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About the Guest Editors

Nili R. Benazon is a research scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and she holds an appointment in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto.

Linda Hawkins is the Executive Director of the Centre for Families, Work and Well-Being at the University of Guelph. She is most interested in health from perspective of women as carers.

Ann Holmes recently retired from the Ontario Women's Directorate after 20 years work primarily on the education of girls and non-traditional careers. She is the principal consultant (in education and social issues) in Ann Holmes and Associates.

Perez Oyugi is Manager at the Learning Enrichment Foundation.

Carla R. Ribeiro is the executive director of Choice in Health Clininc, a non-profit reproductive health clinic in Toronto. She has been active in women's communities for over ten years and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Toronto Women's Bookstore.

Esther Tharao currently works as a health promoter at Women's Health in Women's Hands with a specialty in the areas of HIV/AIDS and FGM.

Charmaine C. Williams, Ph.D. is an assistant professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Social Work. Her research interests are focused on caregiving as it is experienced in the context of families, institutions and communities

DONNA J. GELAGOTIS LEE

Residency at the Island Clinic

I wait, like an object, in the plastic chair
beside the open door that frames the sea,
rocks tumbling to its lips.
The room has two doors and both are open
and the sea breeze fills the space.
I notice the table, the implements on the table,
and then
I see blood and blood-stained gauze and
cotton and tweezers with blood on them.
I feel my stomach begin to turn as I realize
suddenly
that the blood is dried and that a fly is
inspecting the implements,
all laid out in the open like the sea and its
many instruments.
The doctor walks in through one of those
doors from the street
and I think: she is younger than me. She
instructs that it's nothing,
that it happens on the islands this time of year:
I think I've never heard
of a virus that pounds the side of your head at
certain times of the year
and on certain islands but I am happy to be
leaving the room full of implements,
happy to have them remain there on the table
untouched,
on their white linen, like objects to be admired,
beside an open door.

Donna J. Gelagotis Lee's poems have appeared or are forthcoming in Atlantis: A Women's Studies Journal, CALYX: A Journal of Art and Literature by Women, The Dalhousie Review, Descant, Feminist Studies, Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies, The Massachusetts Review, and other journals. Donna is a freelance editor in New Jersey.