The academic and author Lucía Guerra was born in Santiago, Chile, and is at present professor of Latin American Literature at the University of California, Irvine. As a critic, she specializes in Critical Theory, Gender Studies, and Creative Writing. Her article ‘Cultural Identity and the Dilemma of Self in Latin American Women’s Literature’ won the Plural Essay Award in 1987. Her book *La mujer fragmentada: Historias de un signo* was awarded the Casa de las Américas Prize (1994). She has published about seventy critical essays in scholarly magazines in Europe, Latin America, and the U.S.A. She has also won the Annual Translation Award sponsored by Columbia University and the Council of the Arts, for *New Islands*, with a translation of María Luisa Bombal’s work. In 2013 she obtained the Premio Extraordinario for her study on the Mapuche nation, *La ciudad ajena: subjetividades de origen mapuche en el espacio urbano* (The Alien City: Subjectivities of Mapuche Origin in Urban Space).

As a fiction writer, she gives voice to women's silenced experiences; in her writing she denounces social subordination and explores the subversive power of female eroticism. She has won numerous prizes including the Gabriela Mistral Award (Coté-femmes éditions in Paris) for the outstanding quality of her fiction – among her most recent creative works are the collection of short stories *Las pistas de Lucifer* (2014) and the novel *Travesías del hombre lobo*, (2015).