

NEWS FROM:



Communication and Marketing Department
Isebe loThungelwano neNtengiso
Kommunikasie en Bemerkingsdepartement

Private Bag X3, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa
La Grotto House, Glendarrach Rd, Rondebosch, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650-3733/2, Fax: +27 (0) 21 650-5682
Internet: www.uct.ac.za

22 September 2011

Global activist/feminist to speak at UCT

Professor Gayatri Spivak to speak on *The Tradition of Critique and Feminist Writing*

Tuesday, 27 September 2011, at 18h00, LT1, Wilfred and Jules Kramer Law Building, Cross Campus Road, Rondebosch

Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak of Columbia University will speak on “The Tradition of Critique and Feminist Writing”, in the Vice-Chancellor’s Open Lecture at the University of Cape Town on Tuesday, 27 September 2011.

Professor Spivak has been an activist in rural education and in feminist and ecological social movements since 1986. A distinguished scholar, critic and activist, she is often cited as one of the founders of the academic field that came to be known as postcolonial studies, as well as subaltern studies, which is scholarship on postcolonial and post-imperial studies in south Asia and the developing world.

Professor Spivak is a literary critic and theorist. She holds the title of University Professor at Columbia University. In 2007 she became only the third woman, and the first woman of colour, to hold this title, which the institution bestows on scholars of international distinction. She is also a founding member of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society at Columbia.

Most graduate students and scholars in the English-speaking world of the 1980s first came to know Professor Spivak’s work through her landmark translation of Jacques Derrida’s *Of Grammatology*. Professor Spivak’s works have been translated into a host of languages. Among the most translated of her books are *Myself Must I Remake: The Life and Poetry of WB Yeats*; *In Other Worlds: Essays in Cultural Politics*; *Selected Subaltern Studies*; *The Post-Colonial Critic: Interviews, Strategies, Dialogues*; *Thinking Academic Freedom in Gendered Post-Coloniality*; *Outside in the Teaching Machine*; *The Spivak Reader*; *Imperatives to Re-Imagine the Planet/Imperative zur Neuerfindung des Planeten*; *A Critique of Postcolonial Reason: Towards a History of the Vanishing Present*; *Death of a Discipline*; and *Other Asias*.

Professor Spivak has held visiting professorships at many prestigious institutions of higher education in Asia and Europe, lectured around the globe and delivered keynote addresses across a spectrum of disciplines and subjects. Her many honours include a Society for the Humanities Fellowship from Cornell University; fellowships from the Humanities Research Centre at the Australian National University and the Davis Centre for Historical Study at Princeton; a Guggenheim Fellowship; a Tagore Professorship at the MS University of Baroda in India; and a YK Pao Distinguished Visiting Professorship in Cultural Studies at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She has

taught at the universities of Iowa, Texas-Austin, Emory, Pittsburgh (becoming the first woman to hold a Mellon professorship) and Columbia.

ENDS

Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

For media queries:

Patricia Lucas

Tel: (021) 650 5428 Fax (021) 650 5628

Cell: 076 292 8047

E-mail: pat.lucas@uct.ac.za

University of Cape Town

Rondebosch

Website: www.uct.ac.za