

## NOTES

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**Margaret Randall, *Che on My Mind*. (Durham: Duke University Press, 2013). 160 pp. \$21.70 Softcover.**

"So, drawn on by my destiny,  
I ceaselessly must listen to and keep  
The sea's lamenting in my consciousness,  
...  
So, through me, freedom and the sea  
Will call in answer to the shrouded heart"

Pablo Neruda, *The Poet's Obligation*<sup>1</sup>

If you only read one book about Che Guevara, this is the book that I strongly recommend. Margaret Randall is one of the most compelling and articulate voices of freedom, feminism, revolution and love. Randall never met the subject of her book, she arrived in Cuba where she was to live for many years two years after his assassination by the CIA in Bolivia where he had gone after the triumph of the revolution in Cuba to continue the revolution that he felt could happen in many other countries. Margaret Randall might be one of the most prolific witnesses of the revolutionary movements in Latin America beginning in the 1960s. She founded one of the most respected journals of the era in Mexico called the *El Corno Emplumado*, a bi-lingual journal dedicated to the publishing of the poetry, political thoughts, revolutionary visions, and radical imagination of the era. Her journey over these years from Mexico to Cuba to Nicaragua before returning to New Mexico and the country she was born in has been rendered highly visible thanks to her remarkable energy and passion for putting down in poems, essays, photographs and stories. Her work giving visibility especially to the lives and roles of women in countries struggling for revolutionary change is luminous.