

# The Panza Monologues, Second Edition

Written, Compiled, and Collected by Virginia Grise and Irma Mayorga  
University of Texas Press, 2014  
[www.panzamonologues.com](http://www.panzamonologues.com)



## Virginia Grise

From panzas to prisons, from street theatre to large-scale multimedia performances, from princess to chafa, Virginia writes plays that are set in bars without windows, barrio rooftops, and lesbian bedrooms. Her play *blu*, published by Yale University Press, was selected as the winner of the Yale Drama Series Award by playwright Sir David Hare. She is also a recipient of the Whiting Writers' Award, the Princess Grace Award in Theatre Directing, and The Playwrights' Center Jerome Fellowship. She is a Time Warner Fellow Alum at the Women's Project Theater's Playwrights' Lab. In addition to showing people her panza in college cafeterias, classrooms, and conference halls, she has performed both nationally and internationally at venues including the Jose Marti Catedra in Havana, Cuba and the University of Butare in Rwanda, Africa. Virginia has taught writing for performance at the university level, as a public school teacher, in community centers, and in the juvenile correction system. She holds an MFA in Writing for Performance from the California Institute of the Arts and currently lives in Brooklyn, NY.

## Irma Mayorga

Army brat and native of San Antonio, Texas, Irma Mayorga is a Chicana scholar/artist in theater. She holds an M.F.A. in Costume Design (UW-Madison) and a Joint Ph.D. in Drama and the Humanities from Stanford University. From Stanford, she also holds the distinction of attaining the first Ph.D. by a Latina/o in the Drama Department's history. She is also a director, dramaturg, and award-winning playwright. Throughout her career, she has worked between academic, non-profit, and community based sectors of the arts. As a playwright, her play *Cascarones* earned the Jane Chambers Playwriting Award (student division) and went on to receive an invitation for participation to the prestigious Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's Playwrights Conference under the artistic leadership of Jim Houghton and with America Ferrera in the lead role. She is the first Chicana playwright to receive invitation to develop and present work at the O'Neill Playwrights Conference. She has received research and writing fellowships from the Santa Fe Art Institute, the Smithsonian Institution, Stanford University, Florida State University, Dartmouth College, and also Williams College's Bolin Dissertation Fellowship. As a scholar, she explores contemporary theater and performance by U.S. people of color, theater and performance by women, and Chicana and Chicano Expressive Culture. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Theater at Dartmouth College.