

Sergio Chejfec

Notes Toward a Pamphlet

Argentine poet Samich moves from the provinces to the outskirts of Buenos Aires and decides to turn his life into a work of art. Fumbling through a world constructed of intuitions and beliefs, he has scant preparation and few firm ideas about how to do this. Nonetheless, he develops a cult following. Fiction writer and essayist Sergio Chejfec offers a series of numbered notes as an outline of Samich's thinking-in-process, investigating the pamphlet form as a "megaphone" for a poet who "aspired to a voice permanently lowered." As if to say: by means of the pamphlet, the biography becomes the work.

This pamphlet is part of UDP's 2020 Pamphlet Series: twenty commissioned essays on collective work, translation, performance, pedagogy, poetics, and small press publishing. Each offers a different approach to the pamphlet as a form of working in the present, an engagement at once sustained and ephemeral.

"It is hard to think of another contemporary writer who, marrying true intellect with simple description of a space, simultaneously covers so little and so much ground.

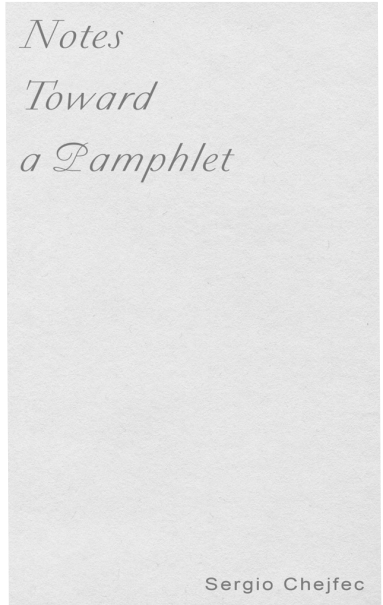
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Sergio Chejfec, originally from Argentina, has published numerous works of fiction, poetry, and essays. His novels translated into English: *My Two Worlds* (Open Letter); *The Dark* (2012, Open Letter); *The Planets* (Open Letter, a finalist for the 2013 Best Translated Book Award), *Baroni: A Journey* (Almost Island); and *The Incompletes* (Open Letter). He currently teaches in the Creative Writing in Spanish Program at NYU.



Whitney DeVos is a writer and translator living in Mexico City, where she is completing a doctoral dissertation on documentary and investigative poetics in the Americas. Her translations have appeared in the *Acentos Review* and are forthcoming in the *Chicago Review*.



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