

MAYRA RIVERA RIVERA

- EDUCATION Ph.D., Theological and Religious Studies, October 2005
Drew University, Madison, NJ
- M.T.S., *Summa cum Laude*, May 2001
Drew University, Madison, NJ
- B.S. Chemical Engineering, *Magna cum Laude*, May 1988
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, PR
- ACADEMIC
APPOINTMENTS Associate Professor of Theology and Latina/o Studies, Harvard
Divinity School, 2012-present
- Affiliate Faculty, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures,
Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
- Assistant Professor of Theology and Latina/o Studies, Harvard Divinity
School, 2010-2012
- Assistant Professor of Theology, Pacific School of Religion, 2006-
2010
- Hispanic Summer Program 2008, Mundelein, IL
- Visiting Professor of Theology, Drew University, Fall 2005
- BOOKS *The Touch of Transcendence: A Postcolonial Theology of God.*
Louisville, KY: WJK, 2007.
- EDITED
VOLUMES *Planetary Loves: Spivak, Postcoloniality, and Theology*, Co-edited
with Stephen Moore. New York: Fordham University Press, 2010.
- Postcolonial Theologies: Divinity and Empire*, Co-edited with
Catherine Keller and Michael Nausner. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2004.
- ARTICLES “A Labyrinth of Incarnations: The Social Materiality of Bodies.”
Journal of the European Society of Women in Theological Research,
accepted for publication in 2014.
- “Flesh of the World: Corporeality in Relation,” *Concilium* 2 (2013).

“Carnal Corporeality: Tensions in Continental and Caribbean Thought,” *Concordia: International Journal of Philosophy* 63 (2013): 83-96.

“Ränder und die sich verändernde Spatialität von Macht. Einführende Notizen.” *Interkulturelle Theologie* 1-2 (2012): 90-109.

“Thinking Bodies: The Spirit of a Latina Incarnational Imagination.” In *Decolonizing Epistemologies: Latina/o Theology and Philosophy*. Edited by Ada María Isasi Díaz and Eduardo Mendieta. New York: Fordham University Press, 2011. Pp. 207-225.

“Glory: The First Passion of Theology?” In *Polydoxy: Theologies of the Manifold*. Edited by Catherine Keller and Laurel Schneider. New York: Routledge, 2010. Pp. 167-181.

“Ghostly Encounters: Spirits, Memory, and the Holy Ghost.” In *Planetary Loves: Spivak, Postcoloniality, and Theology*. Edited by Stephen Moore and Mayra Rivera. New York: Fordham University Press, 2010. Pp 118-135.

"A Tentative Topography of Postcolonial Theology" (with Stephen Moore). In *Planetary Loves: Spivak, Postcoloniality, and Theology*. Edited by Stephen Moore and Mayra Rivera. New York: Fordham University Press, 2010. Pp. 3-14.

“Unsettling Bodies.” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 26, No. 2 (Fall 2010): 119-123.

“Corporeal Visions and Apparitions: The Narrative Strategies of an Indecent Theologian.” In *Dancing Theology in Fetish Boots: Essays in Honour of Marcella Althaus-Reid*. Edited by Lisa Isherwood and Mark D. Jordan. London: SCM, 2010. Pp. 79-94.

“Elemental Bonds: Scene for an Earthy Postcolonial Theology.” In *Postcolonial Interventions: Essays in Honor of R. S. Sugirtharajah*. Edited by Tat-siong Benny Liew. Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2009. Pp. 347-360.

“Memory of the Flesh: Theological Reflections on Word and Flesh.” In *Creating Ourselves: African Americans and Hispanic Americans, Popular Culture, and Religious Expression*. Edited by Anthony Pinn and Benjamín Valentín. Durham and London: Duke University, 2009. Pp. 70-89.

“God and Difference.” In *Building Bridges and Doing Justice: Constructing a Latino/a Ecumenical Theology*. Edited by Orlando Espín. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2009. Pp. 29-44.

“Incarnate Words: Images of God and Reading Practices.” In *They Were All Together in One Place? Toward Minority Biblical Criticism*. Edited by Randall C. Bailey, Benny Tat-siong Liew, and Fernando F. Segovia. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2009. Pp. 314-329.

“Margins and the Changing Spatiality of Power: Preliminary Notes.” In *Still at the Margins: Biblical Scholarship Fifteen Years after Voices from the Margin*. Edited by R.S. Sugirtharajah. New York: T&T Clark, 2008. Pp. 114-127.

“Ethical Desires: Toward a Theology of Relational Transcendence.” In *Toward a Theology of Eros: Transfiguring Passion at the Limits of Discipline*. Edited by Virginia Burrus and Catherine Keller. New York: Fordham University Press, 2006. Pp. 255-270.

“Radical Transcendence? A Latina Postcolonial Reading of Divine Otherness.” In *Interpreting the Postmodern: Responses to ‘Radical Orthodoxy.’* Edited by Rosemary Radford Ruether and Marion Grau. New York and London: T&T Clark, 2006. Pp. 119-138.

“God at the Crossroads: A Postcolonial Reading of Sophia.” In *Postcolonial Theologies: Divinity and Empire*. Edited by Catherine Keller, Michael Nausner, and Mayra Rivera. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2004. Pp. 186-203. Reprinted in *The Postcolonial Biblical Reader*. Edited by R.S. Sugirtharajah. Oxford, UK: Blackwell, 2006. Pp. 238-253.

“God op het kruispunt.” In *Vreemde Aanrakingen: De krach van het vreemde in religie, kunst en literatuur*. Edited by Inez Van der Spek. Belgium: DSTS, 2007. Pp. 167-182.

“Alien/nation, Liberation, and the Postcolonial Underground” (with Catherine Keller and Michael Nausner). In *Postcolonial Theologies: Divinity and Empire*. Edited by Catherine Keller, Michael Nausner, and Mayra Rivera. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2004. Pp. 1-20.

“En-Gendered Territory: U.S. Missionaries’ Discourse in Puerto Rico (1898-1920).” In *New Horizons in Hispanic/ Latino(a) Theology*. Edited by Benjamín Valentín. Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 2003. Pp.

79-97.

PAPERS

“Emptying God: The Ethics of Theology in Merleau-Ponty’s Work,”
“God: Theological Accounts and Ethical Possibilities” Conference,
University of Chicago, April 10, 2014.

Response to Karen Barad’s “Deep Calls unto Deep,” Entangled
Worlds: Science, Religion, Materiality Conference, Drew University,
March 29, 2014.

Panel presentation for “Sexual and Gender Identity at the Intersections,
Part 1 – Scholarship,” AAR Annual Meeting, November 24, 2013.

Panel presentation for “Postcolonialism Meets Open and Relational
Theologies,” AAR Annual Meeting, November 23, 2013.

Panel presentation for “Emerging Questions: Fernando F. Segovia and
the Challenges of Cultural Interpretation,” AAR Annual Meeting,
November 23, 2013.

“A Labyrinth of Incarnations: Body and Society in the Twenty-first
Century,” European Society of Women in Theological Research,
Dresden, Germany, August 29, 2013.

“Poéticas de la Encarnación: Lecturas Postmodernas del Cuerpo y la
Carne,” Religious Studies Department, Universidad Iberoamericana,
Mexico City, January 17, 2013.

“Teología y corporalidad en el Siglo XXI,” Religious Studies
Department, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, January 14,
2013.

“Flesh of the World: Caribbean Contributions,” Annual Hispanic
Lecture, Drew University, April 10, 2012.

“Carnal Exposure: Regarding Christian Flesh,” Yale Divinity School,
February 14, 2012.

“Poéticas de Encarnación” II Congreso Internacional el Cuerpo en el
Siglo XXI. Aproximaciones Minoritarias Desde Latinoamérica,
UNAM, Mexico City, November 10, 2011.

Theologians Engaging Trauma panel, Boston University. February 28,
2011. Transcript published in *Theology Today* (Oct. 2011): 224–237.

“Glory,” Panel discussion of *Polydoxy*, AAR Annual Meeting. October 31, 2010.

Response to Cherrié Moraga, “A Small Nation to Remember: Performance & Xicana Indígena Resistance,” Harvard Divinity School. September 30, 2010.

“From Other Shores: Postcolonial Theology and the Caribbean,” Latina/o Critical and Comparative Studies, AAR. November 10, 2009.

Panel Review, *The Theology of Food*, by Angel Méndez, with John Milbank and Anthony Baker, AAR. November 8, 2009.

“Glory,” *Polydoxy: Theologies of the Manifold*, Drew Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium IX. October 1-4, 2009.

“Corporeal Transfigurations: The Spirit of a Latina Theology of Embodiment,” Harvard Divinity School. February 23, 2009.

“Thinking Bodies: The Paradoxes of Latina Incarnational Theologies,” Decolonizing Epistemology: New Knowing in Latina/o Philosophy and Theology, Drew Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium VIII. November 20-23, 2008.

“Women of Color and the Study of Religion and Theology,” AAR wildcard session. November 2, 2008.

“Of Spirit, Cultures, and Flesh,” *Feminist Intercultural Theology: Broken Bodies-Sacred Lives, On Women’s Sexuality and Human Dignity*. San José, Costa Rica, June 10-15, 2008.

“Burning Bushes: Seeking Earthy Glimpses of Divine Glory,” PSR Earl Lectures. January 23, 2008.

“Ghostly Encounters: Spirits, Memory, and the Holy Ghost,” *Planetary Loves: Postcoloniality, Gender, and Theology*, Drew Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium VII. November 1-4, 2007.

“The Touch of Transcendence,” *Voices and Visions: Latina Theologians Speak*, McCormick Theological Seminary. October 15, 2007.

“Power Relations and Social Issues: Do/Should These Shape and

Critique Latina/o (Christian) Understandings of God?" Annual Colloquium of ACHTUS, Mount Saint Mary's College, Los Angeles. June 3-6, 2007.

"Human Otherness and the U. S. Immigration Debate," Theology and Ministry in the US/Latin@ Context: Crossing Borders & Redefining Margins, Harvard Divinity School. April 2006.

"Memory of the Flesh: Divine Transcendence and Human Otherness," Transfiguring Passions: Theologies and Theories of Eros, Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium IV. November 1, 2004.

"God at the Crossroads," Orlando E. Costas Spring Lecture, Andover Newton Theological School. March 2004.

"Sophia the Hybrid: A Latina Postcolonial Perspective," AAR, Christian Systematic Theology Group and Latina/o Religion, Culture, and Society Group. November 25, 2003.

"Postcolonialism and Theology," First Hispanic Alumni Meeting, Drew University. October 2002.

GRANTS

Co-Principal Researcher, Religion and Sexuality Seminar, funded by Ford Foundation

Lilly Faculty Fellowship, "Manifold Incarnations: On Body, Flesh, and Spirit," 2011-12

AAR/Luce seminar on Theologies of Religious Pluralism and Comparative Theology, 2010-2011

Participant in *Transforming Theology*, a project funded by a Ford Foundation grant

Wabash Center Colloquy for Latino/a faculty, 2008-2009

Consultant for the project, *Reading and Teaching the Bible as Asian, Black, and Latino/a Scholars in the United States*, two-year consultation funded by a Wabash Center grant, 2003-2005

AWARDS

2008 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Feminist/Mujerista Professorship, awarded by the Hispanic Summer Program for excellence in teaching feminist/mujerista theology

2004 John R. Mulder Prize for Excellence, awarded for writing the Drew Graduate School's best comprehensive examinations in the past year

Hispanic Theological Initiative award, 2000-2005

Luis A. Monzón award for the best student of 1988 chemical engineering class

Student Research & Recognition Foundation, American Institute of Chemists 1988 award

American Institute of Chemical Engineers 1986 award for scholastic achievement

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

At-Large Director, American Academy of Religion, 2014-present

Excellence in the Study of Religion Book Awards Jury, American Academy of Religion, 2012-present

Editorial board, *Harvard Theological Review*, 2012-present

Editorial board, *The Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, 2009-present

Member of the Constructive Theology Workgroup, 2009-present

Editorial board, *The Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion*, 2010-2013

Co-chair, Theology and Religious Reflection Section, American Academy of Religion, 2008-2010

Steering Committee, Latina/o Critical and Comparative Studies, American Academy of Religion, 2009-2012

Steering Committee, Theology, Bible, Postmodernity Group, American Academy of Religion, 2006-2009

Steering Committee, Latina/o Religion, Culture, and Society Group, American Academy of Religion, 2004-2008

Director of the Hispanic Caucus, Drew University Theological and Graduate Schools, 1999-2000

Director, Institute of Chemical Engineers, Association of Engineers
and Land Surveyors of Puerto Rico, 1990-1992