

BOOKSHELF 2005/2006

After Bookshelf 2004 appeared, a reviewer who was late with a submission dashed off an email: "As soon as the latest issue of the *NWIG* arrived, I ripped open the packaging and flipped to the 'Bookshelf' review to make sure I had not been inducted into the [Caribbeanist] Hall of Shame. WHEW!! Safe for now ..." Ten others, however, have remained silent past the witching hour, obligating us to report, in our traditionally discreet manner, the reason for which the books they agreed to review have not received attention in the pages of the *NWIG*. As always, we would be delighted if any of them sent in their reviews and would gladly publish them forthwith.

- *The Cuban Economy*, edited by Archibald M. Ritter (Pittsburgh PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2004. vii + 248 pp., cloth US\$ 29.95) (S—l L. L—s)
- *States of Nature: Science, Agriculture, and Environment in the Spanish Caribbean, 1760-1940*, by Stuart McCook (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002. xi + 201 pp., paper US\$ 22.95) (L—e S—z)
- *Ghosts of Slavery: A Literary Archaeology of Black Women's Lives*, by Jenny Sharpe (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2003. xxvi + 187 pp., paper US\$ 17.95) (F—h S—h)
- *Punishment, Race, and Gender in Jamaican State Formation, 1780-1870*, by Diana Paton (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2004. xiii + 291 pp., paper US\$ 23.95) (D—d T—n)
- *Creole Recitations: John Jacob Thomas and Colonial Formation in the Late Nineteenth-Century Caribbean*, by Faith Smith (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2002. xxvi + 207 pp., paper US\$ 18.50) (K—n A. Y—n)
- *The Language of Caribbean Poetry: Boundaries of Expression*, by Lee M. Jenkins (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2004. vii + 232 pp., cloth US\$ 59.95) (S—t B—n)
- *Culture @ the Cutting Edge: Tracking Caribbean Popular Music*, by Curwen Best (Kingston: University of West Indies Press, 2004. 259 pp., paper US \$25.00) (M—l V—l)

- *Reclaiming Difference: Caribbean Women Rewrite Postcolonialism*, by Carine M. Mardorossian (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2005. x + 187 pp., cloth US\$ 49.50) (J—n A—m A—o)
- *Toussaint's Clause: The Founding Fathers and the Haitian Revolution*, by Gordon S. Brown (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2005. xi + 321 pp., cloth US\$ 32.00) (D—s B—n)
- *History of Puerto Rico: A Panorama of Its People*, by Fernando Picó (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2006. xiv + 351 pp., paper US\$ 28.95) (F—o S—o)

It has become our custom to begin “Bookshelf” with literary works (which do not receive full reviews in the *NWIG*). First, poetry.

Two of the senior figures on the Caribbean poetry scene, Édouard Glissant and Kamau Brathwaite, offer new books. Glissant's *La Cohée du Lamentin: Poétique V* (Paris: Gallimard, 2005, paper, € 17.50) is a series of philosophical-poetic musings in prose on well-worn Glissantian themes: the horrors of *mondialisation* (standardization directed by ultra-liberal multinationals) vs. *mondialité* (the globalization of the spirit, the world united in new and marvelous ways), the importance of utopias, Latin American art (Matta, Lam, Glissant's proposed M2A2 museum in Martinique), *la relation*, the herd-like tendencies of *États-Uniens*, and much else. (Last June at the Café de Flor in Paris, Glissant became expansive telling us about the word *cohée*, which he likes partly because it is not in any French or Creole dictionary. Its referents include a] the Cohée du Lamentin, a part of the Bay of Lamentin where he swam as a youngster, home to a hundred-year-old toothless shark the children would see swimming under them whose teeth had decayed because of its taste for the sugar left in the water by barrels that fell into the sea as they were being loaded onto the ships, b] a place near the Martiniquan town of St. Pierre called Fond Cohée, and c] a marine bird found in Guadeloupe [but not in Martinique] that flies with its mouth open and eats mosquitoes as it flies.) Brathwaite's *Born to Slow Horses* (Middletown CT: Wesleyan University Press, 2005, cloth US\$ 22.95) is a collection of varied, muscular, vernacular Caribbean poems in the author's “video style” typography (which he has also called “video sycorax,” “Namestoura/Sycorax” and “Video/tidialectics style”), meant to mark the first publication of the “new (?4th phase) of Brathwaite's poetry ... a significant transboundary development.” We especially enjoyed Brathwaite's book which recently won the \$50,000 International Griffen Poetry Prize.

Two volumes of new poetry from St. Martin's Lasana M. Sekou, *37Poems* and *The Salt Reaper: Poems from the Flats* (both Philipsburg, St. Martin: House of Nehisi, 2005, paper US\$ 15.00). The first, alluding to St. Martin's 37-square-mile size, was written while Sekou was visiting Hong Kong and Beijing, and the second features a substantive introduction by master calyp-

sonian Dr. Hollis “Chalkdust” Liverpool. It’s eminently political, grounded in Caribbean history, global in scope, yet pleading as always for an independent St. Martin. *The Angel Horn: Collected Poems 1927-1997* (Philipsburg, St. Martin: House of Nehisi, 2005, paper US\$ 18.00), by St. Vincent’s late Shake Keane, ranges over his experiences in London, New York, and on the island itself, integrating folk culture and nation language with exuberance and humor.

Three poetry volumes from different horizons. *The Garden of Forgetting* (Leeds, UK: Peepal Tree Books, 2005, paper £7.99), by Gwyneth Barber Wood, gathers intense brief poems that move between Jamaica and England. *Carib’s Leap: Selected and New Poems of the Caribbean* (Leeds, UK: Peepal Tree Books, 2005, paper £12.99), by Laurence Lieberman, collects this American author’s travel poetry, serious and engaged. *Tears and Bitter Smiles* (Bloomington IN: AuthorHouse, 2005, paper US\$ 16.60), by Alfred Reynolds, presents the poems, many translated from French to English, by this Haitian-born U.S. artist.

The Oxford Book of Caribbean Verse, edited by Stewart Brown & Mark McWatt (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005, paper US\$ 21.50), is a delicious sampler of Caribbean English-language poetry, with briefer selections in translation from French, Spanish, and Dutch works, plus a responsible and uplifting introduction. And *Yoruba from Cuba: Selected Poems*, by Nicolás Guillén (Leeds UK: Peepal Tree Books, 2005, £9.99), is an attractive Spanish-English facing-page presentation, with translations by Salvador Ortiz-Carboneres, of Guillén’s works.

Turning to novels, *Small Island* (New York: Picador, 2004, paper US\$ 14.00), is Andrea Levy’s fourth, winner of the U.K.’s Whitbread Book of the Year Award and the Orange Prize for Fiction, as well as having recently been chosen as the best Orange Prize for Fiction winner over the ten years that the prize has been running. Set in 1940s Jamaica and London, and told in the voices of immigrants and their often reluctant hosts, the book is filled with humor, pathos, and a lot of down-home truth. We recommend it highly.

We’ve read four engaging first novels. *A Simple Distance* (New York: Akashic Books, 2006, paper US\$ 14.95) is a sparkling debut by K.E. Silva, a California civil-rights lawyer whose parents hail from the West Indies. *Black Marks*, by Kirsten Dinnall Hoyte (New York: Akashic Books, 2006, paper US\$ 14.95) crosses boundaries of race, sexuality, and geography, including Jamaica, as the protagonist constructs her identity. *John Crow’s Devil* (New York: Akashic Books, 2005, cloth US\$ 19.95), is Marlon James’s impressive, very Jamaican first novel. And *Like Heaven* (London: Hutchinson, 2006, cloth US\$ 29.21), by Niala Maharaj, a Trinidadian now residing in Amsterdam, depicts modern Trini life with humor and empathy.

Three classic West Indian novels have been reprinted, with useful introductions and notes that situate them firmly in their time. William Earle’s

novel *Obi: or, the History of Three-Fingered Jack* (Peterborough, Ontario: Broadview Editions, 2005, paper US\$ 14.95), first published in London in 1800, with obeah and marronage as central themes, now appears in a new edition with an introduction and notes by Srinivas Aravamudan. The anonymously authored *Marly: or, A Planter's Life in Jamaica* (Oxford: Macmillan Caribbean, 2005, paper US\$ 15.00), edited with a new introduction by Karina Williamson, was written by a Scotsman who had intimate experience with plantation life in Jamaica and published in Glasgow in 1828. *Rupert Gray: A Tale in Black and White* (Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2006, paper US\$ 30.00), by Stephen N. Cobham, edited by Lise Winer, has extensive annotations and an introduction by Bridget Brereton, Rhonda Cobham, Mary Rimmer, and Lise Winer, and was first published in Trinidad in 1907.

Four anthologies. *Stories from Blue Latitudes: Caribbean Women Writers at Home and Abroad*, edited by Elizabeth Nunez & Jennifer Sparrow (Emeryville CA: Seal Press, 2005, paper US\$ 16.95), brings together work by twenty-six writers, mainly well-known but others with emerging reputations. *Iron Balloons: Hit Fiction from Jamaica's Calabash Writer's Workshop* (New York: Akashic Books, 2006, paper US\$ 14.95), edited by Colin Channer, anthologizes some of the best new writing from Jamaica – hard-hitting, surprising, and compelling. In *Noordoostpassanten: 400 jaar Nederlandse verhaalkunst over Suriname, de Nederlandse Antillen en Aruba* (Amsterdam: Contact, 2005, paper € 37.50), editors Michiel van Kempen and Wim Rutgers present some 700 pages of snippets of Dutch travel literature about the Caribbean colonies, bracketed by an introduction and paragraph-long biographies of the more than one hundred authors. *Travel Narratives from the Age of Discovery: An Anthology*, edited by Peter C. Mancall (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006, paper US\$ 24.95), presents thirty seven documents, only four of which concern the Caribbean.

Capricious Paradise: Caribbean Tales Told by Lis Twa (Bloomington IN: AuthorHouse, 2005, paper US\$ 8.70) is North Carolinian Gilliam Clarke's well-intentioned outsider version of Eastern Caribbean vernacular storytelling (mainly from Grenada and St. Lucia). A bit of folklore from Curaçao slips into *Pomegranate Seeds: Latin American Jewish Tales*, by Nadia Grosser Nagarajan (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2005, paper US\$ 23.95), which is otherwise concerned with the continent.

Elsewhere on the literary scene, Papillote Press, launched in 1998 and specializing in books about Dominica, has for the first time brought between two covers the shorter fiction of Phyllis Shand Allfrey. Introduced by Lizabeth Paravisini-Gebert, *It Falls Into Place* (2004, paper £7.99) travels between Dominica, New York, and London, crafting sensitive vignettes of the diverse experiences of West Indians at home and abroad.

The publishing house Vents d'ailleurs (formerly based in Châteauneuf-le-Rouge, now in La Roque d'Anthéron – both near Aix-en-Provence), which

full disclosure requires us to recognize as the French publisher of three of our own books, has become a leading publisher of Haitian fiction. Among their recent offerings, we mention the eight remarkable volumes that comprise Frankétienne's *Métamorphoses de l'Oiseau schizophone*, first published in Haiti in 1996 and 1997 – to date, the first four “movements” have appeared: *D'un pur silence inextinguible* (2004), *D'une bouche ovale* (2006), *La méduse orpheline* (2006), and *La nocturne connivence des corps inversés* (2006), each priced at € 18, with the other four due soon. (In 2006, Frankétienne was awarded the Prix Union Latine de Littératures Romanes for his *oeuvre*, which now includes more than thirty volumes of poetry, fiction, and unclassifiable “Spiralist” verbal fireworks, as in these eight “schizophone bird” books.) Vents d'ailleurs has also been publishing the prolific, popular work of younger Haitian novelist Gary Victor, *A l'angle des rues parallèles* (2003, paper € 16), which won the Prix du Livre Insulaire, *Je sais quand Dieu vient se promener dans mon jardin* (2004, paper € 16), which won the Prix RFO, *Le diable dans un thé à la citronnelle* (2005, paper € 16), and *Les cloches de la Brésilienne* (2006, paper € 16). A novel by Marie-Célie Agnant, *Le livre d'Emma* (2004, paper € 16) rounds out Vents d'ailleurs's recent Haitian fiction, describing a psychiatric hospital patient's memory traces that begin before the Middle Passage.

The late René Philoctète's *Massacre River* (New York: New Directions Books, 2005, cloth US\$ 22.95), published in Haiti in 1989, finds new life in this sensitive translation by Linda Coverdale, accompanied by a preface by Edwidge Danticat (whose *Farming of Bones* gave her own vision of the 1937 Trujillo-ordered massacre of Haitians that forms the backdrop for Philoctète's moving novel), as well as an homage/introduction by Lyonel Trouillot.

French Antillean novelists continue to produce at a dizzying pace. Recent fiction that has come our way includes *A bout d'enfance* (Paris: Gallimard, 2005, paper € 15), in which Martiniquan Patrick Chamoiseau continues his third-person childhood memoirs (following on *Antan d'enfance*, 1990, and *Chemin-d'école*, 1994), adopting what has become in our eyes a rather cloying, formulaic voice to describe his discovery of the penis, the opposite sex, and other mysteries. Fellow *créoliste* Guadeloupean Ernest Pépin celebrates, in *Cantique des tourterelles* (Paris: Écriture, 2004, paper € 16.95), the unexpected, passionate love between two women, one already married. Linguist Jean Bernabé's second novel, *Partage des ancêtres* (Paris: Écriture, 2004, paper € 18.95), mixes racial and other identitarian concerns of Martiniquans into the *créoliste* pot. Experienced novelist Gisèle Pineau's *Chair piment* (Paris: Folio, 2004, paper € 6.60) moves between Paris and Guadeloupe, chronicling one woman's interior and erotic life.

Le roman d'Anansi, ou le fabuleux voyage d'une araignée (Gosier, Guadeloupe: Caret, 2006, paper € 27.00), edited by Armelle Détang, with research and notes by J. Picard, is an annotated collection of previously pub-

lished texts – here translated into French – about the fabulous spiderman-trickster, organized geographically: Ghana, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Jamaica, Curaçao, Suriname, and French Guiana. The editors clearly mean well and have created a precious little object-of-a-book. But is it correct to describe *Two Evenings in Saramaka* (a 417-page book published by the University of Chicago Press) as “a recording of some fifteen folktales available at present solely to specialists of English,” to describe “*taki-taki*” in one place as “the language of the Boni” and another as “a creole language close to Sranan” (when the language of the Boni/Aluku is in fact a dialect of Ndyuka and “*taki-taki*” is in fact a pejorative term for Sranan), or to boldly state that there are approximately 20,000 Suriname Maroons today (when the true figure, available even in French-language sources, is close to 120,000)?

In *Hotbeds: Black-White Love in Novels from the United States, Africa and the Caribbean*, by Pia Theilmann (Zomba, Malawi: Kachere Series, 2004, paper US\$ 34.95), the final 80 pages are devoted to plot summaries and analyses of selected Caribbean novels.

Encyclopedia of Caribbean Literature, edited by D.H. Figueredo (Westport CT: Greenwood Press, 2006, cloth, two volumes, US\$ 199.95) consists of almost 1,000 pages of one- to two-page entries, many written by the editor. It is an uneven effort, marred by errors of fact and interpretation and out-of-date by its appearance. Just for the Francophone Caribbean, for example, under “The Césaire family,” one finds: “Aimé and Suzanne are husband and wife writers and philosophers from Martinique ... After 1945, Suzanne Césaire [whose dates are given as 1913–] chose silence, devoting her life to raising her family,” when in fact the Césaires separated three years before Suzanne’s death more than forty years ago. Moreover, there’s no entry on Raphaël Confiant or Ernest Pépin, and Édouard Glissant is credited with being one of the four founders of the *créolité* movement. This is the sort of publication that should have been made available solely online, where it could have benefitted from updates and corrections.

On to the social sciences. H.E. Lamur has published a monumental database, *Familienaam & verwantschap van geëmancipeerde slaven in Suriname: Zoeken naar voorouders/Family Name & Kinship of Emancipated Slaves in Suriname: Tracing Ancestors* (Amsterdam: KIT Publishers, 2004, 2 vols., boxed, cloth € 175.00), with a bilingual methodological introduction, based mainly on the emancipation records compiled in 1863 when Suriname slave owners recorded their human assets in order to receive the 300-guilder per head compensation offered by the government. (A rival project to publish these archival materials by Okke ten Hove, Heinrich E. Helstone & Wim Hoogbergen, *Surinaamse Emancipatie 1863: Familienamen en plantages* and *Surinaamse Emancipatie 1863 Paramaribo: Slaven en eigenaren* [Amsterdam & Utrecht: Rozenberg Publishers & CLACS & IBS, 2003/2004, 2 vols., € 29.90, € 34.90], was not sent to *NWIG* for review, but a useful

review that compares the two projects may be found in *Oso* 24[2005]:390-93.) The entries include, for each emancipated person, the slave name, first name, (new) family name, birth year, kinship data (often from additional sources), occupation, crop (for field hands), plantation, owner, and district. As with emancipation registers from elsewhere in the Americas, these documents should provide grist for many a historian's mill.

Anthropologist María Isabel Quiñones Arocho, who is notable among Puerto Ricans for having conducted her doctoral dissertation research outside the Hispanophone realm, in Barbados, presents in *El fin del reino de lo propio: Ensayos de antropología cultural* (Mexico: Siglo XXI, 2004, paper US\$ 11.95) a series of interrogations about "difference" and "place" – the politics and poetics of alterity in ethnographic discourse and practice – ranging from an analysis of contemporary Puerto Rican beauty parlors to a woman's reminiscences of the Bajan canefield riots of 1937.

Two excellent books have been published by the Archives départementales de la Martinique and edited by the director, Dominique Taffin. The first, *Moreau de Saint-Méry ou les ambiguïtés d'un créole des Lumières* (Fort-de-France: Société des Amis des archives et de la recherche sur le patrimoine culturel des Antilles, 2006, paper € 23) contains the proceedings of an international colloquium held in 2004 to commemorate the bicentennial of Haitian independence and examine the varied facets of the career of Moreau, who was born in Martinique and spent his first nineteen years on the island. The second, *Le pays du volcan: Guide des sources de l'histoire de Saint-Pierre, de sa région et des éruptions de la montagne Pelée* (Fort-de-France: Archives départementales, 2006, paper € 30), is an impressive compendium of every archival trace, in all countries of the world, of the history of Saint-Pierre and especially of the great eruption of 1902.

Vieux-Pont ou les oubliés de la mangrove: Urbanisation, marginalisation à la Martinique (Matoury, Guyane: Ibis Rouge, 2005, paper € 15), by Serge Domi & William Rolle, is a 90-page social-science discussion of the history, present, and future of Martinique's most notorious crack neighborhood, the "mangrove" of Lamentin. Anthropologist Gérard Collomb presents and edits, with an excellent introduction and notes, *Les Indiens de la Sinnamary: Journal du père Jean de la Mousse en Guyane (1684-1691)* (Paris: Chandeigne, 2006, cloth € 25), which lays out, in conversational tones, this Jesuit's experiences and observations, particularly among the Galibis (Kali'na), to the west of Cayenne. Louis Sicking's *Frontières d'Outre-Mer: La France et les Pays-Bas dans le monde atlantique au XIXe siècle* (Paris: Les Indes Savantes, 2006, paper € 28) includes some one hundred pages devoted to border politics on the island of Saint Martin and along the Marowijne/Maroni River, providing the richest account to date of the issues surrounding the Lawa-Tapanahoni contested area. Christine Chivallon's *La diaspora noire des Amériques: Expériences et théories à partir de la Caraïbe*

(Paris: CNRS Éditions, 2004, paper € 29) is an ambitious and challenging attempt at once to introduce Anglophone thinking of the past twenty-five years about the African diaspora and the Black Atlantic into French academic discourse and to provide a critique of its leading ideas. For decades now, French social science has largely ignored the Caribbean and the rest of the Black Americas, so this book, by engaging the theoretical contributions of the region, is a welcome sign of change.

On to photography. In *Gens de pays: Un visage de la Martinique* (Gros Morne, Martinique: Éditions Traces Habitation Saint-Étienne, 2006, n.p.), the island's most gifted photographer, Jean-Luc de Laguarigue, presents more than two hundred pages of portraits, usually of a single person, sometimes a couple, occasionally a family, identified simply by names, places, and dates. From Aimé Césaire and Édouard Glissant to workers in the cane or distillery, his classic Hasselblad engages and rivets its subjects, bringing back to the viewer a strong sense of humanity. This masterful project, conceived as an antidote to the clichéd Caribbean photobooks designed for coffee tables, stimulates active reflection, aided by a provocative preface by philosopher Guillaume Pigéard de Gurbert. *Fotografieën van Suriname: Paramaribo, de spoorweg en de districten in de jaren 1900-1914*, by G.C. Zijlmans (Barendrecht, Netherlands: Batavia Publishing, 2006, cloth, n.p.) presents forty-eight photos made by Cornelis Atzes Hoekstra, pastor of the Lutheran church in Paramaribo, in the first decade of the twentieth century, along with more than one hundred previously published photos taken by a range of amateur and professional photographers (Eugen Klein having the greatest number). The subject of each photo is identified and briefly discussed in vintage colonial history style. *Cuba Classics: A Celebration of Vintage American Automobiles*, by Christopher P. Baker (New York: Interlink Books, 2004, cloth US\$ 29.95), is a coffee-table book chock full of engaging photo journalism, focusing on 1950s dream machines. *Cuba, the Natural Beauty*, by Clyde Butcher (Ochopee FL: Big Cypress Gallery, 2005, cloth US\$ 29.95) presents a gallery of black-and-white photos from a recent trip. *Cuba: Portrait of an Island*, featuring photographs by Donald Nausbaum and text by Ron Base (New York: Interlink Books, 2005, cloth US\$ 29.95), is another attractive coffee-table presentation of the island, this time by two Canadian residents.

The Academia Dominicana de la Historia has published an *homenaje* to the late Harry Hoetink, who devoted so many years to studies of that country. *Ensayos Caribeños*, by Harry Hoetink (Santo Domingo: Academia Dominicana de la Historia, 2006, n.p.) gathers together four of the master's essays preceded by an introduction by Frank Moya Pons and followed by an excellent bibliography that lists all of Hoetink's writings, from book reviews and occasional pronouncements to major books, as well as works that assess his various contributions.

As for new dictionaries, *Dikshonario Papiamentu-Hulandes / Woordenboek Papiaments-Nederlands* (Zutphen, Netherlands: Walburg Pers, 2005, cloth € 39.50), by Igma van Putte-de Windt & Florimon van Putte, is a useful unidirectional 495-page Papiamentu to Dutch dictionary. And the *Prisma woordenboek Sranantongo-Nederlands Nederlands-Sranantongo* (Utrecht: Het Spectrum, 2005, paper € 18.25), by J.C.M. Blanker & J. Dubbeldam, is a two-way affair, with a selection of Sranan proverbs at the end and some color plates in the middle, which identify various “typical” fruits, vegetables, fish, and cultural items, some (e.g., the “agida”) unfortunately mislabeled.

A *mélange* of Caribbean books will not get full reviews in the *NWIG* for one reason or another. *Frantz Fanon: A Portrait*, by Alice Cherki (Ithaca NY: Cornell University Press, 2006, paper US\$ 24.95), focuses almost exclusively on the period during the Algerian Revolution when the author was Fanon’s colleague. *José Martí: An Introduction*, by Oscar Montero (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2004, US\$ 22.95), is, indeed, a useful introduction to this towering icon. In *Quitting America: The Departure of a Black Man From His Native Land* (New York: Plume Press, 2004, paper US\$ 15.00), activist Randall Robinson speaks out against the United States from his adopted home in St. Kitts. *Ethnicity, Class, and Nationalism: Caribbean and Extra-Caribbean Dimensions*, edited by Anton L. Allahar (Lanham MD: Lexington Books, 2005, paper US\$ 26.95), is a strange brew of political science and sociology, covering several Caribbean sites as well as Turkey and Fiji. *Slipstream: A Daughter Remembers*, by Rachel Manley (Toronto: Vintage Canada, 2001, paper US\$ 13.50), is a gracefully written memoir of the author’s relationship with her father and his friends, a rewarding read for anyone interested in the Manleys’ life and times. *Temples of Trinidad*, by Anthony de Verteuil (Port of Spain: Litho Press, 2004, cloth n.p.) is an ambitious architectural tour of churches, mosques, temples, and other houses of worship throughout the island, with text and photos, by this prolific Trinidad author.

More miscellanea. *Pan-Africanism in Barbados: An Analysis of the Activities of the Major 20th-Century Pan-African Formations in Barbados*, by Rodney Worrell (Washington DC: New Academia Publishing, 2002, paper US\$ 12.00), presents a brief history. *Ciphers of History: Latin American Readings for a Cultural Age*, by Enrico Mario Santi (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004, cloth US\$ 75.00), collects seven of the author’s essays on poetry, narrative, film, and intellectual history, with the latter part of the book devoted to Cuba. *Christopher Columbus and the Enterprise of the Indies: A Brief History with Documents*, by Geoffrey Symcox & Blair Sullivan (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005, cloth US\$ 45.00) is a useful documentary resource. *Laatste gouverneur, eerste president: De eeuw van Johan Ferrier, Surinamer*, by John Jansen van Galen (Leiden, Netherlands: KITLV, 2005, paper € 15), is a lively biography of the Republic of Suriname’s first president, based on the author-journalist’s interviews with the 95-year-old Ferrier in the

spring and summer of 2005. *Grassroots Governance? Chiefs in Africa and the Afro-Caribbean*, edited by Donald I. Ray & P. S. Reddy (Calgary: University of Calgary Press, 2003, cloth US\$ 49.95) includes a single Caribbean case study (Jamaica). *X Marks the Spot: The Archaeology of Piracy*, edited by Russell K. Skowronek & Charles R. Ewen (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2006, cloth US\$ 59.95), presents scholarly considerations of various wrecks and other sites associated with pirates. *Searching for Sugar Mills: An Architectural Guide to the Eastern Caribbean*, by Suzanne Gordon & Anne Hersh (Oxford: Macmillan Caribbean, 2005, cloth US\$ 24.95), presents walking and driving tours of heritage-type sites in Anguilla, Antigua, Barbados, the British and U.S. Virgins, Dominica, Grenada, Saba, St. Barts, St. Eustatius, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Martin, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, with Martinique and Guadeloupe inexplicably omitted. *The Jewish Diaspora in Latin America and the Caribbean: Fragments of Memory*, edited by Kristin Ruggiero (Brighton, UK: Sussex Academic Press, 2005, cloth US\$ 67.50), includes three Caribbean chapters – two on Cuba and a fascinating contribution by William F.S. Miles on the role of Jews (and the ways they are regarded) in Martinique, with much information that was entirely new to us. In *Pedagogies of Crossing: Meditations on Feminism, Sexual Politics, Memory, and the Sacred* (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2005, paper US\$ 23.95), M. Jacqui Alexander gathers together a series of her essays on queer studies and other transnational feminist theorizing, much of it with a strong engagement of Caribbean realities. In *Tropicana Nights: The Life and Times of the Legendary Cuban Nightclub*, by Rosa Lowinger & Ofelia Fox (New York: Harcourt, 2005, cloth US\$ 26.00), the owner's widow gives a journalist the low-down on what went on in this most legendary of Batista-era Havana nightspots. In *Latina Legacies: Identity, Biography, and Community* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005, paper US\$ 19.95), editors Vicki L. Ruiz & Virginia Sánchez Korrol gather together portraits of the life and times of fifteen women, including five from the Caribbean. *Interpreting Spanish Colonialism: Empires, Nations, and Legends*, edited by Christopher Schmidt-Nowara & John M. Nieto-Philips (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2005, paper US\$ 32.95), includes one chapter on Cuba and another on Puerto Rico. *The Health and Well-Being of Caribbean Immigrants in the United States*, edited by Annette M. Mahoney (New York: Haworth Press, 2004, paper US\$ 24.95), is a sort of primer for social workers. The reviewer to whom we sent *Religion Versus Empire? British Protestant Missionaries and Overseas Expansion, 1700-1914*, by Andrew Porter (Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 2004, paper US\$ 29.95), reported that there was not sufficient coverage of the Caribbean to warrant an *NWIG* review.

Several in the realm of economics. *Institutions, Performance, and the Financing of Infrastructure Services in the Caribbean*, edited by Abhas Kumar Jha (Washington DC: World Bank, 2005, paper n.p.), explores the

relationship between infrastructure investment and economic growth in various Caribbean countries. In *Lessons from NAFTA for Latin America and the Caribbean*, by Daniel Lederman, William F. Maloney & Luis Servén (Palo Alto CA: Stanford University Press and World Bank, 2005, paper US\$ 29.95), Mexico's experience is analyzed in detail to assess potential effects on other nations that might join. *Foreign Capital Inflows to China, India, and the Caribbean: Trends, Assessments, and Determinants*, by Arindam Banik and Pradip K. Bhaumik (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006, cloth US\$ 80.00), is a highly technical work of economics, for which the Caribbean serves as one of several case studies.

Two on Haiti. *Métamorphoses / Metamorphoses: Sculptures et fer des Bòsmetal d'Haïti / Sculptures and iron pieces from the Bòsmetal of Haiti* (La Roque d'Anthéron: Vents d'ailleurs, 2004, cloth € 29), by Patrice Dilly & Philippe Bernard, is a stunning bilingual catalogue in color, featuring some three dozen sculptures by the metal masters of Croix-des-Bouquets, where oil-drums have been transformed into mainly flat "cut-outs" of mythological (often Vaudou-inspired) beasts as well as historical figures such as Dessalines. The book relates the history of the art as well as the story of its leading practitioners. In *Canada in Haiti: Waging War on the Poor Majority*, by Yves Engler & Anthony Fenton (Vancouver: RED Publishing, 2005, paper US\$ 14.95), two activists expose the role of Canada (and the United States and France) in the overthrow of President Aristide.

Books for the kitchen: *Authentic Recipes from Jamaica*, by John DeMers & Eduardo Fuss (North Clarendon VT: Periplus, 2005, cloth US\$ 12.95), presents attractive recipes (as well as mouth-watering photos) that make us eager to return home to Martinique to try them out. *A Taste of Cuba*, by Beatriz Llamas (New York: Interlink Books, 2005, cloth US\$ 26.95), with charming drawings by Ximena Maier, presents attractive text and numerous recipes that cry out for testing in the kitchen and at the table. From its opening map labeled "Caribbean," which features the (unlabeled) island of St. Vincent at its southernmost edge, to its statement that mangos arrived in the Caribbean "sometime near the end of the nineteenth century," Lynn Marie Houston's *Food Culture in the Caribbean* (Westport CT: Greenwood Press, 2005, cloth US\$ 49.95) fails to measure up. *Puerto Rican Dishes*, by Berta Cabanillas & Carmen Ginorio (San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 2002, paper US\$ 6.95) is a reprint of the fourth edition of this 1956 cookbook, written by specialists in home economics.

Three works that will interest high school students and casual adult readers. Historian Gad Heuman has written *The Caribbean* in a series called "Brief Histories" (London: Hodder Arnold, 2006, paper £14.99). His own experience with British Caribbean materials makes those parts of the book stronger than the rest, and the book's general brevity of coverage means that it may not be for most readers of this journal. *Makers of the Caribbean*, by

James Ferguson (Kingston: Ian Randle, 2005, paper US\$ 12.95), briskly but responsibly introduces selected Caribbean leaders – in history, politics, the arts, sports, and so forth – for the youth market. *The Atlantic Slave Trade*, by Johannes Postma (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2005, paper US\$ 24.95) is a summary aimed at high school students.

Books for which we would like to have published a review but could not find a willing reviewer, despite our best efforts, include the following (alphabetically by title):

After Fidel: The Inside Story of Castro's Regime and Cuba's Next Leader, by Brian Latell (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005, cloth US\$ 24.95).

Black Cosmopolitanism: Racial Consciousness and Transnational Identity in the Nineteenth-Century Americas, by Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005, cloth US\$ 59.95).

Bond Without Blood: A History of Ethiopian and New World Black Relations, 1896-1991, by Fikru Negash Gebrekidan (Trenton NJ: Africa World Press, 2005, paper US\$ 29.95).

Caribbean Security in the Age of Terror, edited by Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith (Miami: Ian Randle, 2004, paper US\$ 29.95).

The Castro Obsession: U.S. Covert Operations Against Cuba 1959-1965, by Don Bohning (Washington DC: Potomac Books, 2005, cloth US\$ 29.95).

The Challenges of Public Higher Education in the Hispanic Caribbean, edited by Maria J. Canino & Silvio Torres-Saillant (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2004, paper US\$ 24.95).

Chanting Down the New Jerusalem: The Politics of Belonging to Saint Martin and Sint Maarten, by Francio Guadeloupe (Amsterdam: Rozenberg, 2005, paper € 26.50).

The Chinese in the Caribbean, edited by Andrew Wilson (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2004, paper US\$ 22.95).

Corruption in Cuba: Castro and Beyond, by Sergio Díaz-Briquets & Jorge Pérez-López (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2006, paper US\$ 21.95).

Creoles, Contact, and Language Change: Linguistic and Social Implications, edited by Geneviève Escure & Armin Schwegler (Philadelphia PA: John Benjamins, 2004, cloth US\$ 168.00).

Cuban Palimpsests, by José Quiroga (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2005, paper US\$ 19.95).

The Cuban Revolution: Years of Promise, by Teo A. Babún, Jr. & Victor Andres Triay (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 2005, cloth US\$ 34.95).

Environmental Issues in Latin America and the Caribbean, edited by Aldemaro Romero & Sarah E. West (Leusden, Netherlands: Springer, 2005, cloth US\$ 129.00).

The Experience of Return Migration: Caribbean Perspectives, edited by Robert B. Potter, Dennis Conway & Joan Phillips (Aldershot, UK: Ashgate, 2005, cloth US\$ 99.95).

Haiti, Rising Flames from Burning Ashes, by Hyppolite Pierre (Lanham MD: University Press of America, 2006, paper US\$ 49.00).

Jamaican Folk Medicine: A Source of Healing, by Arvilla Payne-Jackson & Mervyn C. Alleyne (Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2004, paper US\$ 30.00).

Living at the Borderlines: Issues in Caribbean Sovereignty and Development, edited by Cynthia Barrow-Giles & Don D. Marshall (Kingston: Ian Randle, 2003, paper US\$ 24.95).

Oba's Story: Rastafari, Purification and Power, by George D. Colman (Trenton NJ: Africa World Press, 2005, paper US\$ 19.95).

Not Without Love: Memoirs, by Constance Webb (Hanover NH: University Press of New England, 2003, cloth US\$ 24.95).

Pierre Toussaint: A Biography, by Arthur Jones (New York: Doubleday, 2003, cloth US\$ 24.95).

Sucking Salt: Caribbean Women Writers, Migration, and Survival, by Meredith M. Gadsby (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2006, cloth US\$ 39.95).

Unvanquished: Cuba's Resistance to Fidel Castro, by Enrique Encinosa (Los Angeles: Pureplay Press, 2004, cloth US\$ 26.00).

U.S. Intervention in British Guiana: A Cold War Story, by Stephen G. Rabe (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005, paper US\$ 19.95).

A number of new editions of Caribbean works have been published during the past few years. One is a new, thoroughly revised and augmented edition of Pierre Grenand, Christian Moretti, Henri Jacquemin & Marie-Françoise Prévost's monumental, 816-page *Pharmacopées traditionnelles en Guyane: Créoles, Wayãpi, Palikur* (Paris: IRD Éditions, 2004, cloth € 85), originally published in 1987. With color photos of most of the plants discussed, plus chemical analyses of many of their properties, this is a stunning work. We did see small errors (e.g., the authors don't get Quassie's discovery of *Quassia amara* quite right) and were unable to find various plants that we know are part of the Creole pharmacopeia. On the whole, though, a landmark publication.

The second edition of Bernardo Vega's *Como los Americanos ayudaon a colocar a Balaguer en el poder en 1966* (Santo Domingo: Fundación Cultural Dominicana, 2004, paper n.p.) includes newly released transcriptions of telephone conversations between President Johnson and close advisors which support Vega's analysis of the way the State Department, the CIA, the FBI, and American troops in the Dominican Republic combined to determine the outcome of the 1966 election.

With its original (ca. 1969) foreword by Graham Greene and a new, sober preface by Diederich, the reprint of *Papa Doc & the Tontons Macoutes* by Bernard Diederich & Al Burt (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2005, paper US\$ 28.95) remains the classic journalistic account of the period. *Written in Blood: The Story of the Haitian People 1492-1995*, by Robert Debs Heinl & Nancy Gordon Heinl, and revised by Michael Heinl (New York: University Press of America, 2005, paper US\$ 49.00), is the third edition of this thick journalistic history originally published twenty-seven years earlier. *The African Experience in Spanish America*, by Leslie B. Rout, Jr. (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2003, paper US\$ 24.95), reprints this pioneering work, with an introduction by Miriam Jiménez Roman and Juan Flores. *Afro-Cuban Myths: Yemayá and other Orishas*, by Rómulo Lachatañeré (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2004, paper US\$ 24.95), is an English-language version of Lachatañeré's 1938 *Oh, Mío Yemayá!*, with an introduction by Jorge Castellanos. *Monsieur Toussaint: A Play*, by Édouard Glissant (Boulder CO: Lynne Rienner, 2005, paper US\$ 15.95), is an excellent English translation, by Michael Dash in collaboration with Glissant himself, of this classic. *Gardening in the Tropics*, by Olive Senior (Toronto: Insomniac Press, 2005, paper US\$ 9.95) gives new life to this robust collection of poetry first published a decade earlier. *Main Currents in Caribbean Thought: The Historical Evolution of Caribbean Society in its Ideological Aspects, 1492-1900*, by Gordon K. Lewis (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004, paper US\$ 22.00), is the welcome reprinting of this classic of Caribbean intellectual history, now with a new introduction by Anthony P. Maingot.

Reprints of more recent Caribbean books. *Caribbean Currents: Caribbean Music from Rumba to Reggae*, by Peter Manuel with Kenneth Bilby and Michael Largey (Philadelphia PA: Temple University Press, 2006, paper US\$ 25.95), is a revised and expanded edition of this excellent overview. *Transatlantic Slavery: Against Human Dignity*, edited by Anthony Tibbles (Liverpool, UK: Liverpool University Press, 2005, paper US\$ 40.00), is the second edition of a fine catalogue that accompanied the opening of the Transatlantic Slave Gallery at Merseyside Maritime Museum in 1994. *Cave of the Jagua: The Mythological World of the Tainos*, by Antonio M. Stevens-Arroyo (Scranton PA: University of Scranton Press, 2006, paper US\$ 24.00), is the second, revised edition of this 1988 work. *Slavery and the French and Haitian Revolutionists*, by Anna Julia Cooper, edited and translated by Frances Richardson Keller (New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2006, paper US\$ 29.95), reprints the 1988 Edwin Mellen Press edition. *The History of Cuba*, by Clifford L. Staten (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2005), reprints the Greenwood 2003 edition of this 150-page summary history. *A Dictionary of Common Trinidad Hindi*, by Kumar Mahabir (San Juan, Trinidad & Tobago: Chakra Publishing House, 2004, paper US\$ 10.00), is the third edition of this useful little volume. *Americas: The Changing Face*

of *Latin America and the Caribbean*, by Peter Winn (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006, paper US\$ 24.95), is the third edition, revised, of this wide-ranging textbook.

And reprints of historical classics. In *Writing From the Edge of the World: The Memoirs of Darién, 1514-1527*, by Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2006, paper US\$ 22.50), translator G.F. Dikle presents that part of the *Historia general y natural de las Indias* that deals with Oviedo's years in Panama. *The West Indies Before and Since Slave Emancipation: Comprising the Windward & Leeward Islands' Military Command Founded on Notes and Observations Collected During a Three Years' Residence*, by John Davy (London: Frank Cass, 2005, cloth US\$ 125.00), is a digitalized printing of the facsimile edition of 1971, which reproduced the original 1854 publication. *Black Rebellion: Five Slave Revolts*, by Thomas Wentworth Higginson (New York: Cosimo Classics, 2005, paper US\$ 10.75), is another reprinting of this abolitionist classic. *The Economic Future of the Caribbean*, edited by E. Franklin Frazier & Eric Williams (Dover MA: The Majority Press, 2004, paper US\$ 19.95), reprints the slim 1944 original, with a new preface by Erica Williams Connell and a new introduction by Tony Martin.

Finally, we should mention several recent reeditions and translations of our own work. *Les Arts des Marrons* (La Roque d'Anthéron: Vents d'ailleurs, 2005, cloth € 45), by Sally & Richard Price, is a large-format, full-color, expanded version of the 1999 Beacon Press edition – nice enough to make us regret that we ever published it (in English and later in Dutch) in standard format with black and white illustrations. *El presidiario y el coronel* (San Juan: Ediciones Callejón, 2005, paper US\$ 24.95), by Richard Price, with a new preface by Antonio T. Díaz-Royo, is an excellent Spanish translation of the 1998 Beacon Press original. We also note a second edition in English of Richard Price's *The Convict and the Colonel: A Story of Colonialism and Resistance in the Caribbean* (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2006, paper US\$ 22.95), with a new afterword by the author, as well as a new edition of Sally Price's *Arts primitifs: Regards civilisés* (Paris: ENSB-a, 2006, paper € 18), whose final chapter treats Maroon arts, now with a preface by Maurice Godelier and a new afterword by the author. *Romare Bearden: Une dimension caribéenne* (La Roque d'Anthéron: Vents d'ailleurs, 2006, cloth € 45), by Sally Price and Richard Price, is the French translation of *Romare Bearden: The Caribbean Dimension* (Philadelphia PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006, cloth US\$ 49.95), which will be reviewed in due course in *NWIG*.