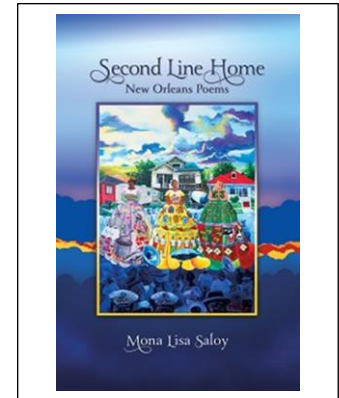
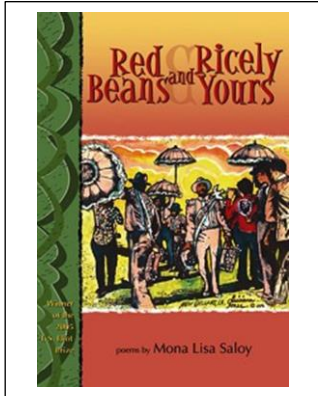


*Intangible Cultural Heritage at the Smithsonian* presents

## **Dr. Mona Lisa Saloy**



## **Keeping Creole: Ascendance & Resilience**

When: **12:00-1:30pm on Thursday, February 26, 2015**

Where: Conference Room, Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, 600 Maryland Ave. SW, Suite 2001, Washington, D.C. 20024

Please RSVP to [PedersenA@si.edu](mailto:PedersenA@si.edu) to ensure event capacity and record staff attendance.

### Abstract:

The historic influence of Black Creole culture on contemporary living traditions in New Orleans can be sensed in everything from polyrhythmic music and spice blends to poetry and architecture. When infrastructure failure decimated New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, naysayers who predicted the city's demise must now eat crow. The city has beaten all odds to remain an international symbol of cultural resiliency. In this presentation, Dr. Mona Lisa Saloy will explore the legacy of contemporary Black Creole culture in post-Katrina New Orleans and highlight some of the enduring traditions that contribute to the city's unique sense of community identity.

### Bio:

Dr. Mona Lisa Saloy is an award-winning author, folklorist, educator, and scholar. She has published work on the Black beat poets, African American toasting traditions, Black Creole talk, and on safeguarding Creole traditions after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. As a folklorist, Dr. Saloy documents sidewalk songs, jump-rope rhymes, and clap-hand games to discuss the importance of play. Her first book of poems [Red Beans & Ricely Yours](#) won the 2005 T.S. Eliot Prize and the 2006 PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award. Her latest book [Second Line Home](#) captures the solemn grief, ongoing struggle, and joyous processions of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. In 2014, she was honored as best female artist by the Margaret Burroughs/New Orleans Chapter of the National Council of Black Artists and as Exemplary Faculty in scholarship and creativity for her role as professor and coordinator of English at Dillard University. She tweets @redbeansista.

**Intangible Cultural Heritage at the Smithsonian** is generously supported by the Smithsonian's Consortium for World Cultures. For more information, please visit: [www.folklife.si.edu/ich](http://www.folklife.si.edu/ich)