



Ami Mattison

By Claire Solak '13

On the third Thursday of this block, Ami Mattison, a professional writer and performing artist, will be gracing Cornell with her presence to host a workshop and performance. Her work focuses on the politics and poetics of being southern, colored and queer by exploring themes of racism, sexual violence, and homophobia through storytelling and poetry.



Touring since 2002, Ami has performed at various art venues, festivals and conferences around the country and internationally, including the Toronto Poetry Slam (Toronto 2008), National Queer Arts Festival (San Francisco 2008), United States Social Forum (Atlanta, 2007), Tennessee Women's Theatre Project (Nashville 2007), the Lesbian and Gay Medical Association Symposium (San Francisco, 2006), and National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference (New Orleans, 2003). As a poetry slam competitor, Ami ranked among the top twelve poets to perform on the final stage at Women of the World Poetry Slam in 2007.

Mattison academic background is in Interdisciplinary Studies (MA and PhD work at Emory) and she was a visiting assistant professor of Women's Studies courses at Antioch College in 2004-05. She has also taught Women's Studies courses at Emory and Georgia State University. Ami has published work in Literary Studies East and West as well as several edited anthologies. She also has two co-writing credits and a featured performance on Radical Heart, the debut CD of songwriter, Ross Falzone. Organized by Professor Erin Davis, sponsored by the Office of Intercultural Life, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, LACE, Lyrically Inclined, Alliance and TWRG, Ami's appearance during third week of the block is highly anticipated. On Wednesday, January 19th, she will lunch with students (time and place to be determined, so keep an eye out) along with visiting certain classrooms. On Thursday, January 20th she will give a workshop on performance poetry at 3:30 in Shaw plus a performance at 7pm in the Ratt. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend.