

MARGARET NIVEN

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Oil on Paper, 72 x 42 in



COURTESY THE ARTIST. PHOTO CREDIT: R.R. JONES.

ALBERTO RUY-SÁNCHEZ

The Erotic Forest

(a haiku series)

Your night is a dense
silhouette of a thousand leaves
that unravel me.

From your myriad arms
extending toward the sky
I flee or surrender.

A beckoning arm,
your voice spirals like a branch
encircling my leaves.

Tree trunk, what do you seek?
Your undulations
wrap me in your dream.

Filigree of light,
nothing is as it appears.
Leave me now, dazzled.

Your fingers dig
deeply rooted caresses
so thirsty for me.

Burning and piercing
I am an offering to you
of cactus and palm.

Translated from the Spanish by Rhonda Dahl Buchanan

Alberto Ruy-Sánchez is a Mexican writer and Editor-in-Chief of *Artes de México* since 1988. In 2000, he was proclaimed Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government. His two last books in English, *The Secret Gardens of Mogador: Voices of the Earth* (2009) and *Poetics of Wonder: Passage to Mogador* (2014), were translated by Rhonda Dahl Buchanan and published by White Pine Press. This selection of haikus are from *El bosque erotizado*. Photography by Alicia Ahumada and texts by Alberto Ruy Sánchez. México: Artes de México, Colección Luz Portátil, 2006.

Rhonda Dahl Buchanan is director of Latin American and Latino Studies and professor of Spanish at the University of Louisville. She has published numerous studies on Latin American Fiction and has translated the works of Alberto Ruy Sánchez, Ana María Shua, Perla Suez, and Tununa Mercado.