

Sujatha T. Fernandes

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POSITIONS

Queens College, CUNY
Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology
August 2006 – present.

Princeton University
Wilson-Cotsen Fellow, Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts.
Lecturer in Public and International Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School, Politics and the
Council of the Humanities.
July 2003 – July 2006.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Chicago,
Department of Political Science, 1998 - 2003.

BA (Honors), University of Sydney,
Political Economy, Gender Studies, 1997.

BA, University of Sydney,
Political Economy, Gender Studies, 1992-1995.

FELLOWSHIPS / AWARDS

2008, Feliks Gross Award, CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences (Presented each year to an assistant professor in recognition of outstanding research)

2007-2008, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for the Humanities at the CUNY Graduate Center

2007-2009, Faculty research grants, PSC-CUNY Research Award, Queens College, City University of New York

2004-2006, Faculty research grants, University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Princeton University

2004-2005, Faculty summer research grants, Program in Latin American Studies, Center for Migration and Development, Princeton University

2002-2003, Mellon Foundation Dissertation-Year Fellowship, University of Chicago

2001-2002, SSRC Dissertation Fellowship on the Arts and Social Sciences

1999-2000, Summer Research Grants, Center for Latin American Studies, Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture, University of Chicago

1998-2001, University of Chicago Century/Fellowship

1998-2001, University of Sydney Traveling Scholarship

1997, University Medal in Asian Studies, University of Sydney

1996-1997, National Asian Language Scholarship, University of Sydney

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Cuba Represent! Cuban Arts, State Power, and the Making of New Revolutionary Cultures. Duke University Press, October 2006. 2nd printing, June 2007.

In the Spirit of Negro Primero: Urban Social Movements in Chávez's Venezuela, under review, Duke University Press.

Close to the Edge: In Search of the Global Hip Hop Generation, manuscript in progress.

Articles in refereed journals

Sujatha Fernandes, "Barrio Women and Popular Politics in Chávez's Venezuela." *Latin American Politics and Society*, Volume 49, Number 3, Fall 2007, pp 97 – 127.

Awarded the prize for best professional publication by the Section on Venezuelan Studies of the Latin American Studies Association, September 2007

Sujatha Fernandes, "Recasting Ideology, Recreating Hegemony: Critical Debates about Film in Contemporary Cuba." *Ethnography*, Volume 7, Number 3, Autumn 2006, pp 303 - 327.

Sujatha Fernandes, "Transnationalism and Feminist Activism in Cuba: The Case of Magín." *Politics & Gender*, Volume 1, Number 3, September 2005, pp 431- 452.

Sujatha Fernandes, "Fear of a Black Nation: Local Rappers, Transnational Crossings and State Power in Contemporary Cuba." *Anthropological Quarterly*, Volume 76, Number 4, Fall 2003, pp 575 – 608.

Sujatha Fernandes, "Island Paradise, Revolutionary Utopia or Hustler's Haven? Consumerism and Socialism in Contemporary Cuban Rap." *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, Volume 12, Number 3, Fall 2003, pp 359 – 375.

Chapters in books

Sujatha Fernandes, "Made in Havana City: Rap Music, Space, and Racial Politics," *Reading Havana: a Cultural Geography of the City after 1989*, edited volume in progress, Duke University Press, edited by Anke Birkenmaier and Esther Whitfield.

Sujatha Fernandes, "Urbanizing the San Juan Fiesta: Cultural Identity, Civil Society, and Neoliberalism in the Barrios of Caracas." *Politics, Publics, Personhood: New Ethnographies at the Limits of Neoliberalism*, Forthcoming, Penn State University Press, edited by Carol Greenhouse.

Sujatha Fernandes, "Radio Bemba in an Age of Electronic Media: The Dynamics of Popular Communication in Chávez's Venezuela." *Bottom Up or Top Down? Participation and Clientelism in Venezuela's Bolivarian Democracy*, Forthcoming, Duke University Press, edited by David Smilde and Daniel Hellinger.

Sujatha Fernandes, "Gender, Popular Participation, and the State in Chávez's Venezuela." *Gender and Populism in Latin America: Passionate Politics*, Forthcoming, Penn State University Press, edited by Karen Kampwirth.

Sujatha Fernandes, “Proven Presence: The Emergence of a Feminist Politics in Cuban Hip-Hop.” *Home Girls, Make Some Noise!: Hip Hop Feminism Anthology*, edited by Gwendolyn Pough, Mira Loma: Parker Publishing, LLC, 2007, pp 5 – 18.

Sujatha Fernandes and Jason Stanyek, “Hip Hop and Black Public Spheres in Venezuela, Cuba and Brazil.” *Beyond Slavery: The Multi-Layered Legacy of Africans in Latin America*, edited by Darien Davis, Boulder and New York: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2007, pp 199 – 222.

Sujatha Fernandes, “Ethnicity, Civil Society and the Church: The Politics of Evangelical Christianity in Northeast India.” *Evangelical Christianity and Democracy in Asia*, edited by David Lumsdaine, New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Articles in unrefereed journals, miscellaneous publications

Sujatha Fernandes, “Social Policy in Chávez’s Venezuela: A Radical Alternative or More of the Same?,” Forthcoming *ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America*, Special Issue on Venezuela, edited by Fernando Coronil, Jeffrey Cedeño, Vicente Lecuna, and Jonathan Eastwood.

Sujatha Fernandes, “On Race and Cuba,” Forthcoming *Rutgers Race and the Law Review Journal*.

Sujatha Fernandes, “Cuba’s Changing Leadership and the Dynamics of Civil Society,” Change in Cuba online forum www.ssrc.org/changeincuba, Social Sciences Research Council, March 3, 2008.

Sujatha Fernandes, “What does the “No” Vote Mean?” *The Nation*, December 6, 2007.

Sujatha Fernandes, “A View from the Barrios: Hugo Chávez as an Expression of Urban Popular Movements,” *LASA Forum Focus*, Winter 2007, pp 17 – 19.

To be reprinted in *Decentering Latin American Studies*, anthology in progress, edited by Charles Hale, Arturo Arias, and Sonia E. Alvarez.

Sujatha Fernandes, “Mambíses, Malandros, and Maleantes: Imaginerías Colectivas de Luchas y Supervivencia en el Rap Cubano y Venezolano.” *Revista Iberoamericana*, edited by Alejandro Bruzual, No 217, Octubre – Diciembre 2006, pp 973 – 988.

Sujatha Fernandes, “Saints of Venezuela: Reclaiming the Religious Fiestas of Slaves,” *Colorlines: Race, Culture, Action*, Spring 2006, pp 51 – 52.

Regular columns in *Economic and Political Weekly*, April 2006 – present.

Reviews

Sujatha Fernandes, "Global Hip Hop and the Africanist Aesthetic," review of Halifu Osumare, *the africanist aesthetic in global hip-hop: power moves*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. Forthcoming in *Dance Research Journal*.

Sujatha Fernandes, "East of Havana," review of documentary *East of Havana*, directed by Charlize Theron and Clark Peterzon, Sony BMG Films, DVD, 2007. Forthcoming *Journal for the Society of American Music*.

Sujatha Fernandes, "The Rhythms of the Cuban Revolution," review of Robin Moore, *Music and Revolution: Cultural Change in Socialist Cuba*. Berkeley and LA: University of California Press, 2006 in *Contracorriente*, Volume 1, Number 5, Otoño 2007.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Sociology of Culture; Latin American Social Movements; Qualitative Methods; Urban Ethnography; Art, Resistance, and Power; Caribbean Politics and Society; Social Theory; Gender Studies; Race and Ethnicity.

TEACHING

- Spring 2007 "The Peopling of New York City,"
Undergraduate course, William E. Macaulay Honors College, Queens College
- Fall 2006 "Foundations of Social Theory"
Spring 2007 Undergraduate course, Department of Sociology, Queens College
- Fall 2005 "Democratization and Decentralization in Latin America"
Undergraduate course, Department of Public Policy, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University.
- Fall 2004 "Political and Economic Reform in Latin America"
Graduate course, Department of Public Policy, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University.
- Spring 2004, "Politics and Society in the Caribbean"
Spring 2005 Undergraduate course, Department of Politics, Princeton University.
- Spring 2004 Cuba Film Series, Sponsored by Program in Latin American Studies (PLAS), Princeton University.
- Fall 2003 "Art, Resistance, and Power"

Half-semester graduate course, Department of Public Policy, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University.

Spring 2002 “Freedom, State, and Society” (Teaching Assistant)
Undergraduate course, Department of Political Science, University of Chicago.

Fall 2000 “Problems in Gender Studies,”
Undergraduate course, Department of Gender Studies, University of Chicago. Co-taught with Melissa-Harris Laceywell.

INVITED LECTURES AND PAPERS

2008. “Culture and Neoliberal Rationalities in Post-Neoliberal Venezuela.” Paper read in absence at Conference on “Revolution and New Social Imaginings,” Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies, University of California, San Diego, May 2008.

2008. “Where is Madagascar? Critical Debates about Film in Contemporary Cuba.” Department of Spanish and Portuguese, RULAS, and Latino and Hispanic Caribbean Studies, Rutgers University, May 2008.

2008. Conference Keynote address: “I’m an African: Black Aesthetics and the Making of a Hip Hop Globe.” Conference on “Hip Hop Cubano: A Showcase of Cuban hip hop, Culture, and Contemporary Art,” Visiting Lecturers Committee, Program in Africana Studies, and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Lehigh University, April 2008.

2008. “Everyday Wars of Position: Media, Social Movements, and the State in Chávez’s Venezuela.” Conference on “Latin American Opposition to Neo-Liberalism,” Janey Program in Latin American Studies and Observatory on Latin America, The New School, April 2008.

2008. “Radio Bemba in an Age of Electronic Media: The Dynamics of Popular Communication in Chávez’s Venezuela,” Conference on “The Popular Sectors and the State in Chávez’s Venezuela,” Department of Political Science, Yale University, March 2008.

2008. “Made in Havana City: Rap Music and Racial Politics in Contemporary Cuba,” Conference on “Transitions in the Cuban Revolution,” Department of History and Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, University of Texas, Austin, February 2008.

2008. "Competing Conceptions of Democracy in Chávez's Venezuela," Changes in the Andes conference, The Center for Latin American Studies and Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University, February 2008.

2007. "Competing Conceptions of Democracy in Chávez's Venezuela," Public forum on Venezuela's Bolivarian Revolution at Home and Abroad: A New Geometry of Power? Yale Law School, Yale University, November 2007.

2007. "Cuban Hip Hop." Infinite Island Conversation Series: Popular Culture in the Caribbean, Brooklyn Museum, November 2007.

2007. "Cuba Represent! Rap Music and Racial Politics in Contemporary Cuba," Department of Latina/o and Latin American Studies, Hampshire College, November 2007.

2007. "Cuba Represent! Culture, State Power, and Racial Politics in Contemporary Cuba," Africana Studies Lecture Series, Queens College, CUNY, November 2007.

2007. "Cuba Represent! Rap Music and Racial Politics in Contemporary Cuba," Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature, Stonybrook University, October 2007.

2007. "Representing Cuba: Sujatha Fernandes and Elio Rodriguez in Conversation," Conversations in the Humanities, Center for the Humanities, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, October 2007.

2007. "The Role of Cuba in US Politics," Roundtable discussion sponsored by Equity Access Institute, and the Caribbean Research Center (Medgar Evers College, CUNY), Metropolitan College of New York, June 2007.

2007. "Cuba's Racial Dynamics." Panel sponsored by Inter-American Dialogue and Florida International University, Washington DC, May 2007.

2007. "I'm Leaving with Chrissy/*crisis*": The Poetics of Crisis in Cuban Film." Conference on "Disjunctive States: Crisis and Historicity in Cuba and Haiti." Anthropology Department, University of Chicago, April 2007.

2007. "Proven Presence: Feminist Politics of Cuban Hip Hop." Panel on Women and Hip Hop in the Americas, Program on Latin American and the Caribbean (PLACA) and Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, April 2007.

2007. "Proven Presence: Feminist Politics of Cuban Hip Hop." Women's Studies Colloquium, Queens College, CUNY, February 2007.

2007. "Cuba Represent!: Rap Music, State Power, and Racial Politics in Contemporary Cuba." African Diaspora History Forum, NYU, February 2007.
2007. "Cuba Represent! Rap Music and Racial Politics in Contemporary Cuba." Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, February 2007.
2006. "On Race and Cuba." National Summit on Cuba, New Jersey, Rutgers University School of Law, Newark and the World Policy Institute at The New School, October 2006.
2006. "Governance, Everyday Culture, and Social Values in Contemporary Cuba." Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, September 2006.
2006. "Radio Bemba in an Age of Electronic Media: The Dynamics of Popular Communication in Chavez's Venezuela." Cotsen Seminar, Council of the Humanities, Princeton University, April 2006.
2006. "Radio Bemba in an Age of Electronic Media: The Dynamics of Popular Communication in Chavez's Venezuela." Program in Latin American Studies Lunch Seminar Series, Princeton University, March 2006.
2005. "Blackness, Cultural Identity, and Popular Politics in the Barrios of Caracas." Race and Ethnicity Working Group, Department of Sociology, UCLA, November 2005.
2005. "Hip-Hop, Revolutionary Movements, and the Rise of Black Radicalism in Latin America." Symposium on "Diasporic Black Radicalisms in the Twentieth Century," Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, October 2005.
2005. "Hip-Hop and Race in Latin America: Cuba, Brazil, and Venezuela." Hofstra University, Program in Africana Studies, May 2005.
2005. "In the Spirit of Negro Primero: Cultural Identity, Civil Society, and Popular Politics in the *Barrios* of Caracas." Cotsen Seminar, Council of the Humanities, Princeton University, April 2005.
2005. "Blackness, Cultural Identity, and Popular Politics in the *Barrios* of Caracas." Carl A. Fields Center, Princeton University, April 2005.
2005. "Where is Madagascar? The Politics of Identity in Cuban Film." Public lecture, co-sponsored by Center for Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh and The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, April 2005.

2005. "Hip-Hop Culture and Racial Politics in Latin America: Cuba, Brazil, and Venezuela." Hip Hop Symposium, Dorothy Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University, Palm Beach, February 2005.

2004. "Remaking Cultural Hegemony: Film Publics, Critical Debate, and the State in Contemporary Cuba." Literary Studies Colloquium, Fordham University, New York, April 2004.

2004. "Social Movements and the State in Venezuela: A View from the *Barrios*." Public lecture sponsored by the Progressive Review and the Program in Latin American Studies, Princeton University, April 2004.

2003. "Fear of Black Nation: Local Rappers, Transnational Crossings, and State Power in Contemporary Cuba." Program in Latin American Studies Lunch Seminar Series, Princeton University, December 2003.

2003. "Old Utopias, New Realities: Film Publics, State Power, and New Modes of Incorporation in Contemporary Cuba." Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, November 2003.

2003. "Issues in Political Science: More of Politics or More of Science?" Cotsen Seminar, Council of the Humanities, Princeton University, September 2003.

2002. "Fear of a Black Nation: Local Rappers, Transnational Crossings, and State Power in Contemporary Cuba." Joint Caribbean Studies Workshop and Workshop for the Anthropology of Latin America, University of Chicago, May 2002.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2008. "Made in Havana City: Reading from a Memoir about Global Hip Hop," A Changing Cuba in a Changing World, Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, March 2008.

2007. "Global Hip Hop, Technology, and the Creative Process," American Anthropological Association (AAA) meeting, Washington DC, December 2007.

2007. "Everyday Wars of Position: Media, Social Movements, and the State in Chávez's Venezuela." Latin American Studies Association (LASA) meeting, Montreal, September 2007.

2007. "Everyday Wars of Position: Media, Social Movements, and the State in Chávez's Venezuela." American Sociological Association (ASA) meeting, New York City, August 2007.

2006. "Transnationalism and Feminist Activism in Cuba: The Case of Magín." Cuba in Transition: Pathways to Renewal, Long-Term Development, and Global Reintegration. Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, March 2006.

2006. "Radio Bemba in an Age of Electronic Media: The Dynamics of Popular Communication in Chavez's Venezuela." Latin American Studies Association (LASA) meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 2006.

2005. "Neoliberalism, Violence, and Subjectivity in the Barrios of Caracas." American Anthropological Association (AAA) meeting, Washington DC, November 2005.

2005. "Gender, Leadership, and Machismo in Urban Popular Organizing in Venezuela." American Political Science Association (APSA) conference, Washington DC, September 2005.

2005. "In the Spirit of Negro Primero: Cultural Identity, Civil Society, and Popular Politics in the *Barrios* of Caracas." Western Political Science Association (WPSA) conference, Oakland, March 2005.

2004. "*Mambises, Malandros, and Maleantes*: Collective Imaginaries of Struggle and Survival in Cuban and Venezuelan rap." Third International Caribbean Conference, Goiania, Brazil, October 2004.

2004. "Critical Perspectives on Civil Society in Cuba." Opening plenary talk at conference on, "Cuba Today: Continuity and Change since the '*Periodo Especial*,'" Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, October 2004.

2004. "Gender, Representation, and Transnationalism: Developing Avenues of Feminist Activism in Contemporary Cuba." American Political Science Association (APSA) conference, Chicago, September 2004.

2003. "Remaking Cultural Hegemony: Film Publics, Critical Debate and the State in Contemporary Cuba." Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA) Conference, Philadelphia, November 2003.

2002. "Fear of a Black Nation: Local Rappers, Transnational Crossings and State Power in Contemporary Cuba." Conference on "Locations of Africa in the Black Atlantic," Anthropology Department, University of Chicago, April 2002.

FIELD RESEARCH

January 2007, field research on urban social movements and the state in Caracas, Venezuela.

January - February 2006, field research on urban social movements and the state in Caracas, Venezuela.
June - August 2005, field research on urban social movements and the state in Caracas, Venezuela.
January 2005, field research on urban social movements and the state in Caracas, Venezuela.
May - August 2004, field research on urban social movements and the state in Caracas, Venezuela.
January 2004, field research on urban social movements and the state in Caracas, Venezuela.
July 2002, post-field research on arts and political life in Cuba.
May - Sept 2001, dissertation field research on arts and political life in Cuba.
July - Aug 2000, dissertation field research on arts and political life in Cuba.
Dec 1999 - Jan 2000, preliminary field research on arts and political life in Cuba.
July - Sept 1999, field research on Christianity in hill areas of Northeast India for MA thesis.
Jan 1996 - Jan 1997, field research in hill villages of Northern UP, India, for Honors thesis.
Jan 1995 - April 1995, cross national comparative field research on labor and trade unions in India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal for BA work.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

2004 - present, Reviewer: Contexts, Latin American Politics and Society, Journal of Business Research, Women's Studies Quarterly, Anthropological Quarterly, Wadabagei: A Journal of the Caribbean and its Diasporas, Journal of Modern Craft, Palgrave-Macmillan.

2007-8, Section head, Political Anthropology, Midwest Political Science Association.

2007 - present, Reader, Dissertation committee, Nirit Ben-Ari, Hip-Hop Culture and the Discourse of Blackness in Israel, Department of Political Science, CUNY Graduate Center.

2004, Organizing Committee, conferences at CUNY Graduate Center: "A Changing Cuba in a Changing World." March 12 – 15, 2008; Cuba; In Transition? Pathways to Renewal, Long-Term Development, and Global Re-integration." March 30 – 31, 2006; and "Cuba Today: Continuity and Change since the Periodo Especial." October 4 – 5, 2004, sponsored by the Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies

2004, Co-organizer, workshop at Princeton University: "Neoliberalism: Historical Perspectives and Critical Possibilities." October 15 – 16, 2004, co-sponsored by the Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts, Program in Latin American Studies, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Davis Center for Historical Studies, Department of Anthropology, Woodrow Wilson School

2004, Faculty supervisor, Princeton-in-Cuba Program, Princeton University

2003 - 2005, Faculty mentor, Mellon-Mays Minority Undergraduate Fellowship program, Princeton University

2003 - 2005, Senior thesis advising, Princeton University

2000, Instructor, Kenwood Academy-University of Chicago Program of Academic Excellence for High School Juniors and Seniors

American Sociological Association (ASA), member

Latin American Studies Association (LASA), member