Miguelángel Meza
Dream Pattering Soles

Translated from the Spanish and Guarani by Elisa Taber

In *Ita ha'eñoso / Ya no está sola la piedra Formerly and Again Known as Pyambu / Dream Pattering Soles* a voice mournfully asserts "I appear" and the world begins. Miguelángel Meza's words are signifiers without hierarchy within the lyric structure that reference the cosmological Mbyá Guaraní narratives. Thus, the origin of earth is traced to the utterance of the first *ñe'ë*, or word-soul. Meza's authorial style and references to a millenary Amerindian culture jointly point to another way of conceiving the world. The counterintuitive way that he renders the individual out of the communal is reminiscent of the Paraguayan embroidery technique, *ñandutí*, which means spider's web. He imitates this practice by claiming authorship through his lyric synthesis of a communal narrative. The poet seems to say through those that came before him: identity lies in erasure, not mark-making.

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Miguelángel Meza is a Guaraní poet and cultural promoter born in Caacupé in 1955. He has contributed to anthropological and linguistic research studies, as well as translations, and worked for the National Ministry of Culture of Paraguay. His books include *Ita ha'eñoso* (Alcándara), *Perurima rapykuere* (Ediciones Taller), and *Perurima pypore* (Servilibro). He is the founder of the cartonera press Mburukujarami Kartonéra.

Elisa Taber is a PhD candidate at McGill University. Her writing and translations are troubled into being, even when that trouble is a kind of joy. *An Archipelago in a Landlocked Country* (11:11 Press) is her first book.