Born in Peru, Lucía Charún-Illescas has the unique distinction of being referred to as the first Afro-Peruvian novelist. In 2013, the Peruvian government recognized her contribution to Afro-Peruvian culture by naming her a “Person of Cultural Merit”. A journalist and writer, Lucía Charún-Illescas now lives in Germany. Her novel, *Malambo* (2004) is a fictional account of Afro-Peruvian life in colonial Peru. She is also the author of *Latinoamérica en Hamburgo* and the winner of the Lyra Prize for Short Stories.

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