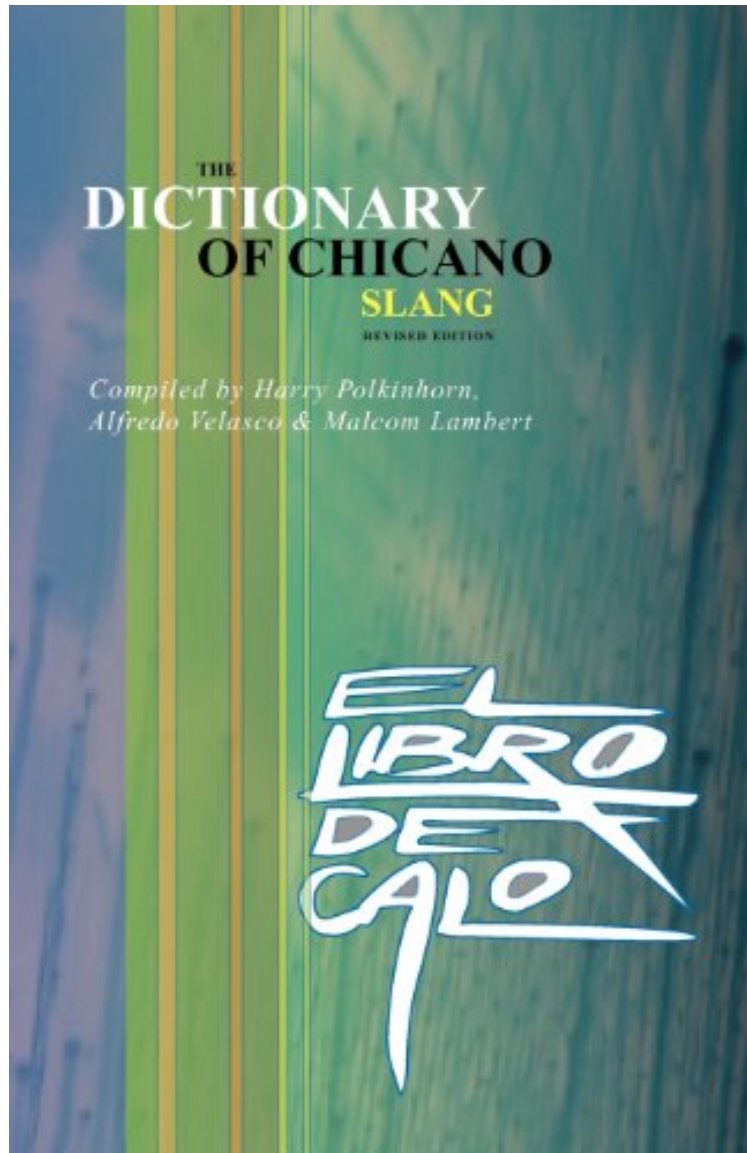


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Harry Polkinhorn

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Harry Polkinhorn : El Libro de Calo: The Dictionary of Chicano Slang. Revised Edition (Spanish Edition)
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised El Libro de Calo: The Dictionary of Chicano Slang. Revised Edition (Spanish Edition):

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Revised?By The Scythian"The first edition of this book was

published by Atticus Press in 1983 under the title: *El Libro de Calo: Pachuco Slang Dictionary*. Subsequently, it was published in 1986 by Floricanto Press. This revised edition was released in November 2005." I have compared the 2005 edition with the 1986 edition, and the only differences I can find are the last two sentences of the above quotation; the rest of the book is virtually a reprint of the 1986 edition--except, for some strange reason, they moved the even-numbered pages to the right side, i.e. the recto sides of the leaves. The first line of the Preface states: "No sooner has a dictionary been published than it is, at least in part, obsolete. This is especially the case when the subject is idiomatic language...." Perhaps some effort could have been made to document some of the changes that have taken place in the language during the twenty years that have elapsed since 1986. The Spanish-English section occupies 66 pages; pp. 67-95 contain an English-Spanish "Concordance." The *DICTIONARY OF CHICANO SPANISH* by Roberto A. Galvan gives you much more for about half the price.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. *El Libro de Calo - Pachuco Slang Dictionary* By Samuel D. Carlson I bought an earlier edition of this book in the early 1980's and liked it much better than this one. This version is still a usable book.

When the first edition of *El Libro de Cal: Pachuco Slang Dictionary* appeared in 1983, it was critically acclaimed as a much needed guide to a little-understood living dialect spoken predominantly by Mexican American teenagers whose dress, speech, low-rider cars, and attitudes set them off from those around them. Cal is popularly regarded as a bastard dialect, neither Spanish nor English. Linguistically, these notions are ill-founded; Cal has as much validity and expressive potential as any other dialect. That it is used by a group of people who exist at the edges of mainstream culture, however, has brought it into disrepute, and not many studies of Cal have been carried out with the thoroughness of this work. Now, building on that first landmark study, the authors have produced an expanded, revised edition. Based primarily on data gathered in the San Diego/Tijuana and Calexico/Mexicali areas, this edition incorporates terms from Texas, New Mexico and other areas of the Southwest as well. In an easy-to-use format designed to appeal to the native English-speaker, *El Libro de Cal: The Chicano Slang Dictionary* provides a unique and fascinating view of one aspect of our border culture. "As an anthropological record of a little-studied people, this work will have ... permanent value. Recommended for public and academic libraries in California and the Southwest..." CHOICE, May 1984 (about *El Libro de Cal: Pachuco Slang Dictionary*)

About the Author Harry Polkinhorn is a psychoanalyst, professor of English and Comparative Literature at San Diego State University, and director of SDSU Press. He is the author of ten collections of poetry, most recently *DEMOS ONEIRON* (Junction Press, 2011) and *The Circle of Willis* (Ex Press, 2010); five works of fiction, including *Trauma* (Ex Press, 2010); ten volumes of translations; and two collections of visual poetry, including *Bridges of Skin Money* (Xexoxial Editions, 2008). Among the sixteen books he has edited or co-edited are *ACROSS THE LINE/AL OTRO LADO: THE POETRY OF BAJA CALIFORNIA* (Junction Press, 2002), with Mark Weiss; and *CALO: A DICTIONARY OF SPANISH BARRIO AND BORDER SLANG* (Junction Press, 2011), with Alfredo Velasco. Harry Polkinhorn is a psychoanalyst, professor of English and Comparative Literature at San Diego State University, and director of SDSU Press. He is the author of ten collections of poetry, most recently *DEMOS ONEIRON* (Junction Press, 2011) and *The Circle of Willis* (Ex Press, 2010); five works of fiction, including *Trauma* (Ex Press, 2010); ten volumes of translations; and two collections of visual poetry, including *Bridges of Skin Money* (Xexoxial Editions, 2008). Among the sixteen books he has edited or co-edited are *ACROSS THE LINE/AL OTRO LADO: THE POETRY OF BAJA CALIFORNIA* (Junction Press, 2002), with Mark Weiss; and *CALO: A DICTIONARY OF SPANISH BARRIO AND BORDER SLANG* (Junction Press, 2011), with Alfredo Velasco.