

Poet and visual artist, Sandra María Esteves, known as *La Madrina/the Godmother of Nuyorican Poetry*, has published several poetry collections, including *Bluestown Mockingbird Mambo* (Arte Publico Press, 1990), and her first book of poetry, *Yerba Buena* (Greenfield Review Press, 1980, selected as *Best Small Press* by the Library Journal). Her poems have been anthologized in *Red Hot Salsa; The Heath Anthology of American Literature; Herencia: The Anthology of Hispanic Literature; El Coro: A Chorus of Latino Poetry; In Other Words, Literature by Latinas of the United States; Bum Rush the Page; and Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets Café*, among a host of others. Sandra's awards include an *NEA Master Artist Award* from Pregones Theater, the *Con Tinta Award* from Acentos and AWP, and a *Poetry Fellowship* from the New York Foundation for the Arts, among others. A teaching artist for over thirty years, she has taught creative writing workshops for the New York City Board of Education, Teachers & Writers Collaborative, Bronx Council on the Arts, the Caribbean Cultural Center, and El Museo del Barrio. Ms. Esteves has presented her work at the Kennedy Center, the Public Theater, and at major universities and educational institutions across the country. Sandra María Esteves believes that creativity is the antithesis to violence. Her writings focus on transformation and empowerment through reflection and analysis of real life issues. She draws on her wealth of literary form, word play, structure and history. Her artwork can be viewed online at www.SandraEsteves.com. She can be contacted by e-mail at esteveessan121@gmail.com.