

Bhakti Shringarpure
Associate Professor, Department of English
University of Connecticut, Storrs

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D in Comparative Literature. The Graduate Center at the City University of New York, September 2009.
- Doctoral Certificate in Film Studies.
- Bachelor of Arts in Languages and Literature. Bard College, New York. May 2000.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Hunter College (CUNY) - January 2005 to January 2012.
Adjunct Lecturer, Baruch College (CUNY) – August 2002 – December 2004.
Adjunct Lecturer, Stern College (Yeshiva University) – August 2007 to January 2007.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Postcolonial literature and theory (Anglophone and Francophone), Third World feminism, cinema, conflict studies, Cold War, popular culture, digital cultures, space and urbanism.

CURRENT POSITIONS

- Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Connecticut.
- Co-founder and Editor-in-chief, *WARSCAPES* magazine (www.warscapes.com)
Warscapes is an open-access digital initiative which seeks to fill a void in mainstream media. Founded in 2011, it features writing, art and perspectives on contemporary conflicts by publishing under-represented voices and issues that are grounded in literature, history, poetry and activism. Funded with grants from the Open Society Foundation, Flora Family Foundation, Compton Foundation, Kahane Foundation and Bertha Foundation.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Cold War Assemblages: Decolonization to Digital*. Routledge Studies in the Cultures of the Global Cold War, April 2019.
- *Mediterranean* (Co-editor and publisher) An anthology focusing on migrant and refugee journeys, a *Warscapes* publication in collaboration with UpSet Press, University of Arkansas and University of Chicago Press. March 2018.

· *Imagine Africa, Volume 3* (Editor) The series is published by Island Position, the literary imprint of the Pirogue Collective in collaboration with Archipelago Books, New York. June 2017

· *Literary Sudans: An Anthology of Fiction from the Sudan & South Sudan*. Africa World Press, NJ. December 2016.

· *Kaveena*, a novel by Boris Boubacar Diop. Global African Voices series at the Indiana University Press. Co-translation with Sara C. Hanaburgh. March 2016.

Works in Progress

· “Africa and Digital Heterotopias” book project in progress.

· “The Metaphysical Detective Nuruddin Farah’s *Sweet and Sour Milk* and *Links*.” Forthcoming in *English in Africa* journal, October 2019.

· “Resistant Recipes: Food, Gender and Translation in Migrant and Refugee Narratives” Co-written (with Veruska Cantelli) invited chapter for *The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Activism* edited by Rebecca Ruth Gould and Kayvan Tahmasebian.

· “Digital Forms, Migrant Forms”: Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing* and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*.” Invited article for special issue *Digital Africas* edited by Rhonda Cobham-Sander, Stephanie Bosch Santana, Shola Adeneken and Kwabena Opoku-Agyemang for *Postmodern Culture* journal.

· “African Literary History and the Cold War.” Co-edited special issue (with Monica Popescu) for *Research in African Literatures* 50.3 (Fall 2019) forthcoming.

· “Raindrop on Dusty Ground: Somali Historiography in Nuruddin Farah’s Cold War Novels.” Chapter for *Sites of Contest: Cultural Cold War Diplomacy And the Global South* edited by Kerry Bystrom, Monica Popescu and Katherine Zien, Routledge Press.

Academic Publications

· “Africa and the Digital Savior Complex.” *Journal of African Cultural Studies*, Vol 30.3, December 2018.

· “Book Review: *Afropolitanism: reboot*, edited by Carli Coetzee.” *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*, Vol 20.1 January 2019.

· “*Beasts of No Nation*, directed by Cary Joji Fukunaga.” *African Studies Review*, 59(2), pp. 307–310. doi: 10.1017/asr.2016.68.

· “Wartime Transgressions: Postcolonial Feminists Re-imagine the Self and Nation.” *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*. New Series, Volume 3, N 1, Spring 2015, 22-29.

- “The Afterlives of Frantz Fanon and the Reconstruction of Postcolonial Studies.” *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy*, [S.l.], v. 23, n. 1, p. 113-128, Aug. 2015.
- “Violence/Non-Violence: Some Hindu Perspectives” edited by Vidal, Tarabout, & Meyer, *Journal of Asian Studies* (November 2004), Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- *Palestine* by Joe Sacco and *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi. Review essay on political graphic novels, *Arab Studies Journal* (Fall 2003/Spring 2004), New York & Washington DC.

Media and Digital Projects

- *Maps of Exile* by Hassan Ghedi Santur. An e-book published by *Warscapes* magazine as part of the Warscapes LongReads available on Kindle, Feb 2017. *Maps of Exile* is a spare, compelling examination of African migration to Europe, told from the insides of detention centers and migrant camps, from the Sahara to the Mediterranean.
- *Martyrs Never Die: Travels through South Lebanon* by Belén Fernández. An e-book by *Warscapes Longreads*, June 2016. Fernández hitchhiked through Lebanon in 2006 and again in 2016. Her travelogue weaves today’s Lebanon through the time and space of a decade, in a country where “no space is left unpoliticized.”
- *MEDITERRANEAN*, the first print volume by *Warscapes* explores the plight of migrants and refugees as they undertake harrowing journeys across the sea. Featuring Edwidge Danticat, Maaza Mengiste, Chika Unigwe, Boubacar Boris Diop, Ali Jimale Ahmed, Mario Badagliacca and several others. Published in collaboration with UpSet Press, the University of Arkansas press and the University of Chicago press.
- African Film Database (www.africa-archive.com) : The African Film Database is a collaborative digital project that seeks to create a catalog of films from and about the continent of Africa while also promoting a classroom digital pedagogy. Founded in 2014. Contains over 800 student-authored film entries.

Miscellaneous Articles

- The Second Coming: Inspirations, Adaptations, Mutations *Open Magazine*, 25 Mar, 2019
- Norway, Somalia and the Specters of Terror. *Los Angeles Review of Books*, Dec 4, 2018.
- African poets get their own documentary. *Africa is a Country* blog. July 2018.
- Empire and Ambivalence — Ngugi wa Thiong’o, Maya Jasanoff and Joseph Conrad. *Africa is a Country* blog. Nov 24, 2017.
- Africa is a Country in Wakanda (co-written with Ainehi Edoro). *Africa is a Country* blog. Feb 26, 2017.
- Swarm, Demolish, Destroy: Rage Against the Monuments from Mali to Martinique. *The Funambulist*, May 2017.

- Palestine in the World: The World in Palestine. An article profiling emerging young poets from the Palestinian diaspora. *The Funambulist*, July 2016.
- Palfest Literary Festival 2016. An overview article about the Palestinian Festival of Literature, a unique traveling festival. *Bookwitty*, June 2016.
- The rise of the digital saviour: Can Facebook likes change the world? *Guardian, UK*. June 18, 2015.
- Translation from French into English of “The Assassins of Memory” by Boubacar Boris Diop. *Africa is a Country* blog. May 6, 2015.
- I write to expel my fear – storytelling in the Sudans: Introduced and organized a literary roundtable. *Guardian, UK*. Dec 12, 2014.
- “Why is Daesh (ISIS) destroying Mosul Heritage?” Co-authored op-ed with Michael K. Busch. *Dawn, Pakistan*. March 15, 2015.
- Fanon documentary confronts fallacies about anti-colonial philosopher. *Guardian, UK*. July 21, 2014.
- Feminism is Big Business. *The Huffington post*, US. Dec 19, 2013.
- Why Teach Multicultural Literature *The Huffington post*, US. Sept 13, 2013.
- Translation from French into English of “French intervention will cost Mali its independence” by Boubacar Boris Diop. *Guardian, UK*. Feb 8, 2013.
- Holding America Hostage. *The Huffington Post*, US. Feb 8, 2013.
- Sudanese Writers on Life Beyond War. *Guardian, UK*. Dec 6, 2012.
- A Fitting-Room of One’s Own. Co-written with Susanne Hiorth for *Samtiden: Journal for Literature, Arts and Current Events* (Volume 3, 2004), Oslo, Norway. A feminist defense of commercial women’s writing. Translated into German and Norwegian.
- Magic Brutality. *Biblio: A Review of Books* (May-June 2003), Delhi, India. A feature article examining the sudden rise in books about war and their ideological implications. Based on *Fire* by Sebastian Junger, *Jarhead: Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles* by Anthony Swofford and *The Hunt for Bin Laden: Task Force Dagger* by Robin Moore.

Book Reviews

- “Jihad” by Ahmed Rashid, *Biblio: A Review of Books* (March-April 2003), Delhi, India.

- “The World of Obituaries: Gender Across Cultures over Time” by Mushira Eid, *Al Jadid Magazine: A Review and Record of Arab Culture and Arts* (Winter 2003), Los Angeles.
- “Just Like a River” by Muhammed Al Khatib, *Al Jadid Magazine: A Review and Record of Arab Culture and Arts* (Fall 2004), Los Angeles.
- “The Languages of Political Islam: India 1200-1800” by Muzzafar Ali, *Al Jadid Magazine: A Review and Record of Arab Culture and Arts* (Summer 2006), Los Angeles.
- “Sources of Indian Tradition: Volume One From the Beginning to 1800” by Ainslee Tomas Embree, *Al Jadid Magazine: A Review and Record of Arab Culture and Arts* (Winter 2003), Los Angeles.
- “In the Wake of War: Encounters with the People of Iraq and Afghanistan” by Anne Nivat, *Al Jadid Magazine: A Review and Record of Arab Culture and Arts* (Spring 2007), Los Angeles.
- “The Shock Doctrine” by Naomi Klein, *The CUNY Advocate* (February 2007), New York.

Publications on *Warscapes*

- Poetry as News: Jehan Bseiso at PalFest. A podcast with Palestinian poet Jehan Bseiso. *Warscapes*, June 2016.
- The Face: Cartography of a Void. Interview with Nigerian author Chris Abani. *Warscapes*, Feb 2016.
- Enemy of the State: Gregory Schvedov of Caucasian Knot: A conversation with controversial exiled Russian human rights activist and editor. Feb 2015.
- Assia Djebar: Scheherazade, Storyteller: A tribute honoring the death of legendary Algerian literary giant, Assia Djebar. Feb 2015.
- In Damascus: A Film by Waref Abu Quba: Blog introducing a Syrian filmmaker. Nov 2014.
- Hamlet Gets In The Way of Haider: A review of the film *Haider*, Bollywood remake of Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*. Oct 2014.
- Africa 99 Anyone?: A blog post about the politics of inclusion, exclusion and age in a new anthology of African literature. April 2014.
- Indian Media’s Chauvinistic Blind Spot: A blog post about India media’s careless responses to the rape crisis. March 2015.
- In Conversation with Mahmood Mamdani: A comprehensive interview with the Ugandan scholar and writer. July 2013.

- Kitchen Anthropology in Gaza: A conversation with the authors of a cookbook from Palestine, *Gaza Kitchen*. June 2013.
- Hardly Any Women: A conversation with Goce Smilevski, author of *Freud's Sister*, Jan 2013.
- Kafka in Iran: A conversation with exiled Iranian cartoonist Mana Neyestani. August 2012.
- Rage Against the Monuments: An opinion piece about the deliberate destruction of monuments in light of the events in Timbuktu, Mali. July 2012. Translated & published in French by *Africultures*. Re-published in the catalog for the exhibit, "NEWSFEED: Anonymity & Social Media in African Revolutions and Beyond" at the Museum of Contemporary African Diaspora (MoCaDa) in Brooklyn, NY.
- Notes from Western Sahara: An interview with Fatma El-Mehdi, Secretary General for the Sahrawi National Union of Women & activist for the independence of Western Sahara. March 2012.
- In Conversation with Shobasakthi: An interview with the Sri Lankan author and political exile. January 2012.
- Maaza Mengiste & Nadifa Mohamed: A conversation with two African women authors. January 2012.
- Dissent Overruled: A review of Iranian visual artist Shirin Neshat's performance entitled, "OverRuled." December 2011.

INVITED COLLOQUIA, LECTURES

- "Dying Before Their Time: Lumumba, Cabral, Sankara." Lecture at The New School (International Affairs), New York, April 10, 2019
- "Dying Before Their Time: Lumumba, Cabral, Sankara." Lecture at History department, Wellesley College, MA, April 5, 2019.
- "Drowned Futures: Migration and Radical Pessimism." Presenter for "Pessimism as Interpretive Frame, Black Studies" symposium at Amherst College, MA, March 30, 2019.
- "The Postcolony is a Cold War Ruin." Lecture at the Division of Languages and Literature, Middle Eastern Studies Program and Translation and Translatability Initiative at Bard College, NY, November 1, 2018.
- "Frantz Fanon, Decolonization and the Future of Middle East Politics." Panelist at Lebanese American University, New York, October 11, 2018.

- “Terrorist Assemblages: 10 Years Later.” Panelist for discussion on Jasbir Puar’s groundbreaking work of queer theory. The Polis Project lecture series at Bluestockings Bookstore and Café, September 13, 2018

- “Foregrounding Fragments: Warscapes Anthology Focuses on Migrations across the Mediterranean.” Panelist at “ReSignifications: The Black Mediterranean” conference, University of Palermo, Italy, Jun 6-9, 2018.

- “Afropessimist Circuits in African Studies.” Presenter at the Connect Africa Research Network symposium at Wesleyan University, CT April 5th, 2018.

- “Networked Feminisms: African Women Writers in the Digital Sphere,” Presenter at the “Digital Africas” symposium at Amherst College, MA, Oct 13, 2017.

- “Africa and the Digital Savior Complex” at Symposium “New Directions in African Literature and Culture” at Bard College, Berlin, Germany. June 1st, 2015.

- “Rage Against the Monuments: Postcolonial Architecture in Crisis.” Lecture at Center for Urban and Global Studies, Trinity College, Hartford. February 11, 2015.

- “The Postcolonial Canon: A Depoliticized Realm?” at American Anthropology Association annual conference, Washington DC, Dec 3rd, 2014. My paper was read in proxy read Doreen Gordon.

- “Digital Polyglossia: Understanding the Trajectory of Globalized Literatures. Lunchtime Seminar Series, Human Rights Institute at University of Connecticut, Storrs. March 31, 2014.

- “War as Refuge: Third World Feminists Reimagine the Self and the Nation.” Workshop for Faculty Research entitled The Narration and Documentation of War, Human Rights Institute at University of Connecticut, Storrs. Feb 28, 2014.

- “Enclaves/Exclaves: Spatial Apartheid and the Postcolonial City.” UConn English Department Brown Bag Talks. University of Connecticut, Storrs. Nov 6, 2013.

- “Digital Polyglossia: Emerging Trends in Global Literature.” ALESA (Active Learning of English for Students of the Arts) Annual Symposium, University of Tokyo, Japan. October 1, 2013.

- “The Politics of Polyglossia.” Panelist. Center for the Humanities. CUNY Graduate Center, May 6, 2013.

- “Haiti: Through the Lens of the Media.” Panelist. Organized by the radio show “Wake Up Call” for *WBAI 99.5 FM Radio*, The Brecht Forum, NYC, Jan 27, 2010.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “African Literary History and the Cold War.” Co-chair and presenter at African Literature Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, May 23-26, 2018
- “The Cold War as a Postcolonial Ruin.” American Comparative Literature Association annual conference in University of California (Los Angeles), March 29th to April 1st, 2018.
- “Networked Identity, National Identity.” African Literature Association Annual Meeting, Yale University, Jun 14-17, 2017.
- “Where in World Literature is Africa?” Roundtable presentation at African Literature Association Annual Meeting, Yale University, Jun 14-17, 2017.
- “Foregrounding Italian Colonialism in East African Literature.” The 3rd Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies (EALCS) Conference, 24th-26th August, 2017.
- “Digital Literary Africas.” Chair and presenter at the African Studies Association annual conference in Washington D.C, December 3-6, 2016.
- “Foregrounding Italian Colonialism: New literary representations from the Horn of Africa.” Presenter and panel chair for “Imagining Eritrea: Histories, Modes, Disseminations and Aftermaths” at International Conference of Eritrean Studies, Asmara, Eritrea. July 19th 2016.
- “Dissidence as Celebrity, Dissidence as Commodity.” African Literature Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta, April 6-9, 2016.
- “War Fictions,” Chair of Book Review Panel at African Literature Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta, April 6-9, 2016.
- “Africa and the Digital: Three Feminist Figures Negotiate Post-national Longing.” African Studies Association annual conference in San Diego, November 18-21, 2015.
- “The Metaphysical Detective in Postcolonial Fiction.” American Comparative Literature Association’s annual meeting in Seattle, April 28th 2015.
- “Africa and the Digital Savior Complex.” African Literature Association 2015 Annual Meeting, Bayreuth, Germany. June 4th, 2015.
- “Crisis as Refuge: Women Flanêurs in Destroyed Cities.” European Conference for African Studies, Paris, France. Organized and chaired the panel “Swarm, Demolish Destroy.” July 10th, 2015.
- “Spectres of Fanon.” University of Witswatersrand, Johannesburg. 40th Annual Conference of the African Literature Association entitled Texts and Modes and Repertoires of Living In and Beyond the Shadows of Apartheid. April 2014.

- “Violent Cityscapes: Theorizing Third World Urbanisms.” Harvard University. American Comparative Literature Association’s Annual Convention entitled Global Languages, Local Cultures, March 2009.
- “Theorizing African Warscapes.” University of Warwick, UK entitled African Athena: Black Athena Revisited, Nov 2008.
- “Institutional Reading Practices.” 4th Annual Graduate Conference at University of Texas at Austin entitled Un-bound: The Humanities in Transition, Oct 2007.
- “The Practice of Saidian Humanism: The Sphere, The Method and The Challenge.” Center for Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto, 18th Annual Graduate Students Conference entitled Navigating Interdisciplinarity: Cultivating New Spaces of Comparison, March 2007.
- “Reading Practices and the Question of Saidian Humanism.” 17th Annual EGSA Mardi Gras Conference on Language and Literature at Louisiana State University entitled Members Only: Gatekeepers and the Future of Literary Studies, February 2007.

IN THE MEDIA

- “This feminist author wants to get past 'feminism-lite.'” Interviewed by *Public Radio International (PRI)* for the series Media Disruptors, February 23, 2018.
- Review of *Literary Sudans: An Anthology of Literature From Sudan and South Sudan*. By Ainehi Egoro, *Brittle Paper*, September 1, 2017.
- “25 New Books by African Writers You Should Read.” By Aaron Bady, *LitHub*. Featuring my co-translation of *Kaveena* by Boubacar Boris Diop, February 2, 2016.
- “New International Literary Magazine Covers the Intimate Side of War.” By Olivia Snaije, *Publishing Perspectives*, February 2012
- “Warscapes: des conflits et des arts.” Interview with *Slate Afrique*, July, 2012
- “Of blood and tears, ink and screen.” By Adourahmane Waberi. *Africa is a Country* blog, November 11, 2011.
- Invited bi-weekly radio panelist on “The Spin” on *WBAI 99.5FM* (until 2013) It was converted into a weekly one-hour podcast featuring women of color scholars talking about policy, social justice, race, gender and current affairs, Mar 2010-Sept 2016.

EVENTS

- Organized and moderated the panel “Must the Revolution be Digital?” Panelists included Zakia Salime (Rutgers University) and David Karpf (George Mason University). Sponsored by the UConn Humanities Institute, March 9, 2017.

- Palestine : Convergence. An evening of poetry featuring Jehan Bseiso, Rickey Laurentiis and Remi Kanazi at Berl's Poetry Shop, Brooklyn, April 17th, 2017.

- Invited Participant in the Palestine Festival of Literature. This is a high profile, annual, eight-day event featuring poets, writers and artists. I spoke on a panel about urbanism and violence with architect and academic Mohammed Elshahed at the Dar Isaaf Nashashibi center for Culture, Arts and Literature in Jerusalem. I also hosted the festival's closing night in Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center, Ramallah and this included introducing Nobel prize winning writer JM Coetzee.

- Poetic Responses to Torture: Organized a panel with Sinan Antoon, Brenda Marie Osbey, Nathalie Handal and Noam Scheindlin as part of the Warscapes Public Lecture Series as in collaboration with the The New School, New York, November 11, 2015.

- African Literature...Says Who? The Last Fifty Years with Ngugi wa Thiong'o: Organized a conversation between legendary Kenyan writer Ngugi wa Thiong'o and poet and scholar Charles Cantalupo as part of the Warscapes Public Lecture Series as in collaboration with the The New School, New York. Introduced the two speakers. April 23rd, 2015.

- Conversation with Scholastique Mukasonga: An interview with Rwandan novelist about her book, *Our Lady of the Nile* with a focus on women in conflict and the twenty years since the genocide in Rwanda, Sept 23rd 2014.

- Catch a Fire: Social Collapse in Multiple Voices : Moderated a 2-author panel (Marlon Hames and Nadifa Mohamed) about writers using polyphonic narration to represent violence. Brooklyn Book Festival, Sept 21st 2014.

- Creating Dangerously in a Dangerous World: Moderated a 3-author panel (Edwidge Danticat, Dinaw Mengestu and Courtney Angela Brkic) about immigrant writers reflecting on the trauma of war. Brooklyn Book Festival, Sept 22nd, 2013.

- Warscapes : Readings at the Bowery Poetry Club: Two events featuring poets Meena Alexander, Charles Cantalupo, Ali Jimale Ahmed, Aracelis Girmay and Annmarie S. Drury.

- Ethiopia: A Reenactment Through Fiction and Image: Photographer Eric Gottesman, novelist Maaza Mengiste & filmmaker Yemane Demissie discuss freedom of expression and human rights in contemporary Ethiopia.

- Writing War: Readings by Abdourahman Waberi, Christian Parenti, Nadifa Mohamed & Matt Kenard. Bookcourt, Brooklyn. Sept 26th 2012.

- Writing Somalia: A reading and talk by Somali-English author Nadifa Mohamed. Center for Place, Culture & Politics, CUNY Graduate Center, New York City. September 25th, 2012

- *Through the Eyes of a Child*: Moderated a 3-author panel (Emmanuel Dongala, Maaza Mengiste & Nadifa Mohamed) on why contemporary African novels explore identity, memory and violence through child narrators. Brooklyn Book Festival, Sept 23rd, 2012.
- *A Long Walk Home*, *New Tibetan Voices: Readings* Tenzin Tsundue, Tenzing Rigdol, Tsering Lama & Tenzing Dickyi. Bowery Poetry Club, New York City. March 15, 2012.
- *Poetry from the Horn of Africa*: A reading by poets Ali Jimale Ahmed (Somalia), Solomon Deressa (Ethiopia), Charles Cantalupo & Kassahun Checole (Eritrea). Hosted by author Maaza Mengiste. Alwan for the Arts, New York City. March 6, 2012.
- *Warscapes Launch*: Organized the screening of the 1966 film, *Battle of Algiers* followed by Q&A with Saadi Yacef, writer, actor and ex-militant on whose memoir the film is based. Film Society of the Lincoln Center, New York City. November 8, 2011.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association
 African Literature Association
 African Studies Association

LANGUAGES

Fluent in French, Hindi and Marathi.