

Aurelia Lorca is the pen-name of Nicole Henares- a poet, story-teller, and dreamer from the borderlands of the Monterey Peninsula who has been motionless in the twist of time. The title character of poet Federico Garcia Lorca's last play, *Dreams of My Cousin Aurelia*, Aurelia Lorca was a character who lived in literature, and yet was supposed to receive a cathartic slap in the face to place her in the present. However, her creator was murdered by fascists at the start of the Civil War in 1936, and he could not finish the play.

Aurelia Lorca has been reborn from the mind, heart, and pen of an American writer who is the grand-daughter of Andalusian immigrant cannery workers, and the daughter of civil rights workers. Her writing largely focuses on questions of ethnicity and identity and often reassembles narratives from histories which have been forgotten as a way to remember.

Aurelia Lorca woke up on June 5, 2013 and did not want to get out of bed. She was home in Monterey for the Spanish Immigrants in the United States Archive's presentation about the former mayor of Monterey whose mother stitched her own flag of the Republic for her immigration ceremony.

"I will not use Franco's flag," she famously said.

"I don't talk about the past," her son said.

"I don't talk about the past," is the favorite saying of Aurelia Lorca's father: It was what his parents said to him.

Aurelia wondered: What did the past matter to a people who cannot talk about it? How could Aurelia Lorca challenge those who have chosen to forget as a way to remember?

Nonetheless, Aurelia Lorca got out of bed because it was June 5th- what would have been Federico Garcia Lorca's birthday. What if Langston Hughes, who lived in Monterey during the 30's and would later translate *Romancero Gitano*, somehow had helped Lorca escape Spain? What would Lorca have thought of the Spanish immigrants who worked on Monterey's Cannery Row?

As Aurelia Lorca, Nicole Henares has published of two book length collections of poetry: *Trills From A Numbed Tongue of Duhhh*, and *Putting On My Red Shoes And Dancing The Blues*. Her articles, short stories, and poems have appeared throughout the small press in publications such as *Words Dance*, *Red Fez*, *The Women's International Perspective*, *The Last Woman's Magazine*, and *The Newer York*.

Henares has a BA in English from the University of California at Davis, a M.Ed. in Cross Cultural Curriculum from National University, and a MFA in Writing and Consciousness from California Institute of Integral Studies. She is an English teacher at Lowell High School in San Francisco, and lives in Half Moon Bay.