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Luis Avilés is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of California, Irvine. He has published a book entitled *Lenguaje y crisis: las alegorías del Crítico* (1998). A new book entitled *Avatares de lo invisible: espacio y subjetividad en los Siglos de Oro* will be published by Iberoamericana Vervuert in 2017. He has also published several articles on another book project that focuses on topics such as liberality, hospitality, friendship, and magnanimity in the context of war and violence. He is co-editor of the edition *Representaciones de la violencia en América Latina* (Iberoamericana Vervuert, 2015).

Roger Bartra is a Mexican sociologist and anthropologist. Recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1985, he is well known for his work on Mexican identity in *The Cage of Melancholy. Identity and Metamorphosis in the Mexican Character*, his social theory on *The Imaginary Networks of Political Power* and, recently, for his anthropo-clinical theory of the "exocerebro" (exo-brain), that argues that the brain is partly constructed by its "cultural prostheses", external socio-cultural elements that complete it. He is currently an Emeritus Researcher at Mexico's National Autonomous University, where he has worked since 1971 and an Honorary Research Fellow at the Birkbeck College of the University of London.

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