AGNES SMEDLEY AND THE INTIMACIES OF ANTICOLONIAL TRANSTATIONALISM

Michele L. Louro (Salem State University)

This talk examines the life history of Agnes Smedley, an American writer, activist, and anticolonial transnationalist, who engaged extensively with Indian diasporic revolutionaries in the U.S. and Germany, and the Chinese Communist Revolution. This talk traces Smedley’s global crossings as a prism for exploring the power of intimacy to the making (and unmaking) of transnational solidarities, while also considering the gendered experiences of revolutionary women like her who were critical to shaping transnational anticolonialism.

Michele L. Louro is a Full Professor of History at Salem State University. She is trained in the fields of global and transnational histories of the twentieth century world. She is author to Comrades against Imperialism: Nehru, India and Interwar Internationalism (Cambridge University Press, 2018), and co-editor of League against Imperialism: Lives and Afterlives (Leiden University Press, 2020).

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