

PRESS RELEASE

Colombian-American Poet Elizabeth Torres Winner of the Ambroggio Prize 2022 by the Academy of American Poets.

New York, NY (September 19, 2022)

The Academy of American Poets is pleased to announce the winners of the 2022 American Poets Prizes, which are among the most valuable and venerable poetry prizes in the United States. This year the organization has awarded more funds to poets than any other organization globally, giving a total of \$1,288,000 to poets at various stages of their careers.

Elizabeth Torres' *La Lotería: Sorteo Nocturno / The Lottery: Nocturnal Sweepstakes* (University of Arizona Press, 2023) has won the **AMBROGGIO PRIZE**, a \$1,000 publication prize given for a book-length poetry manuscript originally written in Spanish and with an English translation. The winning manuscript is published by the University of Arizona Press, a nationally recognized publisher of award-winning works of emerging and established voices in Latinx and Indigenous literature, as well as groundbreaking scholarship in Latinx and Indigenous studies. Established in 2017, the Ambroggio Prize is the only annual award of its kind in the United States that honors American poets whose first language is Spanish. This year's judge was [Raina J. León](#).

Elizabeth Torres (Madam Neverstop) is a Colombian-American poet, literary translator, and multimedia artist. She is the author of over twenty books of poetry published in Spanish, English, Danish, and German. Her poetry has also been translated into Ukrainian, Serbian, Finnish, and Swedish. She is the founder and director of the arts and culture quarterly publication *Red Door Magazine*, host of the Red Transmissions Podcast, initiator of the international audio collection Poetic Phonotheque, and coordinator in the Nordic region of the Red Thread network. Her work intertwines poetry, visuals, and soundscapes with language and performance.

She now resides in Copenhagen, where she is pursuing an MFA in performing arts with a writing specialization at the Danish National School of Performing Arts.

About Torres's winning manuscript, judge Raina J. León said: "In every beginning, there is a river that entices with its generational wisdom, its own invocations, its own knowledge that what will come is what has been. *La Lotería: Sorteo Nocturno* alchemizes lotería symbology as vessels for myth, migration, and becoming. This book reminds us that the drums of war continue to beat their fear and devastation into one's bones even after the body has risen to the sky, leaving runways of scattered articles of life. The game plays on and these poems invite a gamble: read and you just might change your life."

Learn more: <https://poets.org/recipients-2022-american-poets-prizes>
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