

others who are picking up her projects, carrying them on, developing them further. We miss her physical presence, but she is still with us.

*Christine St. Peter*

## Daughters' Geographies

my mother had  
a map of  
France            in her head  
a map of the dams  
built all over the country

her father was  
an engineer  
he built dams  
reshaped landscapes  
flooded villages and farmland

i have  
a map of  
the world        in my head  
or rather  
of the French  
colonial empire (long dead)

my father was  
a colonial administrator  
(administrateur des colonies)  
he did not build empires  
but he helped to  
maintain them  
reshaped political landscapes  
flooded peoples' identities  
dammed up their consciousness  
until one day  
they could not  
be contained     any longer

*Michèle Pujol*

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