

#### MIT CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES web.mit.edu/cis | starrforum@mit.edu

## **STARR FORUM**

## SHOWDOWN IN THE SONORAN DESERT

RELIGION, LAW, AND THE IMMIGRATION CONTROVERSY

How can we preserve the integrity of sovereign borders while also respecting the dignity of human beings? How should a border —that imaginary line in the sand be humanely and effectively maintained? And how should we regard "the stranger" in our midst?

### **Event details**

**Tues, Sept 11, 2012** 5:00p - 6:30p MIT Bldg E25-111 45 Carleton St, Cambridge

# Book Talk with Ananda Rose Showdown in the Sonoran Desert

**ANANDA ROSE** 

Religion, Law, and the Immigration Controversy

#### About the speaker



**Ananda Rose** holds a doctorate from Harvard University. She is a published poet, journalist, and theologian. Her book, *Showdown in the Sonoran Desert*, Oxford University Press, was published in June 2012.

Rose traveled to the Sonoran desert, a border region where the remains of some 2,000 migrants have been recovered over the past decade. There she interviewed Minutemen, Border Patrol agents, Catholic nuns, humanitarian aid workers, left-wing protestors, ranchers, and many other ordinary citizens of southern Arizona. She discovers two starkly opposed ideological perspectives: that of religious activists who embrace a biblically inspired hospitality that stresses love of strangers and a "borderless" compassion; and that of law enforcement, which insists on safety, security, and strict respect for international borders.

A Starr Forum event co-sponsored by the MIT Center for International Studies and The Inter-University Committee on International Migration