

MARCH 8: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL EVENT

INA MERDJANOVA is a senior researcher and an adjunct assistant professor in religious studies at the Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin. She is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Remarque Institute at NYU. Dr. Merdjanova has won research grants from the British Academy, DAAD, Volkswagen Foundation, the United States Institute of Peace, and the European Commission. She has held visiting positions at Oxford University, Birmingham University, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Aleksanteri Institute at Helsinki University, among others. She is the author of four books and numerous articles on religion and politics in post-communist society. Her recent publications include *Religion as a Conversation Starter: Interreligious Dialogue for Peacebuilding in the Balkans* (with Patrice Brodeur; Continuum, 2009), and *Rediscovering the Umma: Muslims in the Balkans between Nationalism and Transnationalism* (Oxford University Press, 2013).

MADINA TLOSTANOVA is a professor of postcolonial feminism in the Department of Thematic Studies (Gender studies) at Linköping University (Sweden). Tlostanova focuses on decolonial thought, postsocialist studies, and non-Western feminisms. She was a DAAD visiting professor in the University of Bremen (2006, 2011), an international researcher at Duke University (2007), and a visiting scholar at Linköping University (2013) and Södertörn University (2014). Before that, Prof. Tlostanova held a professorship in the history of philosophy and cultural studies at the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia and was a senior researcher of 20th-century American literature at the Gorky Institute of World Literature in Moscow (1997–2003). Her most recent books include *Gender Epistemologies and Eurasian Borderlands* (2010), *Learning to Unlearn: Decolonial Reflection from Eurasia and the Americas* (co-authored with Walter Mignolo, 2012) and the most recent *Postcolonialism and Postsocialism in Fiction and Art: Resistance and Re-existence* (2017).

ETHEL BROOKS is an Associate Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies and Sociology at Rutgers University. She has conducted research on a host of sites around the world including in London, Istanbul, Fall River, San Salvador, Dhaka and York City. Brooks is the author of *Unraveling the Garment Industry: Transnational Organizing and Women's Work* (University of Minnesota Press, 2007) which received the award for Outstanding Book for 2010 from the Society for the Study of Social Problems, and the co-editor of the special issue of *WSQ* on "Activisms." She has contributed articles to a number of academic journals, as well as chapters in several books. Professor Brooks is currently working on two book projects: *Disrupting the Nation: Land Tenure, Productivity and the Possibilities of a Romani Post-Coloniality*, and *(Mis)Recognitions and (Un)Acknowledgements: Visualities, Productivities and the Contours of Romani Feminism*, both of which focus on political economy and cultural production and the increasing violence against Romani (Gypsy) citizens worldwide.

NJOKI WANE, PhD, is a professor at the University of Toronto where she has been teaching for the last 20 years. Professor Wane headed the Office of Teaching Support at OISE from 2009 to 2012 establishing its priorities and activities while recognizing equity as a central dimension of good teaching. From 2011 to 2014, Professor Wane served as Special Advisor on Status of Women Issues, contributing to research and policy development concerning the intersectionality of gender with race, disability, sexual orientation and aboriginal status, and the impact of these issues on the lived experiences of women faculty, staff and students at the University of Toronto. She also served as Director, Centre for Integrative Anti-Racism Studies (CIARS) at OISE from 2006 to 2014. Professor Wane has been nominated for TVO Best Lecturer, and was the recipient of the African Women Achievement Award in 2007, the Harry Jerome Professional Excellence Award in 2008, and the David E. Hunt Award for Excellence in Graduate Education at OISE, University of Toronto in 2016. Professor Wane is a recognized scholar in the areas of Black feminisms in Canada & Africa, African indigenous knowledges, and African women and spirituality. One of her most recent publications is *Indigenous African Knowledge Production: Food Processing Practices among Kenyan Rural Women*. She has co-authored an Anti-racist training manual *Equity in Practice: Transformational Training Resource*, with Larissa Cairncross; *Ruptures: Anti-Colonial & Anti-Racist Feminist Theorizing* with Jennifer Jagire & Zahra Murad; *Handbook on African Traditional Healing Approaches & Research Practices* with Erica Neeganagwedini. She has also co-edited *Spirituality, Education & Society: an Integrated Approach* with Energy Manyimo and Eric Ritskes, and *The Politics of Cultural Knowledge* with Arlo Kempf and Marlon Simmons.

JASMIN ZINE is a Professor in Sociology & the Muslim Studies Option, at Wilfrid Laurier University). Her publications include numerous journal articles on Islamic feminism and Muslim women's studies and Muslims and education in the Canadian diaspora. Her books include: *Canadian Islamic Schools: Unraveling the Politics of Faith, Gender, Knowledge and Identity* (2008, University of Toronto Press) the first ethnography of Islamic schooling in North America and the edited collection, *Islam in the Hinterlands: Muslim Cultural Politics in Canada* (2012, University of British Columbia Press) and a co-edited book (with Lisa K. Taylor), *Muslim Women, Transnational Feminism and the Ethics of Pedagogy: Contested Imaginaries in post-9/11 Cultural Practice* (2014, Routledge Press). Professor Zine has developed award winning curriculum materials that address Islamophobia and anti-Muslim racism and has worked as a consultant with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (ODHIR/OSCE), the Council of Europe, and UNESCO.

EVA C. KARPINSKI is an Associate Professor in the School of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies at York University in Toronto. Her research interests include feminist theory, women's life writing, translation studies, and multilingualism. She has published over 30 articles and book chapters. She is the author of *Borrowed Tongues: Life Writing, Migration, and Translation* (2012), and co-editor of *Trans/Acting Culture, Writing, and Memory: Essays in Honour of Barbara Godard* (2013). She has recently edited a special issue of *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies* on Bakhtin's dialogism (2015) and co-edited a special issue of *ATLANTIS: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture & Social Justice* on in/visibility in feminist theorizing (2014).



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