

# The Transnational Muse: Geographies of Home and Destination in Contemporary Letters



**Silvio Torres-Saillant, Ph.D.**, William P. Tolley Distinguished Professor of English, Syracuse University, is author of *An Intellectual History of the Caribbean* and *Caribbean Poetics*, among other books. He has been widely published in journals such as *Small Axe*, *Hostos Review*, *Review: Literature and Arts of the Americas*, and is the Associate Editor of the journal *Latino Studies*.

Dr. Torres-Saillant's presentation meditates on the significant emergence of a body of writing whose texts straddle the literary histories of two or more nation-states simultaneously. Evoking the European and North American literary panorama wherein authors of Caribbean descent have gained ascendancy, and focusing on the trajectory of Dominican-descended American poet Rhina P. Espaillat, it invites reflection on the impact of diasporas on the geographic constitution of the space in which the literary imagination in contemporary writing perambulates. This discussion is placed against the backdrop of a colonial history that, in interlinking through imperial domination otherwise distinct national histories, sets the stage for the rise of a cultural domain that inexorably brims over the contours of nation-states.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
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**Date: Thursday, October 22, 2009**

**Time: 4:30 p.m.**

**Place: Plangere Writing Center, Room 302  
Murray Hall, College Avenue Campus**

*Reception to follow*

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