



***Crossing Over: A Mexican Family on the Migrant Trail, Rubén Martínez***  
2012 Conference Book Author

A native of Los Angeles and the son and grandson of immigrants from Mexico and El Salvador, Rubén Martínez is a writer, performer, and teacher. He holds the Fletcher Jones Chair in literature and writing at Loyola Marymount University, and is an artist in residence at Stanford University's Institute for Diversity in the Arts. He is the author of several books, including *Crossing Over: A Mexican Family on the Migrant Trail*, and the upcoming *Desert America: Boom and Bust in the New Old West*. He hosted and co-wrote the feature-length historical documentary *When Worlds Collide* shot on location throughout Latin American and Spain, that premiered on national PBS in September 2010.

His essays, opinions, and reportage have appeared in such publications as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Salon*, *Village Voice*, *The Nation*, *Spin*, *Sojourners*, and *Mother Jones*. He is a recipient of a Lannan Foundation Fellowship in Non Fiction, a Loeb Fellowship from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, a Freedom of Information Award from the ACLU, a Greater Press Club of Los Angeles Award of Excellence, and an Emmy Award for hosting PBS-affiliate KCET-TV's *Life & Times*.

As a musician, he has collaborated with the likes of The Roches, Los Illegals, Concrete Blonde, Ersi Arvizu, and Marisoul Hernandez of la Santa Cecilia. He is the host of the VARIEDADES "performance salon" at the Echo club in Echo Park. He has over two decades of experience as a performance artist, and was part of the pioneering generation of the renowned Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica, collaborating with such artists as Guillermo Gómez-Peña, Elia Arce, Keith Antar Mason, and Nao Bustamante. He has lived and worked in Los Angeles, Mexico City, Guatemala City, San Salvador, Boston, Houston, and rural northern New Mexico.