

Villatoro Story Post for the U of A Newswire:

Two-time Emmy Award winning writer, professor and filmmaker Marcos McPeck Villatoro, a “pocho: halfbreed Latino” of Salvadoran heritage, shares with the University of Arkansas his documentary film, “**Tamale Road**,” exposing his search for his family history in El Salvador and what left him “*more lost and disturbed, than being labeled a pocho.*”

Marcos McPeck Villatoro holds the Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair of Writing at Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles and has for 15 years. He received 2 awards for his novel *Home Killings* (2001), including a First Prize in The Latino Literary Hall of Fame and a Silver Medal from Foreword Magazine, as well as the Los Angeles Times' Best Book of 2001 award for his novel *The Holy Spirit of my Uncle's Cojones* (1999).

As a Latino invested in his cultural heritage, most of his work features a perspective that illuminates Latino life in the Americas. Villatoro is currently touring for his Documentary Film “*Tamale Road*,” which he made in Spanish and English. The result of his search for an understanding of his Salvadoran roots is a surprise to him that deepened his experience and one he hopes to share as a means of fostering cultural awareness.

With the support of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program, the Department of English and La Oficina Latina, the University of Arkansas has the privilege to host Marcos McPeck Villatoro and screen his acclaimed documentary on October 29 at 7 pm in the Arkansas Union Theatre. The filmmaker will in turn host a Question and Answer session following the documentary screening and a lunch opportunity with select students.