

RUTH GLASSER

CITIZENSHIP: United States

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. American Studies, Yale University, 1991

M.A. American Studies, Yale University, 1986

B.A. Comparative Literature, University of Wisconsin, 1983

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

History of Latinos in the United States, U.S. immigrant history, American urban and ethnic studies, oral and public history, urban agricultural history, urban/small town film studies

AWARDS

- University of Connecticut Humanities Institute Fellowship (2017-2018)
- University of Connecticut Service Learning Fellowship (2008)
- Connecticut Humanities Council Wilbur Cross Award (1996)
- Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship (1994-1995)
- Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, Dissertation-Year Grant (1988-1989)
- Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, Tuition and Stipend Award (1984-1986)

CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor in Residence and Waterbury Coordinator, Urban and Community Studies Program, University of Connecticut. Teach introductory, historical, and interdisciplinary courses related to the development of the urban United States and its immigrant populations. Coordinate and recruit for Urban and Community Studies Program for Waterbury campus, organize special events, exhibits, collaborative, and archival projects focusing on outreach to and showcasing of local Latino, African-American, and immigrant communities. 2003- present.

CURRENT WRITING PROJECTS

Brass City, Grass Roots: The Persistence of Farming in Industrial Waterbury, 1870-1980. Book-length manuscript currently being developed.

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA PRODUCTIONS

Books

Caribbean Connections: The Dominican Republic and Dominican Migration. Anthology co-authored and co-edited with Annie Gallin and Jocelyn Santana (Teaching for Change: 2005).

We Are the Roots: The Organizational Culture of a Home Care Cooperative, co-authored with Jeremy Brecher (Davis: Center for Cooperatives, the University of California, 2002)

Aquí Me Quedo: Puerto Ricans in Connecticut (Middletown, Connecticut: Connecticut Humanities Council, 1997)

My Music is My Flag: Puerto Rican Musicians and their New York Communities, 1917-1940 (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1995)

Curriculum Materials

Aquí Me Quedo Teachers' Guide: Elementary, Middle, and High School Editions, compiled and edited with Marie Galbraith (Middletown: Connecticut Humanities Council and Waterbury: Mattatuck Museum, 1999)

“Connecticut's Caribbean Communities,” *Caribbean Connections: Moving North*, Cathy Sunshine and Keith Q. Warner, eds. (Washington, DC: Network of Educators on the Americas, 1998).

Anthology Chapters

“From Rich Port to Bridgeport.” In Carmen Whalen Hernández and Víctor Vázquez-Hernández, eds. *The Puerto Rican Diaspora: Historical Perspectives.* Philadelphia: Temple University Press., 2006.

“Mofongo Meets Mangú: The Dominicanization of Latino Waterbury.” In Andrés Torres, Ed. *Latinos in New England: Yesterday's Newcomers; Tomorrow's Mainstream?* Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2006.

"Community and Academic History Projects: A Creative Interplay," *Using Ethnographic Data: Interventions, Public Programming, and Public Policy*, Jean J. Schensul et al. (Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, 1999).

"Buscando Ambiente: Puerto Rican Musicians in New York City, 1917-1940," *Island Sounds in the Global City*, Ray Allen and Lois Wilcken, eds. (New York: Institute for Studies in American Music, Brooklyn College, and New York Folklore Society, 1998).

Articles

"The Farm in the City in the Recent Past: Thoughts on a More Inclusive Urban Historiography." *Journal of Urban History*, January 2017.

"The Students' Role in Downtown Revitalization," in Main Street Waterbury, *Celebrating Downtown*, Vol. 7, June 2016 [special section of the *Sunday Republican*]

"French Canadians Colonize Connecticut," *Connecticut Explored*, 10:4, Fall 2012

"Wow! An Intergenerational OLLI Experience in Waterbury, Connecticut," *LLI Review*, Vol.3: Fall 2008.

"'We Are the Roots!': The Culture of Home Health Aides," co-authored with Jeremy Brecher, *New England Journal of Public Policy*, 13:1, Fall/Winter 1997.

"Buscando Ambiente: Introducción del Libro My Music is My Flag," *La Canción Popular*, Año 11, 1996.

"En Casa en Connecticut: Towards a Historiography of Puerto Ricans Outside of New York." *Centro*, VII:1, 1995.

"Levantando Una Comunidad Entre La Arena Movidiza," 2-part article, *El Reportero*, Connecticut, Summer 1995.

"The Backstage View: Musicians Piecing Together a Living." *Centro*, III:2, Spring 1991.

"Paradoxical Ethnicity: Puerto Rican Musicians in Post-World War One New York City." *Latin American Music Review*, II:1, Spring/Summer 1990.

Book and Exhibit Reviews

Exhibit Review, "From Italy to America: Photographs of Antonio Riccio," for *Oral History Review*, April 2013.

"Book Review," Noel Allende, "De Margarita a El Cumbanchero" for *Centro*. [Journal of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, Hunter College, New York], Spring 2012.

"Book Review," Kip Lornell and Anne K. Rasmussen's "Musics of Multicultural America: A Study of Twelve Musical Communities," *Journal of American Ethnic History*, 19:1, Fall 1999.

"Book Review," Susie J. Tanenbaum's *Underground Harmonies: Music and Politics in the Subways of New York*, *Oral History Review*, 24:1, Summer 1997.

"Book Review," Carol Hardy Fanta's *Latina Politics, Latino Politics: Gender, Culture, and Political Participation in Boston*, *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 76:2, May 1996.

Public Media—Researched and Curated

"Brass City, Grass Roots: Waterbury's Hidden Agricultural History," Exhibit, Spring 2013-Summer 2015 for Brass City Harvest, Inc. and Stone Soup, Inc.

"In the Shadows of St. Anne's: The French Canadian Community of Waterbury," Exhibit, Spring 2011-Fall 2012 for the Mattatuck Museum.

"Jíbaros in New York: Los Jardineros," Liner notes to compact disk, *The Best of Los Jardineros* (New York: Yazoo Records, 2006)

"Rafael Hernández," Liner notes to compact disk, *Rafael Hernández, 1932-1939* (East Sussex, England: Interstate Music Company, 1996)

"Aquí Me Quedo: Puerto Ricans in Connecticut." Pamphlet, Connecticut Humanities Council, August 1991.

"The View from the Bandstand." Program for Connecticut Public Radio, 1986.

SELECTED CONFERENCES, LECTURES AND ONE DAY WORKSHOPS

"Grass with the Brass: The Persistence of Urban Agriculture in Waterbury, Connecticut" as part of a panel called "Agriculture in Rural and Urban Settings," International Conference of Historical Geographers, London, UK, Summer 2015.

“The Farm in the City: Towards a History of Urban Agriculture” as part of a panel called “Looking to the Past to Understand Contested Places,” Urban Affairs Association Conference, San Antonio, Texas, Spring 2014.

“Teaching Urban History—Getting to the Street,” Association for the Study of Connecticut History annual conference, Spring 2014.

“Oral History in the Community” at “Our State/Our Stories,” annual Connecticut Humanities Council conference, June 2012.

“Community of Memory: The Disappearance of Waterbury’s Multi-Ethnic South End,” Faculty presentation, University of Connecticut, Waterbury, Fall 2007.

“Mofongo Meets Mangú: Dominicans in Connecticut.” Presentation given at Hampshire College, Amherst, Massachusetts, Fall 2006.

“Puerto Ricans and Connecticut Tobacco, Presentation given at scholarly meeting on tobacco, Europe, and the Americas, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Spring 2006.

"Using Puerto Rican Curriculum Resources in the Classroom." Presentation given at Regional Educational Services Centers in Tolland, Windham, Hartford, and New Haven Counties, 1999-2002.

"Oral History Interviews: Tools and Techniques" and "What's the Story?: Creating Narratives From Oral History Interviews." Workshops for 8th graders in "Exploring Cultural Heritage in City and Town," Interdistrict project between Waterbury and Middlebury, 1997- 2000.

“Aqui Me Quedo: Puerto Ricans in Connecticut.” Lecture and book presentation given 1997-2000 at Windham Textile and History Museum (Willimantic); Puerto Rican Studies Association Conference (Brooklyn College, NY); Connecticut Reading Association Annual Conference (Waterbury); Norwalk Community-Technical College, Connecticut College (New London); Hispanos Unidos Contra El Sida/Gateway Community-Technical College (North Haven); University of Puerto Rico/Río Piedras; Northeastern University (Boston); Western Connecticut State University (Danbury); Hispanic Health Council (Hartford); United Hispanic Action of Norwalk; YWCA of Meriden; Spanish Senior Center of Bridgeport; Centro de la Comunidad (New London); Sonia Center (Willimantic); Bridgeport Public Library; Casa Otoñal (New Haven); Mattatuck Museum (Waterbury); Centro Hispano (New Britain); Rockville High School (Vernon); Washington Middle School (Meriden) and a variety of other academic and community sites.

"Yes, There Was Life Before Mambo,"/"My Music is My Flag," Multimedia lecture and book presentation given in 1995-2007 at the University of Connecticut (Storrs); Legislative Office Building (Hartford); Guakia Cultural Center (Hartford); Fairfield University, University of Puerto Rico/Río Piedras; Temple Bnai Shalom (Waterbury); Housatonic Community College (Bridgeport); Naugatuck Valley Community and Technical

College (Waterbury); Harvard University; Institute for Community Research (Hartford); Eastern Connecticut State University (Willimantic); Hartford Public Library; University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee; El Yunque Bookstore (Chicago); University of Connecticut/Storrs; Casa Cultural Julia de Burgos/Yale University; Asociación de Coleccionistas Puertorriqueños de La Música Popular, Ponce, Puerto Rico; Casa Alonso, Vega Alta, Puerto Rico; Librería Papyrus, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Mattatuck Museum (Waterbury); Waterbury Public Library; Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, New York; Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, the University of Chicago, and a variety of other academic and community sites.

Panel, "The Contributions of Puerto Rican Musicians and Music to the Creation of Salsa and Latin Jazz," Museum of the City of New York, Fall 1999; Smithsonian Institute, Summer 1999; Joseph Papp Public Theater and the Association of Hispanic Arts, New York, Fall 1998.

"Oral History of Puerto Ricans and Urban Renewal in Waterbury," Paper for panel discussions, 1996, Oral History Association, Philadelphia, Puerto Rican Studies Association, San Juan; National Council for Public History, Seattle.

"Puerto Ricans in Connecticut," Teacher, Student, Docent, and Professional Workshops, Waterbury Teacher Institute, Summer 1998 and Summer 1999; Hartford, Connecticut TESOL Conference, Spring 1998; Waterbury, Maloney Magnet School, Spring 1998; Fair Haven Public Library, Winter, 1997, Spring 1998; Hartford Humanities Alliance, New Hartford, CT, Summer 1996; New England Social Studies Association, Hartford, Spring 1996; Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, Fall 1994; Connecticut Council for the Social Studies, Inc., Connecticut Bilingual Schools Conference, Fall 1993; Forman School, Litchfield, Fall 1992; Connecticut Humanities Council Annual Meeting, Fall 1992.

"Puerto Ricans in Waterbury," Workshop, Waterbury Teachers' Institute, Mattatuck Museum, Summer 1994, 1995.

"Puerto Ricans in Connecticut: Towards a Historiography of Migrant Communities Outside of New York City," Paper for panel discussion, Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Spring 1995.

"Oral History and the Research Process," Smith College, Spring 1995.

"Puerto Rican Music in the United States." Workshop, High School in the Community, New Haven, Connecticut, Spring 1992.

"Latino Cultural Expression in Historical Context." Panel Discussion, Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky, 1991.

"Puerto Ricans and the Ethnic Recording Industry in New York City." Lecture, "Art and Community in America and Europe, 1890-1990" class, Yale University, 1991.

"Multicultural and Community-Based Oral History." Presentation, Oral History Association Conference, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Fall 1990.

"Music, Community and Ethnic Identity Among New York Puerto Ricans." Presentation, International Association for the Study of Popular Music Conference, Yale University, Fall 1988.

"Third World Cinema." Lecture, Introduction to Film class, Yale University, Fall 1987.

"Post-War Urban and Suburban Development." Lecture, Post-War America class, Hampshire College, Spring 1985.

COURSE TEACHING

- Exploring Your Community (URBN 1300W)
- Introduction to Urban and Community Studies (URBN 2000)
- History of Urban America (HIST 3541W)
- Immigrants and the Shaping of American History (HIST 3554)
- History of Latinos in the United States (HIST 3674)
- City and Community Film (URBN 2400; converted to online course 2019)
- The Historian's Craft (HIST 2100)

Instructor, "Ethnic Food of Waterbury," Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Spring 2011.

Instructor, "Hooligans or Hard Workers? Exploring New York's Five Points," Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Fall 2007.

Workshop Scholar and Presenter, "Doing Local History," week-long teacher institute, Mattatuck Museum, Summer 2006.

Workshop Leader, "Aquí Me Quedo: Puerto Ricans in Connecticut," week-long teacher institutes to create and test curricula, Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, 1998-2000.

Workshop Leader, "The Puerto Rican Experience—Island, Mainland, Connecticut," Center for Learning in Retirement, Mansfield, Winter 1996; Teacher Development Series, Hartford Public Schools, Winter 1994.

Instructor, "Immigration to the United States: A Cinematic View." Older Adult Service and Information System, Waterbury Connecticut, Fall 1993.

Instructor, "The History of the Puerto Rican Community in the United States." Yale University, Spring 1990- Spring 1993.

Instructor, "Ethnic Music in the United States." Avon Senior Center, Avon, Connecticut, Fall 1992.

Instructor, "Brincando El Charco: La Migración Puertorriqueña." La Casa Bienvenida Senior Center, Waterbury, Connecticut, and Perlas Hispanas Senior Center, New Britain, Connecticut, Fall 1992.

Instructor, "Native Americans in New England," Older Adult Service and Information System, Waterbury, Connecticut, Summer 1992.

Instructor, "Rivers in the Lives of American People." Older Adult Service and Information System, Waterbury, Connecticut, Fall 1991.

Instructor, "La Música Etnica de los Estados Unidos," La Casa Bienvenida Senior Center, Waterbury, Connecticut, Spring 1991.

Instructor, English as a Second Language, Yale University, Summer 1988, Summer 1989.

Instructor, English as a Second Language, New Haven Adult Basic Education Center, Spring 1988.

Teaching Assistant, "Masterpieces in American Film History," Yale University, Spring 1988.

Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to Film." Yale University, Fall 1987.

Teaching Assistant, "The Formation of Modern American Culture, 1876-Present." Yale University, Fall 1986- Spring 1987.

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Researcher and Curator, "Brass City Roots: Waterbury's Hidden Agricultural History," Spring 2013-Summer 2015 for Brass City Harvest.

Researcher and Guest Curator, "In the Shadows of St. Anne's: The French Canadian Community of Waterbury," Spring 2011-Fall 2012 for the Mattatuck Museum.

Half-Time Lecturer, Urban and Community Studies, University of Connecticut Tri-Campus, Fall 2002-Spring 2003.

Consultant and Oral Historian, Waterbury Neighborhoods Project Part II, Mattatuck Museum, June 2001-December 2003.

Researcher, Interviewer and Writer, Extended Care Career Ladder Initiative, Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute, Boston, Holyoke, Springfield, and Amherst, Massachusetts, June 2001-May 2002.

Consultant and Oral Historian, Waterbury Jewish Oral History Project, Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, CT, May 2000- September 2002.

Consultant and Oral Historian, Nuestras Historias: Puerto Ricans in Hartford project, Connecticut Historical Society, 2000-2002.

Consultant, Waterbury African-American Oral History Project, Waterbury, Connecticut, January 1996- 1999.

Consultant, Waterbury Neighborhoods Project, Waterbury, CT, January 1999-June 2000.

Consultant, Researcher, and Writer, *Caribbean Connections: Caribbean Life in North America*, textbook, Network of Educators on the Americas, Washington, D.C., 1996-1997.

Consultant, Researcher, and Writer, "Taíno Heritage: Legacy and Life," exhibit and series of programs, Institute for Community Research, Hartford, Connecticut, 1996-1997.

Consultant, Interviewer, and Writer, Cooperative Home Care Associates, Bronx, New York, 1996-1997.

Consultant, Brass Valley Ethnic Music Festival, Waterbury Ethnic Concerts, Waterbury Weddings, Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, Connecticut, 1988-1996.

Consultant, "The Hispanic Journey," American Journey, CD-ROM series, Primary Source Publications, Summer 1995.

Cultural Fieldworker, Arts in Progress, Boston, MA, Summer 1995.

Rockefeller Fellow, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, City University of New York, Fall 1994-Spring 1995.

Cultural Fieldworker, New England Foundation for the Arts, Cambridge, MA, Fall 1994.

Cultural Fieldworker, New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, Concord, NH, Summer 1994.

Project Director, "Puerto Ricans in Connecticut History." Stone Soup and the Connecticut Humanities Council, 1993-1997.

Consultant, "Puerto Rican Passages," video documentary for Connecticut Public Television, Spring 1993- Spring 1995.

Consultant, "Memories of Home," exhibit of Barnum Museum, Fall 1992.

Consultant, ethnic music and history curriculum development, Mattatuck Museum and Waterbury public schools, Spring 1992.

Project Director, "Puerto Ricans in Connecticut: The Potential for Public History." Stone Soup and Connecticut Humanities Council, Fall 1991- Summer 1992.

Consultant, Hartford Humanities Alliance Summer Institute, teacher training program, Summer 1991.

Oral History Interviewer and Consultant, "As We Tell Our Stories," exhibit of American Indian Archaeological Institute, Washington, Connecticut, Spring 1991.

Production and Research Assistant, "Remembering Connecticut" radio series, Connecticut Public Radio, 1989-1990.

Coordinator, Waterbury Traditional Music Festival, Mattatuck Museum, Waterbury, Connecticut, 1986.

Interviewer and production assistant, Waterbury Ethnic Music Project, 1986.

Housing and newsletter staff, Common Wealth Development, Inc., a non-profit community organization, Madison, Wisconsin, 1981-1984.

VISTA Volunteer, literacy tutor and festival organizer, Frank Porter Graham Center, Wadesboro, North Carolina, 1979-1980.

REFERENCES: *Available upon request.*