

### **'Vanishing Borders Viewing Guide**

*Review the following questions and keep them in mind as you watch the film, which explores issues related to immigration, multiculturalism or 'cultural hybridity,' identity and sense of place through the stories of four women from other cultures living in New York City. Jot down notes during the film and use them to answer the questions. Turn this guide in next class, after Q&A with the director, Alexandra Hidalgo!*

1. List opportunities that life in the U.S. presented for the women and others highlighted in the film.
2. List challenges that life in the U.S. or, more generally, that living abroad presented for the women and others highlighted in the film.
3. Reflecting on the stories told by the women, what is it like to experience 'cultural hybridity,' to be both insider and outsider? Specifically, think about this in terms of **identity** and **sense of place**.
4. The women portrayed in the film are all from different cultures, but are all united in terms of gender. Identify some elements of gender raised by the film, both in terms of their home cultures and American culture.
5. Finally, develop **at least one** question that you'd like to ask Alexandra Hidalgo. Ask during her visit!