

The UCSB Department of Sociology presents:

# Harvey Molotch

## The New Arab Urban: Regimes of Wealth, Consumption, and Denial



As they pursue grand ambitions across the earth, the city-states of the Arabian Gulf are charting new patterns of social exclusion, land-use intensity, and modes of public acquiescence. Drawing on several residencies in the region and collaborations with an evolving consortium of scholars of relevant specialties, *The New Arab Urban* takes up the massive inconsistencies this involves: cosmopolitan sensibilities and authoritarian rule, adherence to Islamic tradition with intense consumption of western goods, and commitment to environmental breakthrough in the midst of world-class ecological mayhem. Work-arounds of all sorts help it all fit together, in ways that may portend what is in store elsewhere.

Harvey Molotch is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at UCSB (where he taught from 1967 to 2003 and was chair from 1984-1988). He is also Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU. Molotch is the author of *Urban Fortunes*, *Where Stuff Comes From*, *Against Security*, *Toilet*, and numerous other books and articles. Specializing in urban growth, racial integration, environmental problems and industrial design, he has also taught at the London School of Economics, Lund University, and the University of Essex. He is known in Santa Barbara as a legendary local scholar-activist.

1200pm  
Wednesday Dec 12  
SSMS Building 3145  
(reception to follow)

