The Spitboy Rule
Tales of a Xicana in a Female Punk Band

Michelle Cruz Gonzales • Foreword by Martín Sorrondeguy • Preface by Mimi Thi Nguyen

Michelle Cruz Gonzales played drums and wrote lyrics for three bands during the 1980s and 1990s: Bitch Fight, Spitboy, and Instant Girl. Her writing has been published in anthologies, literary journals, and Hip Mama magazine. Michelle teaches English and creative writing at Las Positas College, and lives with her husband, son, and their three Mexican dogs in Oakland, California.

Martín Sorrondeguy was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, raised in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago, and has called San Francisco home for the last ten years. The core of Sorrondeguy’s work is about addressing inequities through the creation of physical and artistic space—first as the singer of the internationally renowned politically charged punk en Español hardcore band Los Crudos. For the last fifteen years, Sorrondeguy has been the singer of the openly queer punk band Limp Wrist. He recently completed his third photography book, En Busca De Algo Mas (Ugly Records, Buenos Aires).

Mimi Thi Nguyen is associate professor of gender and women’s studies and Asian American studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She is the author of The Gift of Freedom: War, Debt, and Other Refugee Passages (Duke University Press, 2012). Nguyen has made zines since 1991, including Slander and Race Riot. She is a former Punk Planet columnist and Maximumrocknroll volunteer. She toured with other zine makers of color in 2012 and 2013, and continues to organize events and shows with and for POC punks.

ACCOLADES

“The Spitboy Rule is a compelling and insightful journey into the world of ‘90s punk as seen through the eyes of a Xicana drummer who goes by the nickname Todd. Todd stirs the pot by insisting that she plays hardcore punk, not Riot Grrrl music, and inviting males to share the dance floor with women in a respectful way. This drummer never misses a beat. Read it!”

—Alice Bag, singer for The Bags, author of Violence Girl: East L.A. Rage to Hollywood Stage, a Chicana Punk Story

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