



AMED Teach-In/Colloquia Series present*

PROFESSOR SMADAR LAVIE

The Hubert H. Humphrey Distinguished Visiting Professor, Macalester College

Author, *The Poetics of Military Occupation* (1990)

Co-editor, *Displacement, Diaspora, and Geographies of Identity* (1996)

Co-editor, *Creativity/Anthropology* (1993)

SOUTH/SOUTH FEMINIST COALITIONS AND THE ART OF STAYING PUT: CROSSING THE PALESTINE/ISRAEL BORDER WITH GLORIA ANZALDÚA

Gloria Anzaldúa writes that the border is an "open wound... where the third world grates against the First and bleeds. And before a scab forms it hemorrhages again, the lifeblood of two worlds merging to form a third country – a border culture." In the case of Euro-Israel, the volatile gender/race/nation South/South coalition among subaltern Arabs is forced upon Mizrahi (Oriental, Heb., Jews from non Yiddish speaking countries) and Palestinian women with Israeli citizenship. None of them wants to be in this "third country," emerging out of their painful dispossession of lands, languages and cultures. Anzaldúa's border's imagistic ambiguity is not liberating, but rather is used by the Ashkenazi (European Jewish) Zionist hegemony as yet another frontier to conquer. The ambiguity invites the projections and misreadings which enable Palestinian and Mizrahi gendered experiences in the borderlands to be displayed in Israel's Ashkenazi-Zionist centers of power. The border zones between transnational hyphens connote fluidity and movement across boundaries. The paper will argue that the Mizrahi and Palestinian-Israeli gendered hyphens are what allow subaltern non European women in the state of Israel to radically stay put in their respective hyphenated identities. Further, staying put is not representational but somatic, and therefore difficult to theorize beyond the bounds of the lived.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2009

4:00 – 6:30 PM

HUMANITIES 108[†]

***Borders and Boundaries: Critical Perspectives in Arab and Muslim Ethnicities and Diasporas**

Sponsored by: Arab and Muslim Ethnicities and Diasporas Initiative • College of Ethnic Studies
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†Space is limited. Please RSVP by 5 pm on Friday, April 10, 2009

