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Viviane Namaste is Acting Principal and Associate Professor at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University, Montréal. She is the author of *C'était du spectacle! L'histoire des artistes transsexuelles à Montréal, 1955-1985* (Montréal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2005), *Sex Change, Social Change: Reflections on Identity, Institutions, and Imperialism* (Toronto: Women's Press, 2005) and *Invisible Lives: The Erasure of Transsexual and Transgendered People* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000). In the 1990s, she was instrumental in research and activism that led to the establishment of community based health services for transsexuals in Canada's largest cities. In addition to her research, she currently is involved in policy work in relation to prostitution and refugee issues.