



4-15-1998

On "Looking" Ethnic

Hilda Llorens
University of Connecticut

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.13023/DISCLOSURE.07.14>

Follow this and additional works at: <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/disclosure>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License](#).



Recommended Citation

Llorens, Hilda (1998) "On "Looking" Ethnic," *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory*. Vol. 7, Article 14.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.13023/DISCLOSURE.07.14>

Available at: <https://uknowledge.uky.edu/disclosure/vol7/iss1/14>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory*. Questions about the journal can be sent to disclosurejournal@gmail.com

Hilda Llorens

On "looking" ethnic

poem

I became ethnic the day I left my fruit filled "exotic" island of yellows,
greens, and red rainbows
and arrived at the continent made of cement paved skies of dark shadows
and pale faces
with piercing bright "un-ethnic" eyes
where my brown skin became the bullet that penetrated the beasts blue
heart
my ethnicity is the proof of my demise and sometimes my existence
I am ethnic, I act ethnic, I eat rice and beans with platanos,
I wear hot pink and orange outfits in the coldest day of the winter season
I dress my taina face with bright red lipstick accentuating my overly
enlarged
African lips
the scent of my ethnic perfume of the ripe island fruits I left behind
somewhere in
the Caribbean ocean
I shake my ethnic hips to the rhythm of conga beats and dance to the
rituals of my ancestors
I cannot hide the burning fire in my warrior speech
which yells to the world my "ethnicity!"

*Hilda Llorens is a graduate student in anthropology at the University of Connecticut.
© 1998 disClosure, No. 7, Committee on Social Theory, University of Kentucky,
Lexington, KY. p. 181.*