

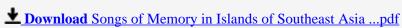
# Songs of Memory in Islands of Southeast Asia

By Nicole Revel



#### Songs of Memory in Islands of Southeast Asia By Nicole Revel

Twenty-three years of joint endeavors and extensive field collecting of the narratives referred to in the present volume have resulted in the availability of a multimedia archive of Philippine epics, ballads and rituals both at the Pardo de Tavera collection of the Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University, and online. The linguists, anthropologists, and ethno-musicologists who have contributed to this project have long been conscious of the close links between 'Intangible Heritage' and 'Tangible Heritage'. In the Philippines, sung narratives have been recorded 'in situ' (through both audio and audio-video media), transcribed, translated, digitized, and analyzed by scholars and knowledgeable persons from fifteen cultural communities in the islands of Luzon, Panay, Palawan, Mindanao, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi. Meanwhile, other scholars have dedicated their lifelong research to the Mergui Archipelago, central Sulawesi, southwest Maluku, and East Timor. Emerging from international collaboration, the scholarship provided here seeks not only to safeguard and comprehend the uniqueness and evolving beauty of ancient sung narratives that are currently performed in the islands of Southeast Asia, but also to defend their vitality in today's changing world. This collection of twelve essays is the most recent achievement of ongoing studies of performances by singers of tales and ritualists in contemporary socio-cultural contexts by means of pioneering initiatives in the Digital Humanities, multiple analytical approaches and expert use of our growing technical capacity to safeguard and explore Intangible Heritage.



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#### Songs of Memory in Islands of Southeast Asia By Nicole Revel Bibliography

• Sales Rank: #10226033 in Books

Published on: 2013-03-01
Format: Unabridged

• Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.20" h x 1.30" w x 5.80" l, .0 pounds

• Binding: Hardcover

• 345 pages

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#### **Editorial Review**

About the Author

Nicole Revel, Emeritus Research Director, CNRS, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN), Paris, France and Doctor honoris causa in Humanities, Ateneo de Manila University, is a linguist-anthropologist working on 'literature of the voice', verbal arts, the performing arts and local knowledge about nature with the Palawan. She has conducted extensive fieldwork on endangered languages and artistic expressions in collaboration with various cultural communities in the Philippines and Nusantara since 1991 in order to build this collection and digitized archive.

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