

Centre for European Studies in collaboration with Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute presented a Lecture series by Dr. Rohini BANNERJEE.

1. Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 : Discussion on Petit éloge des fantômes de Nathacha APPANAH



Dr. Bannerjee began her lecture series by discussing Nathacha Appanah's most recent book, *Petit éloge des fantômes*. She explored the theme of presence and absence that runs through the book. Dr. Bannerjee analysed and discussed how Appanah provides polyphonic perspectives on the idea of phantoms. The memory of a loved one, a cyclone, a photograph can all become phantoms

2. Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019: Discussion des poems inédits de Khal TORABULLY.

This lecture started with Dr. Bannerjee providing a little background on Mauritian poet, writer and film maker Khal Torabully. Each participant then read a poem and the discussion

would ensue. Dr. Bannerjee would invite each participant, to share their thoughts and ideas on the poem and it's meaning. She also introduced us to the theory of intergenerational trauma and how it plays out in the context of Mauritius and Mauritians.

3. Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019 : Discussion on Quand la nuit consent à me parler de Ananda DEVI

Dr. Bannerjee began this lecture by asking the participants to work in pairs and share their opinions on Ananda Devi and her works. This was followed by a discussion of *Poétique des îles* from Devi's poetry collection. Dr. Bannerjee linked the emerging ideas to the opinions shared at the beginning of the class and put Devi and her work in



perspective. The class ended with a discussion on the themes that emerge in her poems.



4. Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019 : Discussion on Manger Prêtes à (non) (trop)manger : La liberté féministe – alimentaire à la francophone mauricienne d'Ananda DEVI.

This lecture began with a brief overview of Devi's novel *Pagli*. Dr. Bannerjee explained how the protagonist Daya, converts her moments of vulnerability, to her strength. Using Michel de Certeau's theory, she analysed how Daya's decision of not eating, is her way of exerting her liberty. Dr. Bannerjee contrasted it with, the anonymous protagonist of the book *Manger l'autre*, where she eats excessively and is defined by her weight. Examining the liberty of eating and not eating through De Certeau's lens was a huge learning experience for the participants.





**CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES**  
UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI



**SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY**  
SHASTRI INSTITUTE

**Centre for European Studies cordially invites you to a lecture series by  
Dr. Rohini Bannerjee, Saint Mary's University, Canada**



- **Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm**  
*Discussion sur Petit éloge des fantômes de Nathacha APPANAH*
- **Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm**  
*Discussion des poèmes inédits de Khal TORABULLY*
- **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019: 10:00 am to 12:30 pm**  
*La plume fantomatique de Nathacha APPANAH*
- **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019: 10:00 am to 2:30 pm**
  - Discussion sur Ananda DEVI et son recueil de poèmes: *Quand la nuit consent à me parler*
  - *Prêtes à (non) (trop) manger: La liberté féministe-alimentaire à la francophone mauricienne d'Ananda DEVI*

Dr. Rohini Bannerjee is an Associate Professor of French and Francophone Studies along with being a Faculty member of the Asian Studies, International Development Studies and Joint (MA) Program in Women and Gender Studies programs at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Her primary areas of research is in the contemporary Francophone literatures of the Indian Ocean, in particular, the works of Ananda Devi, Shonaz Patel and Natacha Appanah. In September 2019, Dr. Bannerjee will begin a three term as Coordinator of the Graduate Program (MA & PhD) in International Development Studies at Saint Mary's University.



**Venue:**  
Room No. 315, Department of Economics  
Banade Bhavan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
University of Mumbai  
Vidyanagar, Santacruz (East), Mumbai