

## Curriculum Vitae

### Stephanie S. Li

Department of English  
319 Morey Hall  
University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY 14627-0451  
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### Education

- Ph.D. English Language and Literature, Cornell University. August 2005  
Dissertation Co-Chairs: Shirley Samuels and Hortense Spillers  
*Resistance Through the Body: Power, Representation, and the Enslaved Woman*
- M.F.A. Creative Writing in Fiction, Cornell University. January 2004  
Thesis Advisor: Helena Viramontes  
*Ombliigo*
- M.A. English Language and Literature, Cornell University. May 2003
- B.A. with honors and distinction, Comparative Literature, Stanford University. June 1998

### Academic Experience

- Assistant Professor of English, University of Rochester, 2006-present
- Visiting Professor of English, University of Rochester, 2005-06
- Instructor, Department of English, Cornell University, 2001-04

### Teaching and Research Interests

Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Literature, African American Studies, Feminist and Gender Studies, Cultural Studies, Creative Writing

### Book Publications

*“Something Akin to Freedom:” The Choice of Bondage in Narratives by African American Women.* Forthcoming from SUNY Press, 2010. (Winner of the First Book Prize in African American Studies)

*Toni Morrison: A Biography.* Forthcoming from Greenwood Press, 2009.

### Additional Publications

“Performing Intimacy: Black Private Letters in the Public Sphere.” *SAQ* (Fall 2009)

Forthcoming.

- “Becoming her Mother’s Mother: Recreating Home and the Self in Audre Lorde’s *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*.” *Reclaiming Home, Remembering Motherhood, Rewriting History: African American and Afro-Caribbean Women’s Literature in the Twentieth Century*. Eds. Marie Drews and Verena Theile. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2009. 156-175. In press.
- “Domestic Resistance: Gardening, Mothering and Storytelling in Leslie Marmon Silko’s *Garden in the Dunes*.” *Studies in American Indian Literature*. 21.1 (Spring 2009): 18-37.
- “Intimacy in the Radical Narratives of Toni Morrison.” *Reading America: New Perspectives on the American Novel*. Eds. Elizabeth Boyle and Anne-Marie Evans. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2008. 111-126.
- ““Sometimes things disappear”: Absence and Mutability in Colson Whitehead’s *The Colossus of New York*.” *Literature after 9/11*. Eds. Ann Keniston and Jeanne Follansbee Quinn. New York: Routledge, 2008. 82-98.
- “Racial Alliances in a White Neo-Slave Narrative: Susan Straight’s *A Million Nightingales*.” *Revisiting Slave Narratives II*. Ed. Judith Misrahi-Barak. Montpellier, France: Les Carnets du Cerpac, 2007. 249-273.
- ““Who knows but that, on the lower frequencies, I speak for you?”: The Polyphony of Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man*.” *Teaching the Novel Across the Curriculum: A Handbook for Educators*. Ed. Colin Irvine. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2007. 94-104.
- “Humanizing the Horrific in Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye*” and “Hatred, War, and Sex: The Secrets of Toni Morrison’s *Love*.” *The Fiction of Toni Morrison: Reading and Writing on Race, Culture, and Identity*. Ed. Jami Carlacio. Urbana, IL: National Council of Teachers of English, 2007. 16-19 and 186-191.
- “Resistance, Silence, and Places: Bon’s Octoroon Mistress and Louisa Picquet.” *American Literature*. 79:1 (March 2007): 85-112.
- “The Secret American.” *Telling Tongues: New Perspectives on Language, Identity, and Power in America Latina*. Eds. Louis Mendoza and Toni Nelson-Herrera. Austin, TX: Red Salmon Press, 2007. 98-106.
- “Love and the Trauma of Resistance in Gayl Jones’s *Corregidora*.” *Callaloo*. 29:1 (Winter 2006): 131-150.
- “Motherhood as Resistance in Harriet Jacobs’s *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*.” *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*. 23:1 (2006): 14-29.
- “Thief.” *Coloring Book: An Eclectic Anthology of Fiction and Poetry by Multicultural*

*Writers*. Ed. Boice-Terrel Allen. Pittsburgh: Rattlecat Press, 2003. 203-210.

"*Intruder in the Dust* from Novel to Movie: The Development of Chick Mallison." *The Faulkner Journal*, 16:1&2 (Fall 2000/Spring 2001): 105-118.

"In Search of My Ombligo." *The Geography of Encounters: People of Asian Descent in the Americas*. Ed. Roshni Rustomji-Kerns. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman Littlefield Publishers, 1998. 41-46.

### **Teaching Experience**

Department of English, University of Rochester: Rochester, NY

English 250: "The Fiction of Race, Race in Fiction," Fall 2008

English 545/243: "Toni Morrison and Critical Theory," Spring 2008 & 2009

English 230: "Contemporary Black Women Writers," Spring 2007

English 120: "Creative Writing," Fall 2005, Spring 2007 & 2008, Fall 2008

English 115: "Survey of American Literature," Fall 2006 & 2007, Spring 2009

English 380: "Immigration, Assimilation and American Autobiography," Fall 2006 & 2007

English 116: "Introduction to African American Literature," Fall 2005

CAS 105: "Immigration and American Identity," Spring 2006

Department of English, Cornell University: Ithaca, NY

English 350: "The Modern Tradition," Fall 2004 (Teaching Assistant)

English 209: "Introduction to Cultural Studies," Fall 2004 (Reader)

FGSS 201: "Introduction to Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies," Fall 2003 (Reader)

English 280: "Creative Writing," Fall 2003

English 105.1: "The Radical Narratives of Toni Morrison," Fall 2001, Spring 2002

Auburn Correctional Facility: Auburn, NY

"Introduction to Creative Writing," Summer 2001

Department of English, Palo Alto High School: Palo Alto, CA

"Critical Thinking and Writing I," 1998-1999, 1999-2000

Advanced Freshman English Literature and Composition

"World Literature," Fall 1998, Spring 1999

Senior English Elective

"American Writers of Color," Fall 1999, Spring 2000

English Elective open to Juniors and Seniors

Yunnan Normal School: Kunming, China

"Conversational English," Summer 1995

### **Lectures and Conference Presentations**

"Adultery and Interracial Sex in the Stories of Jhumpa Lahiri." American Literature Association Conference. May 2009. Boston, MA.

- “Barack Obama: In Search of his Father, In Search of Himself.” *The Obama Phenomenon: Race and Political Discourse in the United States Today*. April 2009. Memphis, TN
- “The Poetry of Toni Morrison.” Susan B. Anthony Institute, November 2008. University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.
- “The Making of Barack Obama.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. October 2008. Albuquerque, NM.
- “Trauma and Slavery in Gayl Jones’s *Corregidora*.” College English Association Annual Conference. March 2008. St Louis, MO.
- “Politics and Media Constructions: Anticipating the 2008 Election.” A Conversation with Bob Smith. WXXI 1370 Radio. October 9, 2008. Rochester, NY.
- “Bon’s Octoroon Mistress: Racial and Sexual Fantasies in William Faulkner’s *Absalom, Absalom!*” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. October 2007. Philadelphia, PA.
- ““Sometimes things disappear”: Absence and Mutability in Colson Whitehead’s *The Colossus of New York*.” American Literature Association Conference. May 2007. Boston, MA.
- “Cindy Sheehan and the Rhetoric of Maternity.” Conference on Feminism and War. October 2007. Syracuse, NY.
- “The Radical Narratives of Toni Morrison.” July 2006. University of Westminster, London, UK.
- “Malleable Mulattas and Resistant Silences: Placage and Louisa Picquet.” Frederick Douglass Institute, March 2006. University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.
- “Paradise Lost in Toni Morrison’s *Love*.” English Department, February 2006. University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.
- “Teaching Ralph Ellison’s “Battle Royal.”” English Department, February 2006. Salisbury University, Salisbury, MD.
- “Black Female Resistance: Intra-Independence and the Politics of Sexual Agency.” October 2005. Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY.
- “Genre and Self in *The Bondwoman’s Narrative*.” 10th International American Women Writers of Color Conference. November 2004. Baltimore, MD.
- “Rewriting the Mother’s Home: Poetry and the Body in Audre Lorde’s *Zami*.” Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Conference. March, 2004. Pittsburgh, PA.

“Voices from the Dead in Kincaid’s *The Autobiography of my Mother* and Silko’s *Ceremony*.” Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Association Annual Conference. November 2003. Wilmington, DE.

Session Chair for "Theory and Interpretation of Death in American Literature II." Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Association Annual Conference. November, 2003. Wilmington, DE.

“Motherhood as Resistance in Harriet Jacobs’s *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*.” Central New York Conference on Language and Literature. October, 2003. Cortland, NY.

“Re-Searching the Family.” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs Annual Conference. February, 2003. Baltimore, MD.

“The Development of Consciousness in the Works of Ellison and Dostoevsky.” South Central Modern Language Association Annual Conference. October, 2002. Austin, TX.

### **Related Professional Experience**

- Co-Organizer: “Thinking Black Intellectuals,” Univ. of Rochester, 2010
- Co-Organizer: “The Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of Political Rhetoric, Media and Public Opinion,” Univ. of Rochester, 2010
- Steering Committee Member, Susan B. Anthony Institute, Univ. of Rochester, 2008-10
- Early Americanist Search Committee, English Dept, Univ. of Rochester, 2007-08
- Faculty Colloquium Committee, English Dept, Univ. of Rochester, 2007-08
- Co-Organizer, “Politics and Media Constructions: Anticipating the 2008 Election,” Univ. of Rochester, 2007
- Co-Organizer, “Diversity Forum,” Univ. of Rochester, 2007
- Associate, Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence, Univ. of Rochester, 2007
- Committee Member, Janet Heidinger Kafka Fiction Prize, Univ. of Rochester, 2007-08
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, English Dept., Univ. of Rochester, 2007-08
- Victorian Literature Search Committee, English Dept., Univ. of Rochester, 2006-07
- College Diversity Round Table, Univ. of Rochester, 2006-present
- Associate, Susan B. Anthony Institute, Univ. of Rochester, 2005-present
- Affiliate, Frederick Douglass Institute, Univ. of Rochester, 2005-present
- Member, Modern Language Association, 2004-present
- Graduate Research Assistant: Prof. Mary Pat Brady, Latino Studies Database Project for Secondary School Educators, Cornell University, 2003-04
- Graduate Representative, Women’s Center Advisory Board, Cornell University, 2002-03
- Graduate Research Assistant: Prof. Hortense Spillers, revisions for 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Norton Anthology of African American Literature, 2001-02
- Reporter: “The Cornell Chronicle,” Cornell University, 2001
- Assistant Editor, *Epoch*, Cornell University, 2001
- Member, U.S. Latino/a Graduate Student Coalition, Cornell University, 2000-04
- Member, M.F.A./Ph.D. Joint-Degree Colloquium, Cornell University, 2000-04

- Panelist, First-Year Colloquium, English Department, Cornell University, 2001

### **Fellowships, Honors, and Awards**

- Winner of the First Book Prize in African American Studies, SUNY Press for “*Something Akin to Freedom: The Choice of Bondage in Narratives by African American Women*”
- Susan B. Anthony Institute Faculty Grant Recipient, 2008
- University of Rochester Humanities Project Grant Recipient, 2007
- Finalist, Glimmer Train Short Story Award for New Writers, Spring 2004
- Cornell University Research Travel Grant Recipient, 2004
- Alice Cook Hanson Award, 2004
- Cornell English Department Grant Recipient, 2003 & 2004
- Cornell Graduate School Grant Recipient; 2002, 2003 & 2004
- First Place: Best Short Fiction, MARY Literary Journal, 2003
- Provost’s Diversity Fellowship, Cornell University, 2002
- Liu Memorial Award, 2002
- Americore Grant Recipient, 1999 & 2000
- Multicultural Alliance Fellow, 1998-2000
- PTSA of Palo Alto High School Grant Recipient, 1998
- Comparative Literature Honors Program at Stanford University, 1998
- Senior Academic Achievement Award, Chicano/Latino Community of Stanford. 1998
- Comparative Literature Honors College, 1997
- Irvine Fellow, 1997