

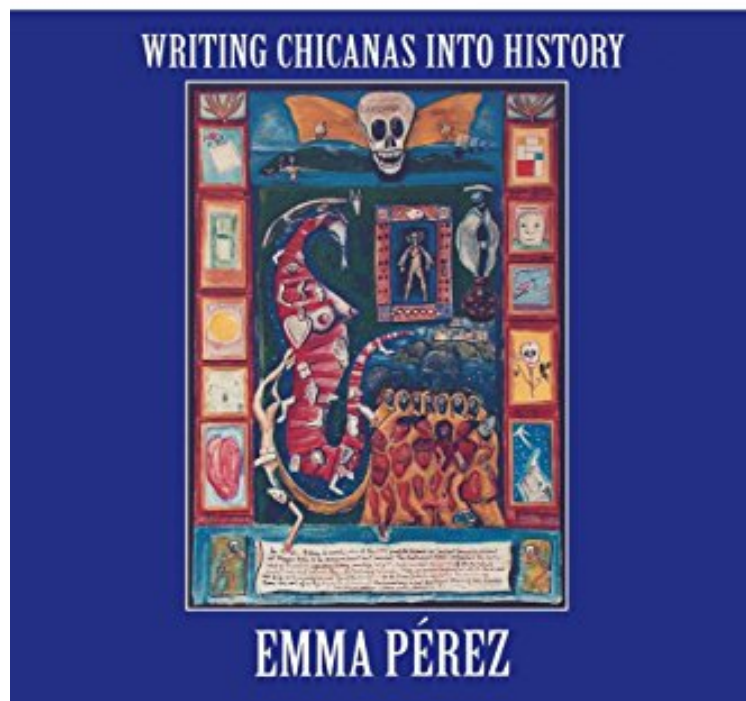
(Mobile book) The Decolonial Imaginary: Writing Chicanas into History (Theories of Representation and Difference)

## The Decolonial Imaginary: Writing Chicanas into History (Theories of Representation and Difference)

Emma Prez, Emma Perez

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# THE DECOLONIAL IMAGINARY



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#736774 in Books Emma P rez 1999-07-01 1999-09-22Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.25 x .69 x 6.12l, .73 #File Name: 0253212839208 pagesThe Decolonial Imaginary Writing Chicanas into History | File size: 39.Mb

Emma Prez, Emma Perez : The Decolonial Imaginary: Writing Chicanas into History (Theories of Representation and Difference) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Decolonial Imaginary: Writing Chicanas into History (Theories of Representation and Difference):

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Essential reading for History, American Studies, Women's Studies, Chican@ Studies...By Catriona Esquibel Ignore the reviews below from embittered graduate students from UTEP who still can't get over the way the Perez takes apart the history of Tejas. If you believe in Sam Houston, and Steven Austin, and the Texas Rangers, this book is going to get your goat. If, however, you are interested in how reading Chicanas into history changes our notions of both "history" and "the American West," then you are in for something good. I particularly value the first chapter, where Perez turns her keen eye to the different modes in which history is written and how they all drop Chicanas out of the picture. She argues that you need to build a new way of writing history: when the historical texts are all racist, sexist, and homophobic (and they are) then how do you build Chicana history from those interstices? 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This is one of the best books ever!!! By N. Rodriguez Here Perez makes an amazing and revolutionary work introducing concepts like Decolonial Imaginary and Third Space. This has become one of my "bibles" for grad school and is definitely to be quoted in my dissertation. We have to reinscribe the history that has ignored our existence for so long. Perez challenges traditional methodologies of academia and opens new spaces to understand that we can't detach corporeality to history. 45 of 48 people found the following review helpful. brilliant deconstruction of Chicano history By Alexandra Minna Stern, Ph.D. (amstern@umich.edu) Emma Perez has written a risky and provocative book that dazzlingly deconstructs the normative categories undergirding Chicana/o and U.S. West history. By theorizing the decolonial imaginary and third space feminism (and drawing eclectically from feminist and critical theory) she creates a new and expansive narrative which allows us to think in original ways about Chicana identity, the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, the cultural and gendering effects of the Mexican Revolution, and the process by which dominant historical forms are canonized. One of the most impressive things about her book is that she simultaneously does two very different things through a connected yet multifaceted narrative. On the one hand, she posits a category for thinking and acting on new forms of social interaction, in other words, if we examine our lives -- as feminists, historians, gringas, or people of color -- in the context of a decolonial imaginary, some of the recalcitrant and insidious limits and lines of racism, homophobia, and othering dissolve. This is especially highlighted by her inventive reading of the John Sayles's film "Lone Star," in which the female protagonist (a tejana) says to her anglo boyfriend (and half-brother), "Forget the Alamo." For Perez, this means not that history can be forgotten but that we can relive and reenact historical forms in the name of love and human connection. On the other hand, through a wonderful archival strategy which includes research in the Yucatan, Los Angeles, Houston and other sites, Perez successfully and eloquently writes the difficult genre of transnational feminist history. She examines the making, sexing, and naming of Chicana identities while \*both\* highlighting the importance of the circular migration of women, families, and ideas across borders and emphasizing the centrality of boundaries (through urban segregation or Anglo anti-Mexican sentiment) to the formation of Chicana lives and spaces. This is exemplified by her wonderful reading of the "Letter from Chapultepec" written by a Chicana group in Houston in the 1930s. Overall, I recommend this book highly to anyone interested in feminist studies, Chicana/o history, borderlands history, U.S. Western history, and Mexican history.

The Decolonial Imaginary is a smart, challenging book that disrupts a great deal of what we think we know... it will certainly be read seriously in Chicano/a studies." Women's Review of Books Emma Prez discusses the historical methodology which has created Chicano history and argues that the historical narrative has often omitted gender. She poses a theory which rejects the colonizers methodological assumptions and examines new tools for uncovering the hidden voices of Chicanas who have been relegated to silence.