

BUNCHE

Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

Bunche Center Circle of Thought Presents



Evie Shockley

Discussing

"'Nothing to See': Ekphrasis and Black Subjectivity in Saidiya Hartman's *Lose Your Mother*"

Tuesday, May 28, 2015

Haines 135

2:00 PM—4:00 PM

Evie Shockley is an associate professor of English at Rutgers University-New Brunswick. She is the author of *Renegade Poetics: Black Aesthetics and Formal Innovation in African American Poetry*, as well as two books of poetry, *half-red sea* and *the new black* (which won the 2012 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Poetry). Her essays and poetry have appeared recently or are forthcoming in *The Cambridge Companion to Modern American Poetry*, *LitHub The Best American Poetry 2015*, and *The Best American Experimental Writing 2015*, among other publications. This talk situates *Hartman's Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route* (2007) -- part history, part memoir -- within a body of contemporary narratives of slavery that serve to make black subjectivity visible in an era of "colorblind" ideology. Hartman recounts her attempts to reconnect with her African history by traveling to Ghana's Gold Coast and tracing the slave routes backward to the interior.

**For event information including directions and parking, visit
www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu**