

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

Academic Year in Review 2015-2016

Arts.....1

To encourage and present the vital work of Palestinians in the arts, the center hosts poets, authors, playwrights, actors, and film and theater directors. From the outset, Palestinian film has been the centerpiece of our arts programming. With its incisive and turbulent artistic imagination this cinema eloquently expresses the depth and range of Palestinian predicaments and possibilities.

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Palestine and Law.....10

To promote and communicate legal scholarship on Palestinians living under Israeli rule, we have brought together leading lawyers and international legal scholars in workshops on such topics as military law in the West Bank, the legal aspects of the Palestinian state question, citizenship issues, and property dispossession. Our current project, the “Nakba and Law,” stresses the ongoing nature of the legal Nakba, and involves an innovative legal blog and a series of workshops held in Palestine and New York.

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| <p>This programming attracts prominent public intellectuals and distinguished scholars of Palestine. We aim to advance the academic understanding of Palestine’s past and present through research and analysis, teaching, public lectures, book launches, and conferences on such topics as the assaults on Gaza, settler colonialism, and the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement.</p> | <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">The Politics of Life and Death</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement: Struggle and Solidarity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Exhibition on Exile</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Palestine and the Limits of Academic Freedom</td> <td style="text-align: right;">17</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">In Conversation: Suad Amiry and Susan Abulhawa</td> <td style="text-align: right;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Palestinian Futures: Remembering the Nakba</td> <td style="text-align: right;">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Palestine Re-Covered: Reading a Settler Colonial Landscape</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">The Zionist Left: Settler Colonial Practices and the Representation of the Palestinian Nakba in Northern Palestine</td> <td style="text-align: right;">21</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">The Ethics of Trauma: Moral Injury, Combar, and U.S Empire</td> <td style="text-align: right;">21</td> </tr> </table> | The Politics of Life and Death | 14 | The Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement: Struggle and Solidarity | 15 | Exhibition on Exile | 16 | Palestine and the Limits of Academic Freedom | 17 | In Conversation: Suad Amiry and Susan Abulhawa | 18 | Palestinian Futures: Remembering the Nakba | 19 | Palestine Re-Covered: Reading a Settler Colonial Landscape | 20 | The Zionist Left: Settler Colonial Practices and the Representation of the Palestinian Nakba in Northern Palestine | 21 | The Ethics of Trauma: Moral Injury, Combar, and U.S Empire | 21 |
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| <p>The faculty of the Center for Palestine Studies presents regular events focused on new books on Palestine and Palestinians. Discussions with authors and Columbia faculty members engage audiences around recently published research.</p> | <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Dying to Forget: Oil, Power, Palestine & the Foundations of U.S Policy in the Middle East</td> <td style="text-align: right;">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Being Palestinian: Personal Reflections on Palestinian Identity in the Diaspora</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Oriental Neighbors: Middle eastern Jews and Arabs in Mandatory Palestine</td> <td style="text-align: right;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Erased from Space and Consciousness: Israel and the Depopulated Palestinian Villages of 1948</td> <td style="text-align: right;">26</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Extraordinary Rendition: (American) Writers on Palestine</td> <td style="text-align: right;">27</td> </tr> </table> | Dying to Forget: Oil, Power, Palestine & the Foundations of U.S Policy in the Middle East | 24 | Being Palestinian: Personal Reflections on Palestinian Identity in the Diaspora | 25 | Oriental Neighbors: Middle eastern Jews and Arabs in Mandatory Palestine | 25 | Erased from Space and Consciousness: Israel and the Depopulated Palestinian Villages of 1948 | 26 | Extraordinary Rendition: (American) Writers on Palestine | 27 |
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Emilio Dabed

Columbia University Palestine Law Fellow, Fall 2015 & Spring 2016

Areej Sabbagh-Khoury

Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Post-Doctoral Fellow, Fall 2015

Omar Jabary Salamanca

Marie Curie Post-Doctoral Fellow, 2014-2016

Abdul-Rahim Al-Shaikh

CPS Visiting Scholar, Fall 2015 & Spring 2016, Fulbright scholar

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 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR PALESTINE STUDIES

CPS Arts



PALESTINE CUTS

Palestine Cuts is a new space for emerging and established filmmakers and video-artists to present and discuss their work in an engaging and encouraging environment. It promotes stimulating audiovisual projects (documentary and fiction film, video, installations, etc.) that challenge existing conventions and offer critical and alternative views about Palestine and Palestinians. Palestine Cuts also is interested in the broader regional and global socio-political, economic and cultural context of which Palestine is an intrinsic part. In this sense, we hope to bring Palestine-related work into conversation with other Arab and international filmmakers and audiovisual artists. Through screenings, discussions, master classes as well as open and closed workshops for work in progress and finished projects, Palestine Cuts hopes to attract a wide array of artists, producers, curators, critics, scholars, activists and others interested in committed audiovisual work that opens up new spaces for imagination.

3000 Nights

Mai Masri



PALESTINE CUTS

Beirut-based Palestinian documentary filmmaker **Mai Masri** screened her first feature film, 3000 Nights (3000 Layla) at Columbia University, for its New York premiere.

Inspired by the true story of a young Palestinian mother who gave birth to her child in an Israeli prison, 3000 Nights is a story about resilience and the imagination in a genre -- the prison genre-- that has rarely dealt with women's experiences, let alone Palestinian women's.

Mai Masri gave a Master Class the following evening in conversation with noted director Mira Nair. Mai Masri discussed her experiences and approach to film making. She showed clips from her films, and spoke about moving styles from documentary to fiction, and about women directors. Mira Nair began in documentary but has gone on to make many award-winning feature films including Salaam Bombay, Monsoon Wedding, Vanity Fair, The Namesake, and The Reluctant Fundamentalist.



Mai Masri's reputation as a leading Palestinian documentary filmmaker rests on her award-winning films that include Beirut Diaries, Frontiers of Dreams and Fears, Children of Shatila, Children of Fire, Wild Flowers: Women of South Lebanon and several films made with Jean Chamoun including Suspended Time.

Event Date: April 25-26, 2016

Cosponsors: Columbia University Center for Justice, School of the Arts, Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality

The Wanted 18

Amer Shomali



PALESTINE CUTS

Palestinian filmmaker [Amer Shomali](#), Visiting Artist in Residence at Columbia University, joined us from Ramallah to screen his new critically acclaimed documentary, *The Wanted 18*. Following the screening was a discussion with James Schamus, Professor of Professional Practice, Columbia University School of the Arts.

Event Date: November 11, 2015

Cosponsors: Columbia University School of the Arts



PALESTINE CUTS

Kamal Aljafari, Palestinian film director screened his film, *Recollection* and offered a master class the following evening.

Recollection

Kamal Aljafari

Recollection utilizes footage from Israeli films as raw material for exploring, reconstructing, and sharing this inaccessible history.

Event Dates: February 22-23, 2015



PALESTINE CUTS

2ª MUESTRA DE CINE PALESTINO DE SANTIAGO

10-13 Diciembre 2015 | Cineteca Nacional

Inauguración:

Seminario "Cultura e Identidad Palestina"
2 Diciembre 2015, Casa Central Universidad de Chile



The Buenos Aires Palestinian Film Festival

C

PALESTINE CUTS



Event Dates: August 13-19, 2015

Cosponsors: Programa Sur Global at Universidad Nacional de San Martín, in collaboration with Buenos Aires Mon Amour (BAMA) and Centro Cultural de la Cooperación Floreal Gorini.

CPS presented its first Palestinian Film Festival in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The festival from August 13-19, 2015 featured iconic works from Palestinian cinema, which has emerged as a globally influential artistic force.

Following in the footsteps of other Palestinian international film festivals in London, Boston, Madrid and Santiago, the purpose of the Buenos Aires Festival was to engage Latin American audiences with filmic depictions of Palestinian history and cultures.

The program included the screening of four feature films and three short films, with subtitles in Spanish, together with a series of lectures by special guest Hamid Dabashi, Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature at Columbia University.

The Native and the Refugee

Short Films and Discussion



PALESTINE CUTS

Filmmakers and producers Matt Peterson and Malek Rasamny presented an original and powerful multi-media project that brought together the spaces of the Indian reservation and Palestinian refugee camp, from Pine Ridge and Akwesane to Ain al-Hilweh and Aida. Using archival material, short-films and interviews, the project explored the centrality of these spaces for Native and Palestinian struggles in ways that illuminate how people organize politically around questions of land and territory in relation to communal conceptions of autonomy.



Audra Simpson

Moderated by Frances Negrón-Muntaner, filmmaker and Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Director, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University.

With special guests, Audra Simpson, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Columbia University and Nidal Bitari, founder of the Palestinian Association of Human Rights in Syria.

The Palestinian people fought and struggled and were dispersed and humiliated,

We were the last village to leave Palestine.

Event Date: October 29, 2015

A Celebration of Inside/Outside:

Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora
with Naomi Wallace and Ismail Khalidi

The Theatre Communications Group (TCG) and the Center for Palestine Studies (CPS) celebrated TCG's publication of *Inside/Outside: Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora*. The first collection of its kind, *Inside/Outside* brings together work by six dynamic Palestinian playwrights from both occupied Palestine and the Diaspora. This anthology is a vital contribution to world theatre, introducing six politically, socially, and culturally relevant plays by Palestinian authors. The event included a discussion of the anthology with the book's editors Naomi Wallace and Ismail Khalidi, as well as selected readings by talented performers to be announced.



Ismail Khalidi



Naomi Wallace

Event Date: October 7, 2015

There is a Field

As the Second Intifada erupted in the West Bank and Gaza, demonstrations also began in Palestinian villages and towns inside Israel. In October 2000, Israeli forces killed twelve unarmed Palestinian citizens of Israel in these demonstrations. The youngest of those killed was a 17-year old boy named Aseel Asleh.

There Is A Field, written by [Jen Marlowe](#), is a play about Aseel's life and his killing, through the perspective of his older sister, Nardeen. Through Nardeen's struggle to cope with the murder of her brother, the play also addresses the larger struggle facing Palestinians inside Israel.

Post-play discussions offered audiences an opportunity to further explore the themes that surfaced in the play.



Event Dates: March 28-29, 2016

Cosponsors: The African American Policy Forum and The Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies



CPS Palestine & Law

A CONSTITUTION FOR A NON STATE

Or How to Do Things with Law. Palestine 1993-2015

Emilio Dabed, Palestine Law Fellow Fall 2015 & Spring 2016

Emilio Dabed presented the introductory chapter of his book which situates and contextualizes the above arguments, and engages with some ideas related to self-reflexive research in Palestine: What does it mean for a Palestinian-Chilean jurist, socialized and trained as a lawyer under Pinochet's dictatorship, to do research on law in the West bank more than 100 years after the departure of his ancestors from Beit Jala, Palestine, to Chile? If, as it seems inevitable and necessary to admit, in the course of our research we are making theoretical and methodological choices, observing, analyzing, and representing things from 'somewhere'; if we recognize that not only the social reality that we seek to understand is historically and spatially situated, but also that the researcher's viewpoint is situated; if, in definitive, the methodological and theoretical choices of any research might be influenced by the conditions in which the researcher was nurtured, socialized, and intellectually built, should we -and how does one- account for this 'subjective' dimension in one's work?



In the scholarship on post-Oslo Palestine, critical legal research has generally neglected the internal (Palestinian Authority-PA) legislation, as compared to the attention given to international law and Israeli legislation and legal practices. Most of the work on Palestinian Constitutional-making and, more generally, law and legal practices tends towards a de-contextualized, normative analysis or legal exegesis, which fails to show the complex ways in which Palestinian legal production has contributed to the re-articulation, consolidation, and legitimization of some classic colonial patterns: namely, the non-sovereign status of Palestinians, authoritarian forms of domination, and the division/fragmentation of colonized subjects.

Event Dat: April 6, 2016

The Nakba and Law Project

Darryl Li, Katherine Franke, and Brinkley Messick
Center for Palestine Studies &
Adalah (The Center for Minority Legal Rights in Israel)

For nearly fifty years, the State of Israel has exercised ultimate authority over a complex and fractured territorial space of direct and indirect rule between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Governing a population of nearly 12 million - of whom Jews are a slight minority - has raised significant questions about the state's foundational commitments to being both a "state of the Jewish people" and a democratic polity. In this regime, populations living side-by-side are often segregated into different cross-cutting legal categories, accessing a striking array of court systems that has evolved in ways belying any easy division of "Israeli" versus "Palestinian." These include: Israeli civilian, military, and labor courts, which govern a variety of issues for both Jews and Arabs; courts of the Palestinian Authority (controlled by Fatah in the West Bank and Hamas in Gaza); and religious law courts for family issues applying Jewish, Islamic, and Christian canon law - with parallel systems of Islamic and Christian courts on both sides of the Green Line. The result is a

multi-faceted leviathan enunciating its authority in multiple idioms, through Israeli, British, Ottoman, Jordanian, Egyptian, Islamic (sharia), Jewish (Halakha), Christian canon, European Union, and international law.

By connecting separate and at times unequally-empowered court systems, the Nakba and Law project explores the dynamics of legal pluralism in multiple and overlapping jurisdictions, across distinctions of space and personal status. It examines judicial decision-making and legal activism when the state's foundational commitments over national identity, demography, and collective memory are at stake, especially in cases of property and housing, marriage and divorce, labor rights, and national symbols. Data will be collected through a variety of methods, including: (a) analysis of case law, legislation, and regulations; (b) ethnographic observation of court proceedings and legal advocacy campaigns; and (c) interviews with jurists, lawyers, and claimants.

CPS History of the Present

The Politics of Life and Death

Post/Decolonial Encounters,
Palestinians, Kashmiris, And Tamils

Abdul-Rahim Al-Shaikh

Attentive to multiple traditions of critical thought, this symposium aspired collaborative scholarly engagement with the spatio-temporal politics of life and death relating to Palestinians, Kashmiris, and Tamils. It called for intersectional analyses across disciplines, methodologies, issues, and geographicities to enable thought in terrains and among peoples where life is often neither bearable nor 'grievable.' Refusing hierarchies and celebrations of victimhood, this symposium sought to foster generative approaches to counter-memory. In doing so, we investigated the politics of life and death, proximity and alliance, and their cultural, political, social, and legal implications; and negotiated the possibility of forming an intellectual collective on the rights and (im)possibilities of the living and the dead.



Event Date: April 21, 2016

THE BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, AND SANCTIONS MOVEMENT: STRUGGLE AND SOLIDARITY

Robin D.G. Kelley, Gary B. Nash Professor of American History at UCLA joined us to discuss the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) Movement, its implications, and what struggle and solidarity mean in this context.

Author and historian Robin D.G. Kelley is the Gary B. Nash Professor of American History at UCLA. Formerly the William B. Ransford Professor of Cultural and Historical Studies at Columbia University, Kelley helped to shape programs at its Institute for Research in African-American Studies.

His essays have appeared in several anthologies and publications, including *The Nation*, *Monthly Review*, *The Journal of Palestine Studies*, *Souls*, *Mondoweiss*, *Electronic Intifada*, *New York*



Times, *Counterpunch*, *Black Music Research Journal*, *Callaloo*, *New Politics*, *Black Renaissance*, *Social Text*, *Boston Review*, *American Historical Review*, *Journal of American History*, *New Labor Forum*, to name a few. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the U.S. Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel.

Event Date: December 4, 2015

Cosponsors: Institute for Research on African-American Studies

Exhibition on Exile

As Palestinians live a continued reality of the Nakba, our Exhibition on Exile lecture series and photographic exhibition sought to provide a space to reflect on the history, people and sites of Palestinian dispossession.

exhibition on exile:

PALESTINE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BUILDING
4TH FLOOR ATRIUM
APRIL 4TH-17TH, 2016



SILENT AUCTION LINK:
[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/JF9KAH3](http://tinyurl.com/jf9kah3)



ALL PROCEEDS GO TO:
BUSSMA YOUTH COMMUNITY CENTER



Event Dates: April 4-17, 2016

Palestine and the Limits of Academic Freedom

Steven Salaita and Rashid Khalidi

Steven Salaita and Rashid Khalidi discussed academic freedom, free speech on campus, and the movement for justice in Palestine.

In the summer of 2014, renowned American Indian studies professor Steven Salaita had his appointment to a tenured professorship revoked by the board of trustees of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Salaita's employment was terminated in response to his public tweets criticizing the Israeli government's summer assault on Gaza.

Salaita's firing generated a huge public outcry, with thousands petitioning for his reinstatement, and more than five thousand scholars pledging to boycott UIUC. His case raises important questions about academic freedom, free speech on campus, and the movement for justice in Palestine.

In his new book *Uncivil Rites*, Salaita combines personal reflection and political critique to shed new light on his controversial termination. He situates his case at the intersection of important issues that affect both higher education and social justice activism.

Steven Salaita currently holds the Edward W. Said Chair of American Studies at the American University of Beirut. Author of six previous books, he is a regular columnist for *Electronic Intifada* and a member of the Organizing Committee of the US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (USACBI).

Rashid Khalidi is the Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies and chair of the Department of History at Columbia University. He received his B.A. from Yale University in 1970, and his D.Phil. from Oxford University in 1974. He has taught at the Lebanese University, the American University of Beirut, Georgetown University, and at the University of Chicago. He is past President of the Middle East Studies Association, and the editor of the *Journal of Palestine Studies*.

Event Date: October 6, 2015
Cosponsors: Haymarket Books, and Book Culture.

In Conversation

Suad Amiry and Susan Abulhawa

Palestinian architect and author Suad Amiry and Palestinian-American writer and human rights activist Susan Abulhawa discussed their newly published books within a broader conversation around contemporary Palestinian literature.



Amiry's newly published *Golda Slept Here* traces the lives of individual members of Palestinian families and, through them, the histories of both Palestine and the emigre Palestinian community in other countries of the Middle East.



Abulhawa's novel, *The Blue Between Sky and Water* is a story of powerful, flawed women; of relocation, separation and heartache; of renewal, family, endurance, and love.

Event Date: October 19, 2015

Palestinian Futures

Remembering the Nakba



Professor Marianne Hirsch is William Peterfield Trent Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University and Director of the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality. She is a past president of the Modern Language Association of America. Hirsch's work combines feminist theory with memory studies, particularly the transmission of memories of violence across generations. Her most recent book *The Generation of Postmemory: Writing and Visual Culture After the Holocaust* was published by Columbia University Press in 2012.



Dr. Eman Abu Hanna-Nahhas is the Head of the Department of Education at the Teacher's College in Haifa. She wrote her Ph.D. dissertation on the subject of, "The Transfer of the Collective Memory of the Plight of the Palestinians Inside and Outside the Country", and received her doctorate from the Faculty of Education at Tel Aviv University. She joined the board of Adalah-The Legal Center for Arab and Minority Rights, in 2014.

Event Date: November 13, 2015

Cosponsors: Adalah-The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, the Institute for Research on Women, Gender and Sexuality, and the Columbia Center for Oral History Research.

Palestine Re-Covered

Reading a Settler Colonial Landscape

Based on an extensive photo archive of road signs, **Abdul Rahim al-Shaikh**, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Cultural Studies at Birzeit University, Fulbright Visiting Senior Scholar at the Center for Palestine Studies, interrogated the colonial politics of toponymy within historic Palestine from as early as 1856. He showed how eurocentric, colonizing politics of toponymy were deployed by the Zionists, the Zionist movement, and the settler colonial state of Israel to rename the Palestinian landscape. Declaring Palestine a terra nullius brought the Columbus namemania into play, necessitating theorizing the collapse of two events, Euro-American colonialism and Zionism, in one, albeit ongoing, structure.

Based on a meticulous examination of local archives of a leftist Zionist movement - Ha-Shomer Ha-Tza'ir - in Marj Ibn 'Amer, **Areej Sabbagh-Khoury**, Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Post-Doctoral Fellow at Columbia University, tracked the process of settler colonial practices and ideologies that enabled the expulsion in 1948 and the pillaging of the property of their Palestinian neighbors. She also explored the politics of remembering by Ha-Shomer Ha-Tzair kibbutzim members as they reconstructed memories of the 1948 colonization practices and their role in the Nakba.

Event Date: February 11, 2016

The Zionist Left

Settler Colonial Practices and the Representation of the Palestinian Nakba in Northern Palestine

Based on a meticulous examination of archival material documenting the process of Zionist land accumulation and the expulsions of Palestinians from 1936 to mid-1950s, **Areej Sabbagh-Khoury** argued that the 1948 Nakba was neither the beginning nor the end of a process of settler-colonial expropriation. Instead, she claimed that the mid-1930s signaled intensified efforts to expel Palestinian sharecroppers, a practice which culminated in the Nakba. In particular, she discussed the case of a thickly populated closed

frontier of Marj Iban 'Amer (Jezreel Valley) region located in Northern Palestine. In this context the Zionist settlers utilized forceful practices, perpetrated in this region by the Ha-Shomer Ha-Tza'ir movement, self-described as a socialist and bi-national movement, to vacate the lands of its Palestinian inhabitants. She also explored how the politics of remembering by members of Ha-Shomer Ha-Tzair kibbutzim reconstructed memories of the pre-1948 colonization practices and their role in the Nakba.

Event Date: November 30, 2015

The Ethics of Trauma

Moral Injury, Combat, and U.S. Empire A seminar with Nadia Abu El-Haj

In their book *The Empire of Trauma*, Didier Fassin and Richard Rechtman ask, "[W]hen we consider the soldier suffering from nightmares and flashbacks as psychologically wounded rather than as a malingerer or a hero, what does this view of war and those who participate in it tell us," (2009: 8)? Taking inspiration from their question, El-Haj considers the political and ethical consequences of shifting understandings of the trauma of soldiers for how an American public might come to know and understand U.S. wars—past and present. She

recuperated a different reading of the emergence of PTSD in the aftermath of the Vietnam War, exploring an understanding of (soldier) trauma that, she argued, preceded trauma's equation with victimhood. She then turned to the post-9/11 wars and examined the ways in which the trauma of (U.S.) soldiers has come to be understood and that "we" as "American civilians" are called upon to recognize and bear responsibility for the psychological suffering of those sent off to war in "our name."

Event Date: November 12, 2015

CPS Palestine Library



CPS Palestine Library

Fall 2015

Spring 2016

THE PALESTINE LIBRARY
2015-2016 SERIES

A series of book talks presented by the Center for Palestine Studies, Columbia University

FALL 2015

Tuesday October 6 @ 1 PM, Book Culture
Steven Salaita and **Rashid Khalidi** in Conversation
Palestine and the Limits of Academic Freedom

Wednesday October 7 @ 6:30 PM, Signature Theatre w/ TCG Publishing
Naomi Wallace and **Ismail Khalidi**
Inside/Outside: Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora

Monday October 19 @ 6:30 PM, Stable Center JSchool
Suad Amiry and **Susan Abulhawa** in Conversation
Golda Slept Here, The Blue Between the Sky and Water

Wednesday October 21 @ 12 PM, IAB 1512 w/ Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability
Noga Kadman
Erased from Space and Consciousness: Israel and the Depopulated Palestinian Villages of 1948

Thursday November 19 @ 7 PM, Book Culture
Irene Gendzier
Dying to Forget: Oil, Power, Palestine and the Foundations of U.S. Policy in the Middle East



www.columbia.edu/cu/palestine

THE PALESTINE LIBRARY
2015-2016 SERIES

A series of book talks presented by the Center for Palestine Studies, Columbia University

SPRING 2016

Tuesday March 22 @ 1230 PM, Knox Hall 207
Abigail Jacobson
Oriental Neighbors: Middle Eastern Jews and Arabs in Mandatory Palestine

Monday April 4 @ 6:30 PM, World Room
Yasir Suleiman
Being Palestinian

Friday April 8 @ 12:30 PM, Book Culture
Nicola Perugini
The Human Right to Dominate

April 20 @ 7 PM, Book Culture
RuFreeman
Extraordinary Rendition: American Writers on Palestine

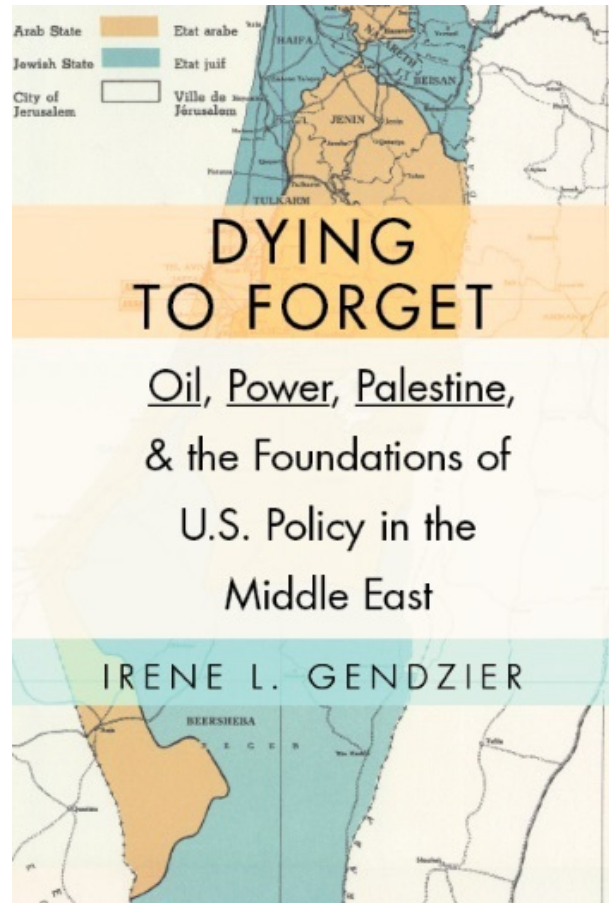


www.columbia.edu/cu/palestine

Dying to Forget Oil, Power, Palestine & the Foundations of U.S. Policy in the Middle East

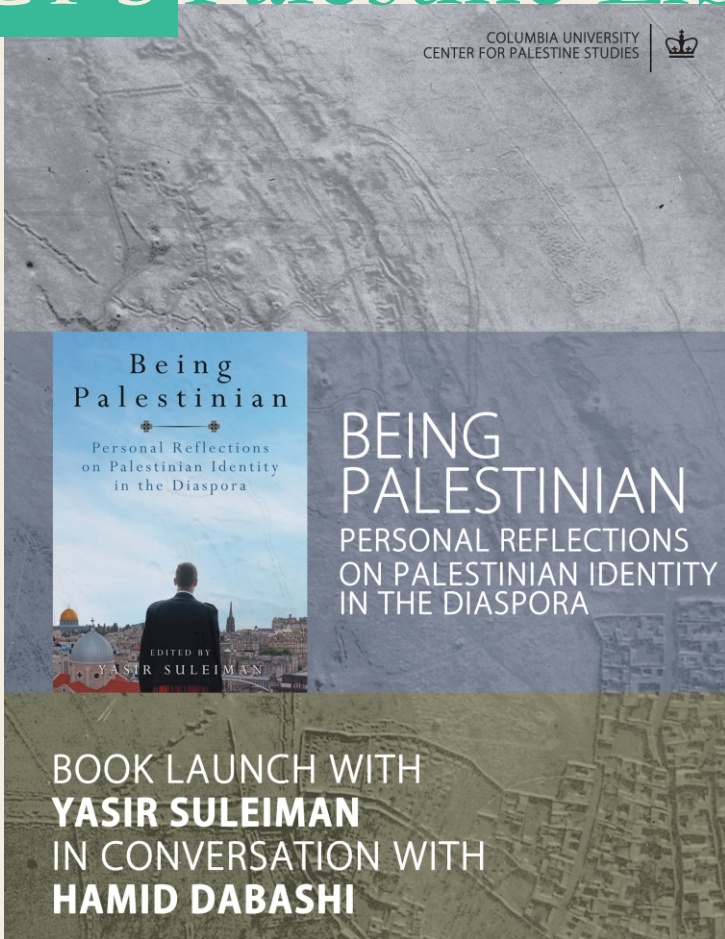
Irene L. Gendzier presented incontrovertible evidence that oil politics played a significant role in the founding of Israel, the policy then adopted by the United States toward Palestinians, and subsequent U.S. involvement in the region. Consulting declassified U.S. government sources, as well as papers in the H.S. Truman Library, she uncovered little-known features of U.S. involvement in the region, including significant exchanges in the winter and spring of 1948 between the director of the Oil and Gas Division of the Interior Department and the representative of the Jewish Agency in the United States, months before Israel's independence and recognition by President Truman.

Gendzier also shows that U.S. consuls and representatives abroad informed State Department officials, including the Secretary of State and the President, of the deleterious consequences of partition in Palestine. Yet the attempt to reconsider partition and replace it with a UN trusteeship for Palestine failed, jettisoned by Israel's declaration of independence. The results altered the regional balance of power and Washington's calculations of policy toward the new state. Prior to that, Gendzier



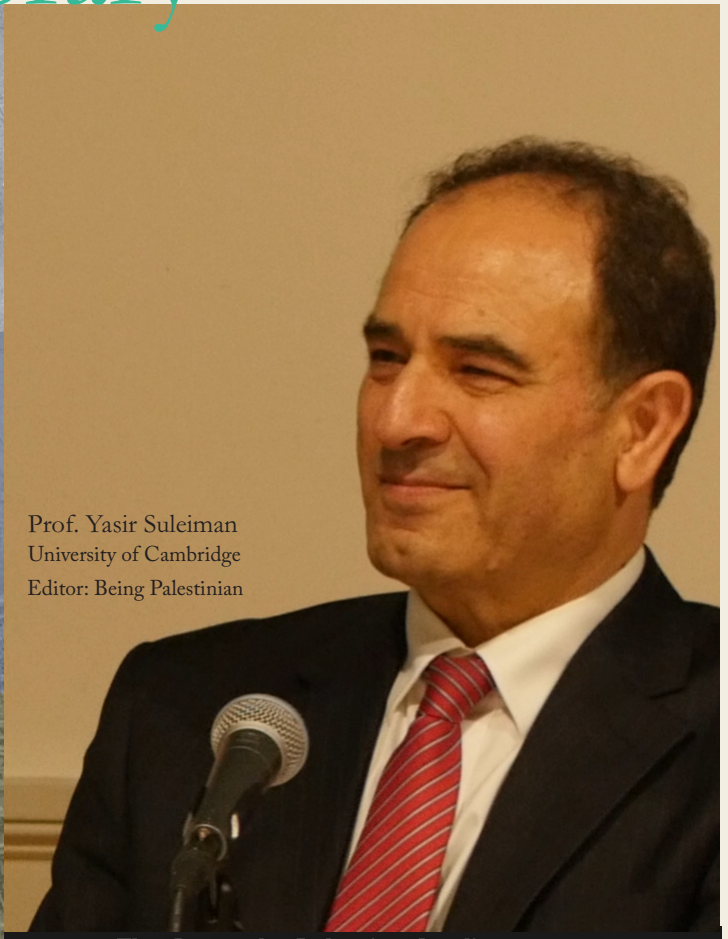
revealed the U.S. endorsed the repatriation of Palestinian refugees in accord with UNGA Res 194 of Dec. 11, 1948, in addition to the resolution of territorial claims, the definition of boundaries, and the internationalization of Jerusalem. But U.S. interests in the Middle East, notably the protection of American oil interests, led U.S. officials to rethink Israel's military potential as a strategic ally. Washington then deferred to Israel with respect to the repatriation of Palestinian refugees, the question of boundaries, and the fate of Jerusalem--issues that U.S. officials have come to realize are central to the 1948 conflict and its aftermath.

Event Date: November 19, 2015



BEING PALESTINIAN PERSONAL REFLECTIONS ON PALESTINIAN IDENTITY IN THE DIASPORA

BOOK LAUNCH WITH
YASIR SULEIMAN
IN CONVERSATION WITH
HAMID DABASHI



Prof. Yasir Suleiman
University of Cambridge
Editor: Being Palestinian

The Center for Palestine Studies presents

Oriental Neighbors: Middle Eastern Jews and Arabs in Mandatory Palestine



Abigail Jacobson
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Author: Oriental Neighbors



book launch with
Abigail Jacobson
in conversation with
Rashid Khalidi

March 22, 2016
12:30pm
207 Knox Hall

606 West 122nd st

co-sponsored by The Middle East Institute
www.columbia.edu/cu/palestine/

Erased from Space and Consciousness

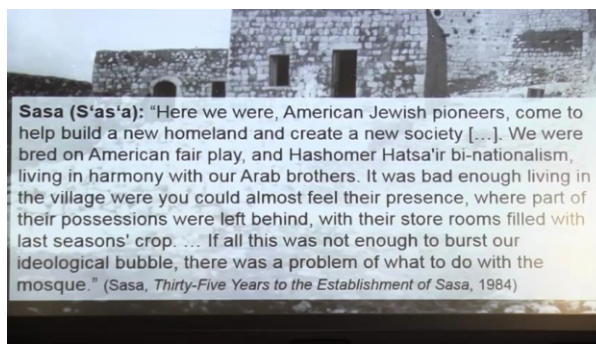
Israel and the Depopulated Palestinian Villages of 1948

Hundreds of Palestinian villages were left empty across Israel when their residents became refugees after the 1948 war, their lands and property confiscated. Most of the villages were razed by the new State of Israel, but in dozens of others, communities of Jews were settled — many refugees in their own right. The state embarked on a systematic effort of renaming and remaking the landscape, and the Arab presence was all but erased from official maps and histories. Israelis are familiar with the ruins, terraces, and orchards that mark these sites today — almost half are located within tourist areas or national parks — but public descriptions rarely acknowledge that Arab communities existed there within living memory or describe how they came to be depopulated.

Using kibbutz publications, and visits to the former village sites, Noga Kadman has reconstructed this history of erasure for all 418 depopulated villages.



Noga Kadman is a researcher and licensed tour guide whose main interest is to explore the encounter between Israelis and the Palestinian presence in the landscape and history of the country. She is co-editor of *Once Upon a Land: A Tour Guide to Depopulated Palestinian Villages and Towns* (in Hebrew and Arabic).



Event Date: October 21, 2015
Cosponsor: Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability

CPS Palestine Library

Extraordinary Rendition (American) Writers on Palestine



EXTRAORDINARY RENDITION (AMERICAN) WRITERS ON PALESTINE

PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE ROLE
OF LITERATURE IN POLITICS

MODERATED BY BRUCE ROBBINS

With award-winning writers:

Ru Freeman

Sri Lankan born writer and activist. Author of the novels *A Disobedient Girl*, and *On Sal Mal Lane*.

Marilyn Hacker

Poet and Professor of English at the City College of New York. Author of thirteen books of poems, including *A Stranger's Mirror*, *Names*, and *Desesperanto*.

Lawrence Joseph

Poet, critic, essayist, and professor of law. Author of five books of poetry, most recently *Codes, Precepts, Biases, and Taboos: Poems 1973-1993*. Also the author of two books of prose, *Lawyerland* and *The Game Changed: Essays and Other Prose*.

Nancy Kricorian

Activist with CODEPINK and author of *All the Light There Was*, *Zabelle* and *Dreams of Bread and Fire*.

Eileen Myles

Poet, novelist, performer and art journalist. Author of nineteen books including *I Must Be Living Twice: New & Selected Poems* and *Chelsea Girls*.

**APRIL 20, 7PM
BOOK CULTURE
536 WEST 112TH ST**

The Center for Palestine Studies Presents EXTRAORDINARY RENDITION (AMERICAN) WRITERS ON PALESTINE

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
MODERATED BY BRUCE ROBBINS

**APRIL 20, 7PM
BOOK CULTURE
536 WEST 112TH ST**



RU FREEMAN

Sri Lankan born writer and activist. Author of the novels *A Disobedient Girl*, and *On Sal Mal Lane*, a NYT Editor's Choice Book.



MARILYN HACKER

Award-winning poet and Professor of English at the City College of New York. Author of thirteen books of poems, including *A Stranger's Mirror*, *Names*, and *Desesperanto*.



LAWRENCE JOSEPH

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EILEEN MYLES

Poet, novelist, performer and art journalist. Author of nineteen books including *I Must Be Living Twice: New & Selected Poems* and *Chelsea Girls*.

Emilio Dabed

Columbia University Palestine Law Fellow, Fall 2015 & Spring 2016

Emilio Dabed was born in Chile to a Palestinian family from Beit Jala. He is a lawyer specializing in constitutional matters, and he is currently the Palestine and Law Fellow and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law at Columbia University Law School-Center for Palestine Studies 2015-2016. Previously, he was the director (2014-2015) of the International Law and Human Rights Program at Al-Quds/Bard College, Jerusalem, where he had been teaching between 2011 and 2015. Dabed holds a Ph.D. in Political Sciences from Institut de Sciences Politiques, Aix en Provence, and IREMAM-CNRS (Institut de Recherche et

d'Etudes sur le Monde Arabe et Musulman-Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, Aix-en-Provence, France) on the constitutional process in Palestine. His latest research looks at the relations between legal processes and discursive practices, on the one hand, and political and social changes, subjectivity, and identity formation on the other. His work aims to shed light on the role that juridical phenomena play in sociological and anthropological questions and, more specifically, on the disciplinary powers of law and the discourse of (human) rights in contemporary Palestine.

Areej Sabbagh-Khoury

Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Post-Doctoral Fellow, Fall 2015

Areej Sabbagh-Khoury is Ibrahim Abu-Lughod Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Columbia Center for Palestine Studies. She is an associate researcher and the Academic Coordinator of the Political Participation Project of Palestinians in Israel at Mada al-Carmel - The Arab Center for Applied Social Research. She is spending Fall 2015 at Columbia University working on a book project based on her dissertation research, *Colonization Practices and Interactions at the Frontier: Ha-*

Shomer Ha-Tzair Kibbutzim and the Surrounding Arab Villages at the Margins of the Valley of Jezreel/Marj Ibn 'Amer, 1936-1956. Her most recent publication is a co-authored article in *Settler Colonial Studies*; "Settler Colonial Citizenship: Conceptualizing the Relationship between Israel and its Palestinian Citizens." She has received several awards and grants for her research, among them the Fulbright Post-doctoral Scholar Award.

Omar Jabary Salamanca

Marie Curie Post-Doctoral Fellow, 2014-2016

Postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS) at Columbia University, member of the international advisory board of Antipode, member of the steering committee of the

International Critical Geography Group, contributor to the Jadaliyya Cities Page Network and co-organizer of the Eye On Palestine Arts and Film Festival.

Abdul-Rahim Al-Shaikh

CPS Visiting Scholar, Fall 2015 & Spring 2016, Fulbright scholar.

Abdul-Rahim Al-Shaikh is Associate Professor of Philosophy, and Cultural and Arab Studies at Birzeit University. His work focuses on cultural representations and the politics of Palestinian identity, in addition to his works on Arab poetry, art criticism, and translation. As a Fulbright Scholar, he is spending the 2015-2016 academic year at the Center for Palestine Studies at Columbia University working on his project entitled, *The Palestinian Living Cemetery*. Al-Shaikh earned his Ph.D. in Middle East and Arab Studies at the University of Utah, after which he conducted his postdoctoral research in cultural mobility in near-eastern cultures at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Since 2005, he has been a fellow at both Muwatin-The Palestinian

Institute for the Study of Democracy, and the Institute of Palestine Studies. He is the author of: *Sharon's Golden Heart: A Mythical Trial* (2007), *Palestinian Textbooks: Issues of Identity and Citizenship* (2008) and *The Biography of Gabi Baramki and His Odyssey at Birzeit University 1929-2012* (2015). He translated Hussein Barghouthi's autobiography *al-Daw' al-Azraq* (*The Blue Light*) into English (2003), and Oz Shelach's *Picnic Grounds* (2010) into Arabic. He has published three collections of poetry: *Ash Wheels* (1998), *City Remnants* (2003), and *Departing Narratives* (2012). His forthcoming book is titled: *The Columbus Syndrome and the Veiling of Palestine: Politics of Toponymy of the Palestinian Landscape 1856-2015* (2016).

The Annual Edward W. Said Memorial Lecture

The Future of the Past: Revival Ireland 1891-1922

Declan Kiberd, renowned scholar of Irish Literature, delivered the annual Edward W. Said Memorial Lecture. The history of literature, said Carlyle, is a narrative of "revivals". The Revival which occurred in Ireland a century ago, far from being a case of late-blooming Romanticism, was a systematic attempt to adapt and update the civic values of the eighteenth-century Enlightenment.

Although simplified in many subsequent accounts as a manifestation of nationalism, it was in fact a project for liberation. It offered new roles for women, theosophists, socialists, pacifists, secularists and alternative models of republican modernity outside of the available state codes; and its leaders took Ireland as a test-case of the modern decolonising world. They were the first English-speaking people in the twentieth century to walk in hope and in darkness down what would become a better-lit road. The lecture will consider a range of well-known authors such as Yeats and Joyce, locating them against a backdrop which introduces less familiar figures such as Mary Colum, James and Margaret Cousins and Francis Sheehy Skeffington.



Declan Kiberd is the Donald and Marilyn Keough Professor of Irish Studies, and Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame. His specialty is Modern Irish and English Literature. A leading international authority on the literature of Ireland, both in English and Irish, Kiberd has authored scores of articles and many books, including *Synge and the Irish Language*, *Men and Feminism in Irish Literature*, *Irish Classics*, *The Irish Writer and the World*, *Inventing Ireland*, and *Ulysses and Us: The Art of Everyday Life in Joyce's Masterpiece* (2009).

Event Date: November 19, 2015

Cosponsors: The Heyman Center for the Humanities, and
The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies

CPS Related Programming

Hannibal in Rafah

A Forensic Reconstruction of
One Day In The 2014 Gaza War

EYAL WEIZMAN, Goldsmiths, University of London 'Islamic' Art: Disrupting Unity and Discerning Ruptures A series of lectures to address the historiography of the field 'Islamic Art' by scoring the particular moments of ruptures that fractured its foundations.

Organized by Avinoam Shalem, Riggio Professor, Arts of Islam, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University, in collaboration with the Middle East Institute, Columbia University.

Event Date: September 21, 2015



"We are Not Red Indians" (We Might all Be Red Indians)

Anticolonial Sovereignty Across the Borders of Time, Place and Sentiment

Professor **Audra Simpson**, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University

In a 2004 interview Yasser Arafat, in a state of near confinement and exhaustion, reflected upon his incapacity to move without the immediate threat of assassination, about the Palestinian right of return, about American elections, and his achievements. Among these achievements was the fact that "the Palestine case was the biggest problem in the world" and that Israel had "failed to wipe us out."

As a final mark of that success, he added the declarative and comparative and final point of distinction, "we are not red Indians." This paper

uses this point of comparison of a departure point to reflect upon the deep specificity and global illegibility of Indigenous struggle and life in the face of death and dispossession in North America. In order to do so I will choose a series of historical assemblages—of sociality, treaty-making, militarized pushbacks upon encroachment, spatial confinement ("reservationization"), and pushback for land, for life and for dignity within occupation to amend Arafat's statement and reimagine "success."

At the end of the paper it is asked how these processes may be re-narrated and comprehended in a global, comparative frame of not only analysis, but struggles for justice.

Event Date: September 28, 2015

Speed Sisters

US Premiere

The Speed Sisters were the first all-woman race car driving team in the Middle East. Grabbing headlines and turning heads at improvised tracks across the West Bank, these five women have sped their way into the heart of the gritty, male-

dominated Palestinian street car-racing scene. Weaving together their lives on and off the track, SPEED SISTERS takes you on a surprising journey into the drive to go further and faster than anyone thought you could.

Event Date: November 14, 2015

CPS Related Programming

Tanya Habjouqa presents **Occupied Pleasures**

Monday Nov 23 6:30 pm
World Room/Pulitzer bldg
Artist talk, photo exhibition and
panel with professor Nina Berman



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