

**The Program in Jewish Culture and Society
at the University of Illinois**

presents

a Lecture by

Michael Rothberg

English & Jewish Studies, University of Illinois

Multidirectional Memory
Rethinking the Politics of the Past

Monday, August 31
at 7:30 p.m.

Music Room, Levis Faculty Center
919 West Illinois Street, Urbana

What happens when different histories confront each other in the public sphere? Does the remembrance of one history erase others from view? When memories of slavery and colonialism bump up against memories of the Holocaust in contemporary multicultural societies, must a competition of victims ensue? Michael Rothberg addresses these vexing questions by advancing a new theory of remembrance that challenges the basic tenets of current thinking on cultural memory and group identity.

Michael Rothberg is Professor of English and a Conrad Humanities Scholar. His new book is *Multidirectional Memory: Remembering the Holocaust in the Age of Decolonization*. He is also the author of *Traumatic Realism: The Demands of Holocaust Representation* and co-editor of *The Holocaust: Theoretical Readings* and *Cary Nelson and the Struggle for the University*.