



FAMOUS MIGRANTS

Luis Rojas Marcos

Psychiatrist

Biography



Luis Rojas Marcos was born in Seville (1943). He is one of today's most respected Psychiatrists. He was a hyperactive child, but thanks to the insistence of his mother he applied his excess of energy to playing drums in a rock music quartet. Immediately after graduating from Seville University Medical School, he migrated to New York City where he completed his residency training in Psychiatry at New York University and Bellevue Hospital Center.

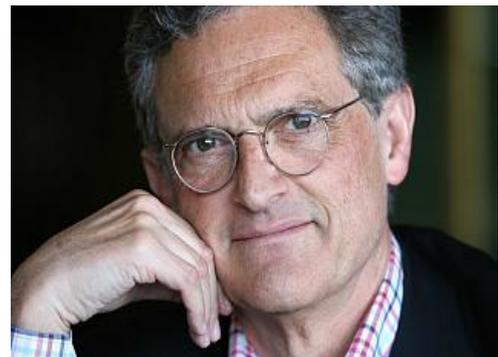
Career

In 1972, he was granted by the United States' National Institute of Health a three-year Fellowship Research Award to study the effects of the language barrier on mentally ill immigrants who had difficulty expressing themselves in English. In 1977 he was conferred the degree of Doctor of Medical Science by the State University of New York, at Downstate Health Sciences Center. While serving in this position, Dr. Marcos was instrumental in the creation of Project HELP (Homeless Emergency Liaison Project), the first mobile medical/psychiatric unit with the mission of evaluating and hospitalizing seriously mentally ill homeless people, living on the streets, who because of their mental illness were at risk of serious physical harm.

WORKS and AWARDS

Dr. Marcos has published extensively in English and Spanish in the areas of public health and cultural psychiatry. Some of his books are :

- *Las semillas de violencia* (1995)
- *Latidos de fin de siglo* (1996)
- *Más allá del 11 de septiembre* (2002)
- *La fuerza del optimismo* (2005)
- *La autoestima* (2007)



In 2010 the Spanish government awarded Dr. Marcos the 'Medal of the Arts and Literature of Spain' "In recognition of the international projection of his medical and literary trajectory". He has been conferred Doctor Honoris Causa degrees by Ramon Llull University (2013), Basque Country University (2014), and Burgos University (2015), Spain.



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By Estela Martínez and Carlota Salgado

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