**RESUME**

**VALENTINA ORTIZ**

[www.valentinaortiz.com](http://www.valentinaortiz.com)

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**Storytelling and percussion**

**Experience in art administration and teaching**

**Languages:**

Spanish, English and French. Basic knowledge of nahuatl and mazahua, mexican indigenous languages.

**Nationality:**

US and Mexican

**Publications:**

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| Books |  | Records of music and stories: |  |
| Jamaica, the story of a market place  | 2014 | 100% Xochiquetzal, Rumba y Sabor | 2015 |
| Taming History | 2011 | Tale of a Living River  | 2012 |
| Stories without Makeup  | 2009 | Earth Stories  | 2010 |
| Stories for an Ameyal  | 2008 | Dream Soup  | 2005 |

**Schooling:**

**1974-1980** “Baccalauréat” Liceo Franco Mexicano, honorary mention.

**1980-1984** Bachelor´s Degree in Polítical Science at Columbia University, Nueva York.

**2008-2010** Master´s Degree in Art Administration at the Metropolitan Autonomous University of Mexico.

Music theory at the Paris Conservatory, France

African and Brasilean dance at Clark Center, New York with Charles Moore and Edenir Loureiro.

Latin percussion at the Superior School of Music, Mexico City.

Production for Community Radio Stations, Nicaragua.

Promotion of Human Rights, Human Rights Comission of Mexico City

Course in Literature in Mexican Indigenous Languages “Carlos Montemayor”, Mexico City.

Course in Cultural Anthropology: Art and Culture, XVIII promotion, National Institute of Anthropology and History, Mexico City.

Reiki I y II OKUDEN, Mexico City.

SALUDARTE training for the teaching of the arts in schools, Mexico City.

**PRIZES**

2011 CENZONTLE DE ORO, NAO Award for socialy engaged storytelling

2013 CONABIO Winner of the “México país de maravillas” competition for musical composition

2014 National Fund for the Creative Arts, Mexico

**ON STAGE**

**1970-2017** **Storytelling and music**

* From 1970 to 1990 she explored stage work as an actress participating in many productions in Paris, New York, Mexico and Nicaragua. She was lead actress in the film Aura directed by Luis Barranco, part of the “Prometheus Bound” production at La Mama and cie and settled doing street theatre with Casa Farabundo Marti.

From 1998 to 2017 she has produced a large series of functions combining music and storytelling presenting these mainly in Mexico. With her work she has traveled to festivals in Singapour, Colombia and El Salvador. At present, with her stories, she represents the Ministry of Culture of Mexico City in many different spaces.

**1993-2017 Percussion**

* She is a consumed percussionist specializing in afrocuban rythms and mexican prehispanic ensembles. She works with major swing and tropical orquestas of Mexico like the *Solistas de Agustín Lara, Inndias, Isaias Lara y sus estrellas* and with salsa bands like *La Constelación* and *Color del Son.*
* She formed and directed the percussion ensemble *Aché* for several years, presenting original compositions based on the afrocuban folclor. She has presented her show for kitchen music called *Caldos de Sueños* since 2003, combining music pieces for percussion on cooking implements.
* She has been part of the bands of commercial plays such as *Aventurera y Cada Quien su Vida.*

**2007-2016 Writer and Composer**

* She has specialized in the reconstruction of personal and community stories. She has published the following books

*Cuentos de Tierra* (2009), *Earth Stories* (2010); *Historias sin Maquillaje, Tu Libro, Tu Vida* (2009); *Domando la Historia*  (2011)*; ¡Jamaica Vive! Historia de un Mercado* (2014); *Trompeta de Oro y Cera, Desde México con Amor* (2015) (in print)

She periodically writes and translates for the cultural suplement of the Milenio newspaper.

* She has produced the following records with her music and stories: *Caldo de Sueños (2005); Cuentos de Tierra (2010); Palabra de Rio Vivo, La verdadera historia del Río Magdalena (2012); Rumba y Sabor, 100% Xochiquetzal (2015)*

**TEACHING:**

**2013-2014: EDUCACIÓN Y REHILETES A.C.**

Teaching of the arts -music and graffitti-, in middle schools of underpriviledged communities in downtown Mexico City, promoting non violence and equal opportunities.

**2013: SALUDARTE-EDUCATION MINISTRY OF MEXICO CITY**

Teaching of the arts, percussion on improvised intruments -objects- in elementary schools.

**2009 - 2013: EDITORIAL EL NARANJO**

Instructor of children and adult workshops for the promotion of reading (10 sessions of each workshop)

Director and storyteller of the stage presentations of children books published by the editorial.

**2011-2014: FUNDACIÓN PARLAS A.C.**

Teaching of the arts -music and storytelling- for adults with mental disability.

**2011,2012, 2016: INFONAVIT**

Instructor of children and adult workshops to promote Reading.

**2010: PSICOLOGY DEPARTEMENT OF THE NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO IZTACALA - UNAM**

* Storytelling teacher.

**OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

* Spanish and French teacher at World Trade Center Language School, New York.
* English teacher Radio Farabundo Martí, Nicaragua.
* Elementary school at Liceo Franco Hondureño, Honduras.
* Music teacher at the Colegio Madrid y Secundaria Técnica 73,  México.

**IN THE COMMUNITY**

She has developed the following projects in different communities through the association Zazanilli Cuentos A.C.

2009 Work with 3 community centers in violent underpriviledged barrios of Mexico City, developing the personal stories of 3 groups of young women who were studying cosmetics. They created their individual book with their stories; a selection of stories was musicalized with rap songs. This show has been presented for several years promoting women´s rights.

2009-2015 Work with migrant community of elder indigenous mazahua women, construction of their personal stories, organizing a traditional dance group, forming a storytelling company in Spanish and Mazahua. 25 presentations of these stories and dances.

2010-2012 Work with rural community around the recuperation of clean water in the Magdalena river, construction of personal stories about the river and forest. 20 presentations of these stories and songs. Recording of the record and promotion of this work in local schools and plazas.

2015-2016 Work with elder women at the asylum for retired sexworkers, Casa Xochiquetzal. Teaching of the arts: choir and storytelling, composition of their songs for the record 100% Xochiquetzal, recording of the record with 24 different musicians and 14 presentations of the women´s stories and music.

**ARTS ADMINITRATION**

**2007-2017:**

She is the founder and general director of ZAZANILLI CUENTOS A.C. She designes projects and implements strategies. She has developped fundraising techniques and supervised the correct administration of these funds.

**RADIO PRODUCTION**

**1985-1990: RADIO FARABUNDO MARTÍ, Nicaragua and El Salvador**

She wrote the scripts for daily radio programs in English and French, to be transmited in public radios around the world.

She recorded one of the voices of these programs.