

Ruth Behar Biography

Ruth Behar was born in Cuba and as a child came to the United States with her family. She teaches Anthropology at the University of Michigan. In her writings she traverses several literary genres like ethnography, memoir, fiction, and poetry. As an anthropologist, she has published *The Presence of the Past in a Spanish Village*, *Translated Woman: Crossing the Border with Esperanza's Story*, and *The Vulnerable Observer: Anthropology That Breaks Your Heart*.

She has traveled frequently to Cuba and has written about her native country and about the art of travelling in *An Island Called Home: Returning to Jewish Cuba* and *Traveling Heavy: A Memoir in between Journeys*. She also edited the anthology *Bridges to Cuba*, a book that brings together a diverse collection of voices and genres from Cuba and the Cuban Diaspora.

Her 2002 documentary *Adio Kerida/Goodbye Dear Love: A Cuban Sephardic Journey*, explores stories of Cuba's Sephardic Jews.

Her poetry is included in many collections; in 2018 she published her bilingual poetry collection *Everything I Kept/Todo lo que guardé*.