

## ABEL SALAS

### Journalist, Poet & Publisher

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Based in Los Angeles, journalist and poet Abel Salas has written articles for *The Austin Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Los Angeles Times Magazine*, *Los Angeles Magazine*, *LA Weekly* and *The New York Times*, among many others. His poems and stories have appeared in *Zyzzyyva*, *Americas Quarterly*, *Beltway Poetry Quarterly*, *Cutthroat: A Journal of the Arts*, *Cipactli* and *Huizache* as well as the anthologies *Poetry of Resistance: Voices for Social Change* (University of Arizona Press, 2016) and *The Coiled Serpent: Poets Arising from the Cultural Quakes and Shifts of Los Angeles* (Tia Chucha Press, 2016), and *Yo También: Stories of Healing and Hope* (Los Angeles, 2019), a #1 Best Seller on Amazon as both an e-book and a print edition in several categories within days of its release. Internationally, Salas has shared his poetry at literary festivals in Havana (Cuba), Mexico City (Mexico), Puebla (Mexico) and Zacatecas (Mexico), where his poem for Maya Angelou was concurrently published in the weekly cultural supplement to the statewide edition of *La Jornada*, one of the country's leading daily papers.

Raised in Austin, he was mentored there by late Xicanindio poet, prisoner rights/ Native American rights/humanrights activist Raúl Salinas, founder of Resistencia Bookstore/Red Salmon Press. In 2017, Red Salmon published the posthumous autobiography *Memoir de un Ser Humano: The Life and Times of raúlsalinas*, with an afterword written by Salas. Editor and publisher of *Brooklyn & Boyle*, an arts, culture and community monthly popular among Eastside Latinx millennials, Salas was also a co-founder of Corazón del Pueblo, an autonomous, community-based arts, education and empowerment center in Boyle Heights. An original moderator at "Poets Responding to SB1070," an online community of writers founded in 2010 to oppose to anti-immigrant racial profiling laws, Salas is also proud to have joined the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) MESTO Orchestra, mezzo-soprano opera star Susana Guzmán and Culture Clash co-founder Richard Montoya onstage at UCLA's Shoenberg Hall in 2018, where he recited a Spanish-language poem by legendary visual artist and Royal Chicano Air Force co-founder José Montoya.