, readings/performances, and visual/sound art pieces; and organizational, professional, and archival artifacts. Each panelist will be utilizing the technology, whether in person or via Zoom.

Presenter Bios:

Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán is author of *Archipiélagos*; *Antes y después del Bronx: Lenapehoking*; and *South Bronx Breathing Lessons*. A CantoMundo, Macondo, RAWI, and Lambda Fellow, he is editor of

Yellow Medicine Review's global queer Indigenous and *Movement Research Performance Journal's* Native issues.

K. Ka'imilani Leota Sellers received her MFA from Eastern Kentucky University. A queer Samoan multigenre writer, her writing appears in *Yellow Medicine Review* and *Nepantla: An Anthology Dedicated to Queer Poets of Color*. She teaches in Hawai'i and serves on the LGBTQ Writers Caucus leadership team.

Amy M. Alvarez is a Puerto Rican/Jamaican Affrilachian Poet published in *Ploughshares*, *PRISM international*, *The Acentos Review*, and *Obsidian*. She is co-editor of *Essential Voices: A COVID-19 Anthology*. A CantoMundo, Macondo, VCCA, and VONA fellow, she teaches at West Virginia University.

D. Keali'i MacKenzie is a queer Kanaka Maoli writer and Pacific Tongues Poet-Facilitator. He is the author of *From Hunger to Prayer* and co-editor of *Bamboo Ridge's* speculative issue. His work is in *'Ōiwi: A Native Hawaiian Journal*; *Foglifter*; and *Mauri Ola: Contemporary Polynesian Poems in English*.

MK Chavez is an Afro-Latinx writer and educator. She is the author of *Mothermorphosis* and *Dear Animal*. A Hedgebrook, VONA, and CantoMundo fellow, she received an Alameda County Arts Leadership Award, the PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award, and San Francisco Foundation/Nomadic Press literary award.