



CSA News

CaribbeanStudiesAssociation.org

The Official Newsletter of the Caribbean Studies Association



41ST CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 6 - 11, 2016
HAITI



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Special Issue:

CSA-HAITI 2016 RETROSPECTIVE

ARTISTIC BRILLIANCE: THE ROOTS OF FREEDOM

Stimulated by our conference, local committee co-chair, Philippe Dodard, created a large painting of Toussaint L'Ouverture the week after CSA-Haiti 2016. Titled "Roots of Freedom" 54x71 it is the latest and perhaps strongest representation of Toussaint who had said "...you have cut the tree of freedom but it will grow again because its roots are plentiful and deep."



ANGELA DAVIS AT CSA-HAITI

CSA ELDERS Announcing a new membership category

A new initiative to serve the interests of CSA members who have retired but who still want to actively attend and participate in conferences was passed overwhelmingly at the last business meeting at the CSA Conference in Port au Prince, Haiti. This new membership category is as follows:

CSA Elders (for retired members only)

Membership fee is USD55.
Conference Registration fee is USD50 (*early registration*).
After the deadline: USD65.

Past President Millette proposed that CSA Elders in return should also include CSA as a category for donations when they have resources available, e.g. fund a lecture or item or add CSA whenever they are transferring financial assets. Additionally, we will ask CSA Elders to be available as they choose to serve as mentors and participate actively in Round Tables at Conferences.

CSA CONFERENCE IN THE NEWS

Why Haiti Needs New Narratives: Panel Round Up from the 41st Caribbean Studies Association Meeting, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

On June 5th, 2016 about 800 researchers, professors, librarians and graduate students arrived at the Marriott Hotel in Port-au-Prince, Haiti for the 41st installment of the Caribbean Studies Association meeting. Being my first CSA meeting as well as my first trip to Haiti, I was very excited to participate in the conference as well as take in the sounds and sights of the Haitian capital. However, I'll save my thoughts on my visit to the Champs-de-Mars, the MUPANAH, and the Place Boyer for another time. In this post, I will give a detailed report of one of the more recent – and influential – movements featured at the CSA: New Narratives of Haiti. Before recapping the panel, I provide a brief summary of the movement below.

[[READ MORE](#)]

Annie Paul | Haiti secret citadel of the Caribbean

Ever since I started living in Jamaica in 1988, I've wanted to visit Haiti, but every time I expressed this desire, friends who know the country would say it's a little volatile there right now, wait till things get better. And, of course, they never have, with 2010's earthquake delivering the worst blow of the last three



Perhaps the most exciting aspect of CSA-Haiti 2016 was facilitating Angela Davis's first visit to our conference and to Haiti. Though Angela Davis felt somehow she could attend the conference unencumbered and listen to some sessions and give her keynote address, her presence became a media event and an opportunity for encounters and photo ops from Haitians of all levels - government ministers to artists and definitely our conferees.

The desire of the Haitian community was realized with Angela's acceptance to visit Haiti for the first time, to speak at the conference and to graciously smile through so many photographs even while trying to enjoy Cultural Night. Her visit included a trip to the Citadelle La Ferriere courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism and selected visits during a whirlwind one week stay in Haiti. There she made the declaration that just as we visit the slave castles in Africa, the Citadelle should be a must visit in order to see a site where we fought and won freedom.



Rachel Beauvoir Dominique recommended Angela Davis as a top choice for CSA-Haiti

Her keynote address presented the new information that her first arrest was in Guadeloupe at the age of 19 after cutting sugar cane in Cuba and for carrying posters and books from Cuba. She underscored at each turn her intellectual and political formation in the Caribbean including the Haitian writers like Jacques Roumain and a range of other Caribbean intellectual and political figures. A now famous line from her speech was:

"Give it Back" referring to the request that the French return what is now billions they had extracted from Haiti in exchange for its recognition after the Revolution was looped repeatedly to thunderous applause on Haitian radio stations in the days following the conference.

A surprise finale to the conference which included government ministers and women's rights activists from Haiti was hosted by the Minister for Women's Condition and Women's Rights at the Marriott on the Saturday evening June 11th. after the close of the conference. Through Minister Marie Denise Claude awards of Honor and Merit were presented presented to CSA-Haiti 2016 Keynote Speaker and Distinguished Activist Dr. Angela Y. Davis and CSA Past President (2015-2016) Dr. Carole Boyce Davies and Dr. Michele Pierre Louis, for their engagement in the fight in favor of a just and equal world. The inscription reads "pour son engagement et son combat en faveur d'un monde just et egalitaire".



decades. So I never made the trip to the fabled island that is one of Jamaica's closest neighbours until last week. [\[READ MORE \]](#)

Angela Davis en Haïti

C'est la première fois que la Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) se réunit en Haïti. Elle qui a tenu ses assises à travers toute la Caraïbe. Près de 2000 personnes sont attendues à cet événement avec comme invité d'honneur l'intellectuelle et activiste Angela Davis. "La participation aux rencontres de la CSA n'a jamais été aussi élevée", a mentionné la présidente du groupe, Boyce Davis. [\[READ MORE \]](#)

Angela Davis : Haïti reste le phare de l'avenir

Mardi 7 juin, la militante américaine des droits humains, Angela Davis, a foulé pour la première fois le sol de la première terre de liberté. Elle tombe sur un pays en proie à de perpétuels bouleversements sociopolitiques où elle a quand même eu droit de goûter à des manifestations culturelles étonnantes au point que dans son discours profondément puissant à l'hôtel Marriott le jeudi 9 juin elle concède : « c'est magique d'être ici même à un moment de crise. » [\[READ MORE \]](#)

Activist, former Black Panthers leader Angela Davis to visit Haiti

The conversation between Cornell University Africana Studies professor Carole Boyce Davies, and the iconic radical black activist Angela Davis went something like this:

"I am headed to Haiti," said Boyce Davies, a former Florida International University professor who divides her time between New York and South Florida.

"Haiti?" asked Davis, a fellow author and distinguished professor emerita of history of consciousness at University of California Santa Cruz. "I've never been." [\[READ MORE \]](#)

CONFERENCE ATTENDEES COMMENTS

Hello,

I think you are doing well. I was very impressed to talk to you during the CSA conference and I grasped this opportunity to congratulate you for the great job that your staff and you did during the process of the first meeting of the CSA conference that we have in Haiti. I am one of the student who was talking to you the last day of the conference after the rifle. As a student in Haiti I was very proud to see the importance that the Caribbean gave to us and

Haitian Minister of Justice, Marie Claude Minister of Women's Condition and Women's Rights, Dr. Michelle Pierre Louis, Dr. Carole Boyce Davies and Dr. Angela Y. Davis

We thank the people of Haiti for their kind hospitality and generosity in the midst of difficulty for hosting Angela Davis at such a high level and for welcoming us to Haiti for a CSA without incident.

Dr. Carole Boyce Davies

President, Caribbean Studies Association, 2015-2016



Edwidge Danticat, Keithley Woolward new CSA President 2016-2017, Carole Boyce Davies, Angela Davis and Philippe Dodard



CSA Executive Council on stage for presentation of award to Angela Davis

EDWIDGE DANTICAT'S MOVING PRESENTATION AT CSA-HAITI



Few moments from the conference resonate more powerfully than Edwidge Danticat's moving performance piece on Haitian Dominican statelessness. Danticat's poetic tribute to the many Haitian lives lost and permanently upended because of the calculated indifference of the sentencia made real the human cost of the Dominican Republic's Constitutional Court ruling, which invalidated the citizenship of nearly two hundred thousand Dominicans of Haitian descent. The call and response structure of the narrative piece, performed by Danticat and a young Haitian woman artist who accompanied her in Kreyol, so

poignantly dramatized the immense pain and heartache which the stateless shoulder that the performance brought both Danticat and audience members to tears. Danticat's choice of structure was particularly affective because of its sorrowful nuances. Indeed, the community building and community sustaining effort that call and response names within the African diaspora charged the presentation with the mournful presence of discarded Haitians, present and past, who were and are unprotected, in truth vilified, by their adopted countries and their own nation. In this respect, just as the performance endeavored to expose the rare wound of human lives demeaned because of xenophobic anti-blackness and legalized inhumanity, it equally sought to relieve a bit of the pain with a structure that implicitly enjoined solidarity among all Haitians and those taken with the plight of the stateless (audience members). Danticat's presentation could, and perhaps, should have been afforded a night all its own, one removed from the persistent hum of dining and chitchat; as it laid bare the human toil of legalized hate, provided a human face to the stateless, and showcased Danticat as a performer, writer, and an impassioned, ethically centered human being. Quite simply, the presentation showcased Danticat at her best all the while calling attention to the many lives that should, without question, matter.

Natalie M. Léger
Assistant Professor of English
Queens College, CUNY

MEETING EDWIDGE IN HAITI

observed how the Haitian students were very animated, excited to participate at the first meeting that was realised in Port-au-Prince. Thank you for having paid attention to me. I am very open for you for any questions related to social culture, values and diversity and this way we can make inter-action so as to better understand the culture, the social perspective from each country.

Best Wishes!
Kerline Vaval

Dear Prof. Boyce-Davies,

I trust you are enjoying some well-earned rest after such a successful CSA gathering.

I write to offer my thanks and congratulations on well run conference.

From the beginning I could sense the high level of organization and the care taken to attend to the needs of participants and to ensure a well-run event. I am truly grateful and happy that things went so well.

Best regards,
Carol Bailey

Dear Professor Davies,

I hope you are resting after last week.

I wanted to thank you again for the opportunity to participate in the conference.

I learned so much not just from the couple of panels I got to see but also from just helping the other organizers and doing a lot of translating between them and the other volunteers and Haitian students that got the chance to come.

I know the other volunteers were also grateful for participating. It's not everyday that such a conference comes to Haiti. We don't often get the opportunity to have spaces to think and to meet other Caribbean professors and intellectuals.
Thank you again!

Enjoy the rest of your time in Haiti.

Best,
Christine Aristide

Professor Boyce Davies, my heart is full of gladness and pride as I reflect on the Homecoming you organized in Ayiti. Indeed we'll have turned our heads somewhat to begin to restore our glory through her. You made it look so easy, epitomizing the essence of leadership, we will sing your praises for this for years to come...can we do a return sooner than later, to catch up for lost times? I want to thank you for the consideration of the plenary panel (most

From the moment I heard the CSA 2016 conference was to take place in Haiti I not only wanted to go, but I also wanted to present my paper and support the conference planning in anyway possible. I was born in Brooklyn with Haitian Kompa heartbeats-Haiti is as much a beloved catalyst as it is an inspiring mystery. This very conundrum, replicated throughout the diaspora, is part of the reason I am in the field of Caribbean Studies.



Edwidge Danticat and Marsha Jean Charles

Supporting this year's CSA conference in Haiti was an eye-opening, insightful, and truly memorable experience. I was blessed with an opportunity to work closely with Dr. Boyce Davies, Dr. Nixon, Dr. Nzungou-Tayo, Dr. King, and a number of other scholars allowed me a more clear understanding of the beautiful and yet tedious intersection of scholarship and activism. Presenting in the conference was exhilarating, inspiring, and humbling. I met countless students and scholars who maintain their commitment to furthering this field, offering intersectional and innovative work, and bettering our world as a whole. Conversing with Edwidge Danticat and witnessing first-hand her devotion and commitment to this field and my motherland was beyond beautiful. Often, she can to the Secretariat and met with various fans and scholars. Listening to Angela Davis touched my heart and cemented my quest to affect change in this world. I spoke with various Haitian student volunteers after this event who themselves were catalyzed and forever changed and this was truly remarkable. This conference will forever be a crucial point in my academic career.

As a Haitian-American diaspora doctoral student; as a researcher of both the dynamism and beauty of black women's work and art; as a lover of revolution and an organizer, this conference made me all the more determined to completing my doctoral research.

...

Thank you!
Marsha Jean-Charles, *Ph.D. Student Cornell University*
Conference Assistant

CSA-HAITI 2016 WELCOME ADDRESS

(Delivered at Opening Ceremony, Marriott Hotel, Port au Prince, June 6, 2016)

A famous poet once asked the question: what happens to a dream deferred? And, after providing a series of options, concluded with the rhetorical question: Does it explode? I am pleased to say, by way of opening this conference, that the CSA dream of coming to Haiti, long deferred, has today exploded into a magnificent conference short named #CSA-Haiti 2016.



Carole Boyce-Davies

With our full theme Caribbean Global Movements: People, Ideas, Arts, Culture and Economic Sustainability, we propose a CSA that examines the ways that Caribbean people are global people; our confident embrace of the fact that we can be very local but at the same time if we choose, amazing global citizens; able to be comfortable anywhere; that our arts, people, culture, literature, spirituality, music, style, dance, food, hot sauce circulate globally from Australia to Beijing, Salvador Bahia to Edmonton, Canada. So we want to demonstrate through 6 days of intellectual exchange, and with our scholars providing a series of answers from different fields, how all of these elements can be used for economic sustainability.

We are together making history here in Haiti. There are conferences and intellectual projects which when delivered in a moment of conjuncture, as C.L.R. James would describe it, are able to create a political leap that becomes transformative and measurable. You are participants in one of these historic moments and for this we thank the Haitian people for helping us to make it happen. Keep in mind that our most interesting academics and intellectuals from C.L.R. James to Zora Neale Hurston; Aime Cesaire to Katherine Dunham have recognized the importance of Haiti to any intellectual framing of the Caribbean and of the Latin America and of the larger African world in general. Haiti, the place where black freedom stood up first in the Americas.

Our logic of the Global here then also embraces the ways that Caribbean intellectuals have historically interacted with a range of other black intellectuals internationally and historically. It is in that spirit that we have been pleased to bring Angela Davis to Haiti, an

importantly the connecting with Jeremy I have found extremely useful and inspiring) - my regret is that my paper was far too long to have made sense in the time allotted but I am happy for the direction that it sent me into thinking on - I am thus committed to getting out the paper asap somewhere. I hope that you now have an opportunity to have well deserved rest! Though you look more refreshed (from a job well done) than tired. All the elements worked perfectly - truly divine. Nuff love from yaad.

Bongo Neufville Niah

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international scholar who absolutely sees the way that the Caribbean global intellectual is critical to our understanding of world political movements. We are showing also how the Caribbean Radical Intellectual Tradition has impacted world icons like activist/intellectual Angela Y. Davis in the American black radical intellectual tradition who we were fortunate to have headline our conference.

We are working conceptually this year with a format in which we begin with an amazing line up of opening morning speakers on several sub-themes which come out of our larger conference theme.

Get up early. This is the Caribbean where the cock crows by 4:00 am and children and workers awake at dawn to go to school and work. Deliberately my Program Chairs and I have designed a program where grad students are not shunted off to 7:30 am panels while the serious scholars have choice hours later in the day. The morning opens each day with a rich intellectual fare. This is followed by a bounty of panels on any related theme or topic that you want to hear- literary salons, author presentations, an art exhibition, performance sessions.

Besides the scholarly, you will note in that beautiful program that we have parallel evening events – First using a formulation advanced by Claudia Jones that a people's art is the genesis of their freedom, we will have artistic representations of different types available in a Haitian Wearable Art Expo. There are some wonderful pieces of Haitian creations which you will which when taken to Barneys in New York sell for hundreds. Here you will have first choice. We have a parallel art exhibition, [Haitopia](#), both of these sponsored by the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington D.C. and The Green Foundation in Miami.

The typical CSA events like Cultural Night and CSA night are well organized this year with Edwidge Danticat presenting at CSA Night, already sold out and a closing fete by the formidable Boukman Eksperyans who delayed a trip to Liverpool so that they can welcome CSA to Haiti and indicated that they would not have it any other way than to be here to perform for you.

So let me use this opportunity to thank our Local Organizing team led by Dr. Pierre-Louis, Phillipe Dodard of ENARTS and Jhon Picard Byron of University d' Haiti. Our two program chairs: Angelique Nixon and Marie Jose Nzengeu Tayo have done an amazing job as the conference swelled in numbers and we all panicked over space.

A new Chair of Caribbean Studies, also a long dream of the intellectuals here, will be announced at this conference. To be housed at the University Quisqueya under the leadership of Jacky Lumarque Rector who I met on my first visit to see if we would hold the conference here, he indicated enthusiastically that this is precisely the momentum and opportunity to launch and bring forward that long held dream.

And this year courtesy of the William K. Kellogg Foundation we have an extra day for the first time – a Saturday devoted to education. We have invited 300 teachers to an all-day session so that they too can hear and learn from and be enriched by the knowledge of our scholars. My colleague Linda Spears Bunton of the College of Education, FIU with whom I have worked before on at least 6 other similar ventures is the workshop coordinator. We propose a day of enrichment for teachers for which they will receive a certificate if they stay the entire day. And we have a parallel project to take supplies and visit L'Ecole Mixtte de Deleard which is our benefit school. Throughout this week there will be opportunities for you to donate to ensure these children have the education and knowledge they deserve. We would like this engagement with teachers here to not be a one-off deal but something we come back to annually. Indeed our grant mandates a follow-up session in Haiti.

This community engagement initiative arises from a commitment to a challenge one of our two program chairs, Angelique Nixon and I were given when we were contemplating a conference in Tobago. We were asked by a government minister about what the organization does...does it simply meet and leave a country or does it provide its knowledge in a directly beneficial way? So the Saturday session begins with a themed plenary on education and economic sustainability. And continues with workshops morning and afternoon that educators can select and attend.

So let me thank all the agencies, organizations, government departments, that made this possible – Especially, The William K. Kellogg Foundation which gave us a grant for the Teacher Education Component of our conference. We have also received support from the following:

- The Green Foundation
- The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture
- Digicel has been amazing as we expanded and were looking for additional space
- Several others are listed on our conference program supporting both the local organizing committee's efforts and CSA's in general.

Let me also thank the scholars who came against all odds and warnings about Zika and threatened unrest, in record numbers to CSA-Haiti 2016. We recognized very early that this media presentation of an always troubled and unstable Haiti is an ongoing construction of Haiti, as of African Diaspora peoples in general, as always with problems, never ever fully realizing our potential.

SO MY COLLEAGUES, PLEASE APPLAUD YOURSELVES FOR BEING IN HAITI, MANY OF YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND HELPING US LAUNCH A HISTORIC CONFERENCE.

YES WE ARE MAKING HISTORY AT CSA-HAITI 2016. THIS ONE IS GOING INTO THE RECORD BOOKS ON CONFERENCES THAT CHANGED THE INTELLECTUAL REACH OF HAITI AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES IN GENERAL.

We ask new members to stay with us. We are going to the Bahamas next and a return to Cuba is on our radar. This is not your father's or mother's CSA. There is a new generation of scholars, with great ideas for making our organization world class. One of them is set to become the new president following me.

In closing I want to say that in all my visits to Haiti pre and post Goudogoudou while there were several dire warnings about coming to Haiti and always another media scare, I always marveled with wonder that in spite of whatever was going on, there were always planes full of missionaries. It made me think of how sometimes we as scholars talk a lot but are less ready to practice what we preach. Today CSA is in full blown praxis, the scholars and critical thinkers have arrived. CSA has opened the door to new intellectual inquiries, to questions about sexuality, to all fields and above all, has opened the door to putting Haiti back at the center of Caribbean Discourse as it was in the days of scholars like Fermin and Jean Price Mars.

WE ARE OPENING THE DOOR TO KNOWLEDGE, CRITICAL THINKING, FUTURE COLLABORATIONS, DEMONSTRATING HAITI AS A SITE OF INTELLECTUAL EXCHANGE AND KNOWLEDGE PRECISELY AS EARLIER GENERATIONS OF SCHOLARS FROM CESAIRE TO CLR IMAGINED IT. WE, THE DREAM AND HOPE OF THE ENSLAVED HAVE OPENED THE GATES! WE HAVE CROSSED THE BARRIERS! WE ARE HERE IN HAITI!

By hosting this conference in Haiti, CSA has completed its 41st year by covering most of the entire Caribbean though we still have to go to Guyana BUT WE HAVE COME BACK TO THE PLACE WHERE OUR FREEDOM FIRST STOOD UP. I am pleased that CSA-Haiti happened under my tenure as president. Like Dessalines, I want to propose myself as a closer of the deal of sorts...completing the project, making it happen, realizing the dream.

Here at CSA- Haiti, The tree of liberty springs up again by the roots...this time with new and numerous intellectual and cultural exchanges... Numerous and deep.

Welcome to CSA-Haiti 2016 !

Carole Boyce Davies
CSA President 2015-2016

Español

DISCURSO DE BIENVENIDA A LA CONFERENCIA 2016 EN HAITÍ

(Ceremonia de apertura, Hotel Marriott, Puerto Príncipe, 6 de junio de 2016)

Un poeta famoso preguntó alguna vez: ¿qué le sucede a un sueño aplazado? Después de ofrecer una serie de alternativas, concluyó con la pregunta retórica: ¿Acaso explota? Me complace decir, a modo de apertura para esta conferencia, que el sueño de la CSA de venir a Haití, largamente aplazado, ha explotado hoy para convertirse en una magnífica conferencia apodada de cariño #CSA-Haití 2016.

Con nuestro tema Movimientos Globales del Caribe: Gente, Ideas, Cultura, Artes y Sustentabilidad Económica, proponemos una CSA/AEC que examina las maneras en que los sujetos caribeños son sujetos globales; nuestra firme convicción de que podemos ser muy locales y, al mismo tiempo si así lo escogemos, ciudadanos globales; capaces de sentirnos cómodos en donde sea; que nuestras artes, personas, cultura, literatura, espiritualidad, música, estilo, danza, comida, circulan globalmente de Australia a Beijing, de Salvador de Bahía a Edmonton, Canadá. Así, a lo largo de 6 días de intercambio intelectual, y con las respuestas ofrecidas por nuestros académicos desde diferentes campos de estudio, queremos demostrar cómo todos estos elementos pueden utilizarse para lograr la sustentabilidad económica.

Juntos estamos haciendo historia aquí en Haití. Estos son proyectos intelectuales y conferencias que, al realizarse en un momento de coyuntura — como lo describiría C.L.R. James — son capaces de

crear un salto político que sea transformador y medible. Ustedes son participantes de uno de estos momentos históricos, y es por eso que deseo agradecer a todo el pueblo haitiano que nos ha ayudado a hacer esto posible. Sepan que muchos de nuestros académicos e intelectuales más interesantes, desde C.L.R. James a Zora Neale Hurston; de Aimé Césaire a Katherine Dunham, han reconocido la importancia de Haití en cualquier marco intelectual del Caribe, Latinoamérica y el más amplio mundo Africano en general. Haití, el lugar donde la libertad negra se levantó por primera vez en las Américas.

Nuestra lógica de lo Global aquí, incluye también los modos en que los intelectuales caribeños han interactuado históricamente con una amplia variedad de otros intelectuales negros a nivel internacional. Con este espíritu nos complace contar con la participación de Angela Davies, una académica internacional que reconoce que el Caribe global e intelectual es una pieza clave para la comprensión de los movimientos políticos de nuestro mundo. Asimismo, mostramos cómo la Tradición Intelectual Radical Caribeña ha impactado en iconos mundiales, por ejemplo la activista/intelectual Angela Y. Davies, de la tradición intelectual radical negra-americana, a quien orgullosamente tenemos como conferencista principal.

Este año trabajamos conceptualmente con un formato en el que comenzamos con una increíble serie de sesiones de apertura, con conferencistas de diversos sub-temas derivados de nuestro tema principal. Levántense temprano. Este es el Caribe donde el gallo canta a las 4:00 am, y los niños y los trabajadores se levantan al amanecer para ir a la escuela y el trabajo. Las Directoras del Programa y yo hemos diseñado deliberadamente un programa en el que los estudiantes de grado no son colocados en las mesas panel de las 7:30 am mientras los académicos cuentan con elección de horarios a lo largo del día. Las mañanas comenzarán con un rico programa intelectual, seguido de abundantes paneles relacionados a cualquier tema o tópico en el que estén interesados: salones literarios, presentaciones de autor, una exhibición de arte, sesiones performáticas.

Además de la parte académica, notarán en ese hermoso programa que contamos con eventos vespertinos simultáneos. Primeramente, utilizando la concepción de que el arte de una persona es el génesis de su libertad, desarrollada por Claudia Jones, tendremos representaciones artísticas de diferentes tipos disponibles en la Exposición de Arte Haitiano para Vestir. Hay piezas maravillosas de creación haitiana que podrán apreciar y que, cuando son llevadas a Barneys en Nueva York, se venden por cientos de dólares. Aquí, ustedes tendrán la primera elección. También contamos con la exposición de arte paralela, [Haitopia](#). Ambas exposiciones son patrocinadas por el Museo Nacional Smithsonian de Historia y Cultura Afroamericana en Washington D.C., y The Green Foundation en Miami.

Los eventos tradicionales de la CSA/AEC como la Noche Cultural y la Noche CSA/AEC están muy bien organizadas este año, con la presentación de Edwidge Danticat en la noche CSA/AEC — boletos agotados— y una fiesta de clausura con los formidables Boukman Eksperyans, quienes pospusieron un viaje a Liverpool para darle la bienvenida en Haití a la CSA/AEC, y afirmaron que no se perderían la oportunidad de estar aquí y tocar para ustedes por nada del mundo.

Así que permítanme este momento para agradecer a nuestro equipo de Organización Local dirigido por el Dr. Pierre-Louis, Phillipe Dodard de ENARTS y Jhon Picard Byron de la Universidad de Haití. Nuestras dos Directoras del Programa: Angelique Nixon y Marie-Jose Nzengou Tayo, han hecho un trabajo increíble durante el gran crecimiento de la conferencia y todos tuvimos ataques de pánico por el espacio.

Un nuevo Director de Estudios Caribeños, también un sueño largamente deseado por los intelectuales aquí presentes, será anunciado en esta conferencia. Alojado en la Universidad Quisqueya bajo la dirección de Jacky Lumarque Rector — a quien conocí en mi primera visita para ver si celebraríamos la conferencia aquí — indicó entusiasta que este son el momento y oportunidad perfectos para hacer realidad ese sueño.

Este año, cortesía de la Fundación William K. Kellogg, tendremos por primera vez un día extra en la conferencia — un sábado dedicado a la educación. Hemos invitado a más de 300 maestros para una sesión a lo largo de este día, de modo que también ellos puedan escuchar y enriquecerse con el conocimiento de nuestros académicos. Mi colega Linda Spears Bunton de la Facultad de Educación, FIU —con quien he trabajado antes en al menos otros 6 eventos similares — es la coordinadora de los talleres. Proponemos un día de enriquecimiento para los maestros, quienes recibirán una constancia si permanecen durante todo el día. Asimismo, tenemos un proyecto paralelo para llevar materiales y visitar L'École Mixtte de Deleard, nuestra escuela beneficiada. A lo largo de esta semana habrá diversas oportunidades de donación, para asegurarnos de que estos niños reciban la educación y el conocimiento que merecen. Nos gustaría que este compromiso que hemos adquirido con los maestros no sea un evento de una sola vez, sino un

compromiso que podamos cumplir anualmente. Definitivamente, nuestra beca exige una sesión de continuidad en Haití.

La iniciativa de este compromiso comunitario nace de nuestra dedicación al cumplimiento de un reto, el cual nos fue propuesto a mí y una de nuestras Directoras del Programa, Angelique Nixon, mientras pensábamos en la posibilidad de celebrar la conferencia en Tobago. El ministro de gobierno nos preguntó sobre los deberes de la organización... ¿simplemente llega y se va del país o provee su conocimiento de modo directamente benéfico? Así que la sesión del sábado comenzará con una sesión plenaria sobre la educación y la sustentabilidad económica; continuará con talleres matutinos y vespertinos a los cuales podrán asistir los educadores según su elección.

Permítanme agradecer a todas las agencias, organizaciones, departamentos de gobierno, que han hecho esto posible. Especialmente a la Fundación William K. Kellogg que nos ha otorgado una beca para el Componente Maestro-Educación de nuestra conferencia. Asimismo, hemos recibido apoyo de las siguientes instituciones:

- The Green Foundation
- El Museo Nacional Smithsoniano de Historia y Cultura Afroamericana del Instituto Smithsoniano
- Digicel ha sido increíble durante el crecimiento de la conferencia y nuestros requerimientos de espacio adicional
- Muchas otras instituciones se encuentran enlistadas en el programa de la conferencia, pues han apoyado los esfuerzos del Comité de Organización Local y a la CSA/AEC en general.

También quiero agradecer a los académicos que han llegado a pesar de todo obstáculo y las advertencias sobre el Zika y amenazas de descontento, pues hemos llegado a un número record para la CSA-Haití 2016. Muy pronto reconocimos que esta presentación mediática de un Haití siempre inestable y problemático es una construcción continua del país, así como de la diáspora africana en general, siempre con problemas, nunca reconociendo completamente nuestro potencial.

ASÍ QUE, COLEGAS MÍOS, POR FAVOR APLAUDÁNSE POR ESTAR EN HAITÍ, MUCHOS DE USTEDES POR PRIMERA VEZ, Y AYUDARNOS EN LA REALIZACIÓN DE ESTA CONFERENCIA HISTÓRICA.

SÍ, ESTAMOS HACIENDO HISTORIA CON LA CONFERENCIA CSA-HAITÍ 2016. APARECERÁ EN LOS LIBROS DE REGISTRO DE LAS CONFERENCIAS QUE HAN CAMBIADO EL ALCANCE INTERLECTUAL DE HAITÍ Y LOS ESTUDIOS CARIBEÑOS EN GENERAL.

Les pedimos a nuestros miembros nuevos que se queden con nosotros. Seguidamente iremos a Las Bahamas y está en nuestro radar un regreso a Cuba. Esta no es la CSA/AEC de nuestros padres o nuestras madres. Hay una generación nueva de académicos, con grandes ideas para hacer de nuestra asociación una de primera clase. Uno de ellos será el nuevo presidente que me sucederá.

Para finalizar, quiero decir que en todas mis visitas a Haití antes y después de Goudogoudou, mientras hubo varias advertencias serias sobre venir a Haití y otros sustos mediáticos, me maravillé de que sin importar lo que estuviera sucediendo, siempre había aviones llenos de misioneros. Me hizo pensar cómo, en ocasiones, nosotros como académicos hablamos mucho, pero nos encontramos poco dispuestos para practicar lo que predicamos. Hoy, la práctica de la CSA/AEC está en completo desarrollo, con los académicos y pensadores críticos que han llegado. La CSA/AEC ha abierto la puerta a nuevas preguntas intelectuales, a cuestionamientos sobre la sexualidad, sobre todos los campos y, especialmente, ha abierto la puerta al reposicionamiento de Haití en el centro del Discurso Caribeño, como lo estuvo en los días de los académicos Fermin y Jean Price Mars.

ABRIMOS LA PUERTA AL CONOCIMIENTO, PENSAMIENTO CRÍTICO, FUTURAS COLABORACIONES, A LA DEMOSTRACIÓN DE HAITÍ COMO UN SITIO DE INTERCAMBIO INTELLECTUAL Y CONOCIMIENTO, PRECISAMENTE COMO LA GENERACIÓN ANTERIOR DE ACADÉMICOS, DE CÉSAIRE A C.L.R. LO IMAGINARON. ¡NOSOTROS, EL SUEÑO Y LA ESPERANZA DE LOS ESCLAVOS, HEMOS ABIERTO LAS PUERTAS! ¡HEMOS CRUZADO LAS BARRERAS! ¡ESTAMOS EN HAITÍ!

Con la celebración de esta conferencia en Haití, la CSA/AEC ha completado su 41° año con la cobertura casi total del Caribe, aún tenemos que ir a Guyana, PERO DEBÍAMOS VOLVER AL LUGAR DONDE NUESTRA LIBERTAD SE LEVANTÓ PRIMERO. Me complace que la conferencia CSA-Haití se celebrara durante mi periodo como presidenta. Como Dessalines, quiero postularme como quien ha cerrado este trato... la completitud del proyecto, la celebración de la conferencia, la realización del sueño.

Aquí en CSA-Haïti, el árbol de la libertad florece nuevamente desde sus raíces... esta vez con nuevos y numerosos intercambios intelectuales y culturales... numerosos y profundos. ¡Bienvenidos a la conferencia CSA-Haïti 2016!

Carole Boyce Davies
Presidenta de la CSA (AEC) 2015-2016

Français

AEC Haiti 2016 Discours d'ouverture

(prononcé lors de la cérémonie d'ouverture au Marriott Hotel, Port-au-Prince, 6 Juin 2016)

Un célèbre poète demanda un jour ce qui arrive à un rêve jamais assumé. Après avoir formulé une série d'options possibles, il conclut par une question rhétorique: éclosera-t-il? J'ai le plaisir de dire, à l'occasion de l'ouverture de cette conférence, que le rêve qu'avait l'AEC de venir en Haïti a écloso aujourd'hui en se transformant en une conférence splendide simplement nommée AEC-Haïti 2016.

Sous le titre officiel Mouvements globaux: Peuple, idées, arts, culture et développement durable nous proposons à l'AEC d'étudier les modalités que les Caribéen(ne)s ont adoptées pour se situer dans la globalisation; notre confiance dans le fait que nous pouvons être très "locaux" tout en étant d'extraordinaires citoyens du monde, capables de vivre partout si nous le décidons ainsi; et que nos arts, nos peuples, notre culture, notre littérature, spiritualité, notre musique et nos danses, notre cuisine et nos épices circulent d'Australie à Beijing, de Salvador de Bahía à Edmonton, Canada. Nous voulons montrer pendant ces 6 jours d'échanges intellectuels, à partir des différents champs disciplinaires investis par nos chercheurs, comment tous ces éléments peuvent être mis à contribution pour un développement durable.

Nous voulons faire de l'histoire ici en Haïti. Certaines conférences et projets intellectuels, lorsqu'ils sont menés à bien dans une conjoncture déterminée, comme dirait C.L.R. James, peuvent produire un saut politique tangible, capable de modifier le cours des choses. Vous participez à un de ces moments historiques, et je remercie le peuple haïtien de nous aider à le réaliser. Gardez toujours en mémoire que nos chercheurs et intellectuels les plus remarquables, de C.L.R. James à Zora Neale Hurston, d'Aimé Césaire à Katherine Dunham, ont tous reconnu l'importance d'Haïti pour toute conceptualisation de la Caraïbe, l'Amérique latine et le monde africain en général. Haïti, l'endroit où la liberté noire a été conquise pour la première fois dans les Amériques.

Notre logique de la globalité, lors de cette conférence, embrasse de ce fait les modalités dont les intellectuels caribéens ont interagi dans l'histoire avec une certaine catégorie d'autres intellectuels noirs à niveau international. C'est dans cet esprit que nous avons eu le plaisir de faire venir Angela Davis en Haïti, une chercheuse internationale qui comprend parfaitement en quel sens la Caraïbe globale et intellectuelle est essentielle pour notre approche des mouvements politiques mondiaux. Nous montrons également comment la tradition intellectuelle radicale caribéenne a marqué des icônes politiques et intellectuelles de la tradition noire radicale telle qu'Angela Y. Davis, qui sera en tête d'affiche de cette conférence.

Cette année nous travaillons dans un format qui nous permet d'ouvrir chaque matinée avec une panoplie d'orateurs extraordinaires sur plusieurs sous-thématiques issues de la problématique générale de la conférence. Il faudra se lever tôt! Nous sommes dans une région où le coq chante vers 4h du matin, et où les enfants et travailleurs se lèvent avant l'aube pour se rendre à l'école ou à leur lieu de travail. C'est intentionnellement que la Commission de programmation et moi-même nous avons concocté un programme où les jeunes chercheurs ne sont pas envoyés au front à 7h30, tandis que les chercheurs confirmés choisissent un horaire plus clément. Toutes les matinées ouvrent avec de la nourriture intellectuelle alléchante et substantielle. Après quoi une large panoplie de panels sur toutes les thématiques et dans toutes les disciplines que vous voudrez: salon littéraire, présentation de nouveaux livres, exposition d'arts, sessions de performance, et un long etcétera.

À côté du domaine académique, vous allez remarquer dans ce riche programme également des soirées. Claudia Jones disait que l'art d'un peuple est à l'origine de sa liberté, en ce sens nous introduisons différentes créations lors d'une exposition de mode haïtienne. Vous y trouverez des pièces de designers haïtiens magnifiques, qui vaudraient des centaines de dollars chez Barney's à New York. Ici vous serez en première ligne. Nous aurons une autre exposition en parallèle, [Haitopia](#), mais les deux sont sponsorisées par le Musée National d'Histoire et de Culture Afro-Américaine à Washington, du Smithsonian Institut, et la Green Foundation de Miami.

Les événements classiques de l'AEC telles la Soirée culturelle et la Soirée AEC brilleront à leur tour, la Soirée AEC accueillant d'abord Edwidge Danticat et ensuite, pour la fête de clôture, les excellents Boukman Eksperyans, qui ont reporté un voyage à Liverpool pour pouvoir fêter la venue de l'AEC en Haïti. Ils nous ont fait savoir qu'ils ne pouvaient l'imaginer autrement que de se jouer pour nous.

Laissez-moi donc saisir l'occasion pour remercier le Comité Local dirigé par la Docteure Pierre-Louis, Philippe Dodard de l'École Nationale des Arts et Jhon Picard Byron, de l'Université d'État d'Haïti. Mais aussi nos deux directrices du Comité de Programmation: Angelique Nixon et Marie-José Nzengou Tayo ont réalisé un travail colossal face au nombre de participants toujours grandissant, de sorte que nous étions tous pris de panique quant aux espaces disponibles.

La création d'une Chaire d'Études Caribéennes, un rêve de longue date des intellectuels haïtiens, sera annoncée lors de cette conférence. Elle sera attribuée à l'Université Quisqueya, dirigée par Jacky Lumarque, que j'ai rencontré lors de ma première visite pour préparer cette conférence. Il m'a expliqué avec enthousiasme que c'était le bon moment pour mettre en place cette chaire dont on a rêvé si longtemps.

Cette année nous avons pour la première fois une journée supplémentaire, grâce à la Fondation William C. Kellog – un samedi consacré à l'éducation. Nous avons invité 300 enseignants à un atelier pendant toute la journée pour qu'ils puissent écouter nos chercheurs et mettre en circulation leurs savoirs. Ma collègue Linda Spears Bunton, du Département des Sciences Pédagogiques de la FIU, Miami, avec qui j'ai collaboré au moins six fois pour des projets similaires, est la coordinatrice de ces ateliers. Nous proposons une journée de formation pour les enseignants qui recevront un certificat de participation s'ils assistent à toutes les séances. Et nous prévoyons d'amener ce même jour du matériel éducatif à l'École Mixte de Déléard, que nous avons sélectionnée pour ce projet de coopération. Pendant toute cette semaine il y aura de nombreuses occasions pour des donations afin d'aider ces enfants à bénéficier de l'éducation qu'ils méritent. Nous souhaitons que cet engagement pour l'éducation aille au-delà d'une action unique pour en faire une action régulière. En effet, la subvention que nous avons obtenue est liée à une session de suivi en Haïti.

Cet engagement communautaire vient d'un défi lancé à Angélique Nixon, co-dirigeante du Comité de Programmation, et à moi lorsque nous étions en train de réfléchir sur l'organisation d'une conférence à Tobago. Un ministre du gouvernement nous demanda ce que faisait notre organisation concrètement: est-ce qu'on se réunit tout simplement à un endroit déterminé, ou est-ce qu'on fournit du savoir dont le lieu d'accueil profitera d'une façon plus ou moins immédiate? C'est pourquoi le samedi commence par une séance plénière portant sur les rapports entre éducation et développement durable. Et la journée continuera avec des ateliers parmi lesquels les enseignants pourront choisir selon leurs intérêts.

Laissez-moi donc remercier toutes les agences, organismes et départements ministériels qui ont permis cette manifestation, en premier lieu la Fondation William K. Kellogg, qui nous a donné une subvention pour la formation continue des enseignants. Nous avons également reçu des financements de la part des institutions suivantes:

- La Fondation Green
- Le Musée National d'Histoire et de Culture Afro-américaine du Smithsonian Institut
- La compagnie Digicel a été extraordinaire lorsque nous avons besoin de trouver des salles de conférence supplémentaires.
- Plusieurs autres organismes aidant le comité local mais aussi l'AEC en général figurent dans la liste publiée dans le programme imprimé.

Laissez-moi aussi remercier les chercheurs venus à cette conférence 2016 en Haïti malgré tout et malgré tous les avertissements concernant le Zika et d'autres troubles sociaux ou politiques, et qui plus est, plus nombreux que jamais. D'emblée nous avons eu le sentiment que la présentation médiatique d'un Haïti toujours instable et chaotique est une construction de toutes pièces, telle que l'image de la diaspora africaine en général, toujours débordante de problème, où notre potentiel n'est jamais mis en valeur.

Mes chers collègues, veuillez vous applaudir vous mêmes d'être présents en Haïti, beaucoup d'entre vous pour la première fois, pour nous aider à lancer cette conférence historique.

Oui, nous sommes en train de créer un événement historique lors de cette conférence AEC en 2016. Celle-ci entrera dans les annales des conférences qui auront changé la signification intellectuelle d'Haïti et des études caribéennes en général.

Nous invitons les nouveaux membres à rester avec nous. Nous irons aux Bahamas, et prévoyons notre retour à Cuba. Cet AEC n'est plus

celle de vos parents. C'est une nouvelle génération de chercheur(e)s qui ont de grandes idées pour faire de notre association soit parmi les meilleurs au monde.

L'un parmi eux est sur le point de devenir mon successeur.

Pour conclure j'aimerais dire que lors de mes visites en Haïti post-Goudogoudou, lorsque des conseils pressants circulaient de s'abstenir d'un voyage en Haïti assortis d'une couverture médiatique horripilante, je me suis toujours demandée comment cela se faisait que les avions étaient toujours pleins de missionnaires. J'ai pensé que nous les chercheurs parlons beaucoup, mais nous sommes rarement prêts à pratiquer ce que nous prêchons. Aujourd'hui l'AEC est passée à l'acte, les chercheurs et penseurs critiques sont arrivés. L'AEC a ouvert la porte à de nouvelles recherches, porant sur la sexualité et tous les autres champs, mais surtout elle œuvre à replacer Haïti au cœur du discours caribéen, comme à l'époque des penseurs de la taille d'un Antenor Firmin et d'un Jean Price-Mars.

NOUS OUVRONS les portes au savoir, à la pensée critique, aux collaborations à venir, en situant Haïti au centre des ÉCHANGES intellectuels et des savoirs TEL QUE LES GÉNÉRATIONS PRÉCÉDENTES DE CÉSAIRE À CLR JAMES L'ONT IMAGINÉ. NOUS, LE RÊVE ET L'ESPOIR DES ESCLAVES, AVONS franchi le seuil! nous avons forcé les barrières! nous sommes en Haïti!

En organisant cette conférence en Haïti, l'AEC a couvert, dans sa 41e année d'existence, la quasi-totalité des Caraïbes, si bien nous devons aller aussi dans les Guyanes, MAIS NOUS AURONS À REVENIR À L'ENDROIT OÙ NOTRE LIBERTÉ A ÉTÉ CONQUISE POUR LA PREMIÈRE FOIS. Je suis heureuse que l'AEC-Haïti ait pu se tenir sous ma présidence. Comme Dessalines, je souhaite achever le destin... réaliser ce projet, faire du rêve une réalité. Ici, à l'AEC-Haïti, l'arbre de la liberté pousse à nouveau depuis ses racines... cette fois-ci avec de nombreux nouveaux échanges intellectuels et culturels – nombreux et profonds. Bienvenue à l'AEC-Haïti 2016!

Traduction: Christoph Singler

MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Onè – Respè

Bienvenue en Haïti
Bienvenido en Haïti
Welcome to Haïti
Byenvini lakay nou an Ayiti

Comment dire mon émotion devant cette assemblée de Caraïbéens/Caraïbéennes de la Grande Caraïbe, et de tous les participants venus d'ailleurs, réunis ici en Haïti pour la première fois à l'occasion de cette conférence de l'Association des Etudes Caraïbéennes, comment dire mon émotion sinon qu'en empruntant la parole des poètes et des écrivains de notre région du monde. Celle qui nous parle, nous touche, nous émeut et nous renvoie au plus profond de nous-mêmes.



Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis

Dire d'abord avec Jose Luis Gonzalès, ce grand écrivain Portoricain qui en 1979, nous a laissé son livre-culte, « Les quatre étages de la culture portoricaine »

« Il est urgent que nous reconnaissons et que nous assumions une réalité que même les plus conscients d'entre nous avons eu tendance à ignorer hier et encore aujourd'hui.

Le fait que les peuples de la Caraïbe parlent des langues différentes, importées d'Europe, a été considéré comme un facteur de désunion... Mais nous devons considérer la diversité des langues de la Caraïbe comme un lien entre tous nos peuples, parce qu'elle est le résultat de notre histoire commune. La grande communauté caraïbéenne est une communauté plurilingue ; il s'agit d'une donnée historique irréversible, qui devrait constituer une richesse et un facteur de progrès. »

Et comme en écho, Jean-Claude Bajoux et Aimé Césaire :

Dispersée comme un « semis de guano » sur la mer Caraïbe, la « Polynésie » antillaise, déjà marquée par l'atomisme géographique, a reçu, de cinq siècles de colonisation, le legs de la diversité raciale, culturelle, linguistique et politique. Chaque puissance coloniale, sur des populations en partie arrachées d'Afrique et en partie émigrée d'Europe, a laissé son empreinte. »

Sur la géographie césairienne :

*Iles cicatrices des eaux
Iles évidences de blessures
Iles miettes
Iles informes
Iles mauvais papier déchiré sur les eaux
Iles tronçons côte à côte fichés sur l'épée flambée*

du Soleil...

Et mon originale géographie aussi ; la carte du monde faite à mon usage, non pas teinte aux arbitraires couleurs des savants, mais à la géométrie de mon sang répandu, j'accepte. »

On connaît la poésie de Césaire, son théâtre, son Toussaint Louverture, dans lequel il n'hésita pas à clamer, parlant du problème colonial et d'Haïti :

*« Le premier pays où s'est noué ce problème.
Le premier pays où il s'est dénoué. »*

Mais il nous faut aussi relire celui qui fut son brillant élève et qui nous a laissé des textes à nous couper le souffle. Écoutons la grande leçon humaniste de Frantz Fanon :

« Chaque fois qu'un homme a fait triompher la dignité de l'esprit, chaque fois qu'un homme a dit non à une tentative d'asservissement de son semblable, je me suis senti solidaire de son acte... »

Si à un moment la question s'est posée pour moi d'être effectivement solidaire d'un passé déterminé, c'est dans la mesure où je me suis engagé envers moi-même et envers mon prochain à combattre de toute mon existence, de toute ma force, pour que plus jamais il n'y ait, sur la terre, de peuples asservis. »

Était-ce là une utopie ? Peut-être, mais plus encore, une belle invitation à rêver d'un monde autre, d'une Caraïbe autre, d'une Haïti autre, en prenant la mesure du long chemin que l'histoire a voulu que nous empruntions, *« depuis Elam, depuis Akkad, depuis Sumer... »*

Écoutons Glissant :

« En quoi la mémoire de notre temps fut-elle chahutée par la Plantation ? Dans l'écart qu'elle constituait, l'emmêlement toujours multilingue et souvent multiracial a noué de manière indéniable le tissu des filiations et cassé par là l'ordonnance claire, linéaire, à laquelle les pensées de l'Occident avaient donné un tel éclat. Alejo Carpentier rencontre alors Faulkner, Edward Kamau Brathwaite rejoint Lezama Lima, je me reconnais en Derek Walcott, nous nous réjouissons des enroulés du temps dans le siècle de solitude de Garcia Marquez. La Plantation détruite a touché alentour aux cultures des Amériques. »

... Dans la Caraïbe et en Amérique latine, le bourgeolement des bidonvilles a aimanté les masses des démunis et changé le rythme de leurs voix. Des paysanneries, noires ou hindoues, ont livré combat dans des îles contre l'arbitraire et la pauvreté absolue. Les Noirs du Sud des États-Unis sont montés vers le Nord, au long de l'« underground railroad », vers les villes violemment en voie de deshumanisation, où pourtant les écrivains de Harlem, par leur exemple, ont écrit sur les murs de la solitude, leur renaissance. »

On me reprochera peut-être de n'avoir pas assez cité ceux et celles d'ici, les nôtres, mais je suis sûre qu'ils et elles le seront tout au long de cette semaine, et déjà ce matin, par presque tous les intervenants et intervenantes. J'ai choisi plutôt de faire mienne la grande tradition d'accueil d'Haïti en allant vers les autres et en faisant nôtre leur parole, ceux d'ailleurs qui sont aussi d'ici, dans ce grand NOUS collectif de la Caraïbe.

Mais à cela deux exceptions quand même. D'abord une phrase de la préfacière du livre de Marie Vieux Chauvet « La danse sur le volcan », qui me semble être de toute actualité. D'autant que l'année 2016 est marquée par des événements commémorant le centenaire de la naissance de la grande romancière haïtienne.

« La violence de la révolution haïtienne qui fut jugée détestable évoque dangereusement les soubresauts qui agitent aujourd'hui notre planète... Il semble qu'en Haïti toute la joie de vivre et le malheur du monde se soient donnés rendez-vous dans un creuset où étaient en ébullition les émotions, espoirs, jalousies, rancoeurs du monde. »

Et puis, comment ne pas faire appel à celui que nous aurons le plaisir d'accueillir et d'écouter dans quelques instants et qui nous a laissé une œuvre importante pour toute la Caraïbe, je veux citer Jean Casimir.

« Ras nou, sosyete nou ak Leta nou pran apati de yon pakèt boujon depaman. Se libète ki sèvi fanmchay pou akouchman sa a. Solidarite pa t la nan randevou an. Fò nou bati li ak de men nou »

Notre nation, notre société et notre Etat naissent écartelés. La liberté préside à leur naissance. Mais, nous n'avons pas reçu notre solidarité au berceau. Il nous faut la construire. »

Avant de terminer, je veux remercier toutes celles, tous ceux qui ont contribué à la tenue de ce grand événement. Merci à la Présidente de CSA, Carole Boyce Davies, merci au comité international d'organisation Angelique Nixon et Marie José N'Zengou Tayo, à mes deux coprésidents Philippe Dodard et Jhon Picard Byron. Merci aux ministères de la culture, de l'économie et des finances, du tourisme, des affaires étrangères, à l'OMRH, à l'association des Taptaps... A Babacar MBow. Merci aux sponsors, FOKAL, AIC, fondations Unibank et Sogebank, Digicel, merci aux artistes, Erol Josué, Jean-René Delsoin, James Germain, merci à Julie Chavenet et Michèle Bayard, aux étudiants bénévoles, et à tous ceux /celles que je n'ai pas cités. Et merci à vous.

Et pour terminer, cette belle réflexion de Nick Nesbit :

« Penser à Haïti, c'est refuser sa réduction à un espace ensauvagé où la violence ferait éternellement retour ; c'est nous convaincre que cet Haïti-là est avec nous, dans notre « Premier » Monde. C'est aussi reprendre et renouveler la lutte des Haïtiens pour l'universalisation de la singularité humaine comme liberté, beauté, plaisir, désir, compréhension – combat de longue haleine dans lequel Haïti apparaît comme l'une des plus grandes cultures du monde, libre et humaine. »

Bon séjour en Haïti et belle conférence CSA 2016.

Je vous remercie.

- Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis

Español

Bienvenidos a Haití :

Cómo expresar mi emoción delante de esta asamblea de Caribeños/ Caribeñas del Gran Caribe, y de todos los participantes que han venido de otros lugares, reunidos aquí en Haití por primera vez en ocasión de esta conferencia de la Asociación de Estudios Caribeños, cómo expresar mi emoción sino que pidiendo prestada la palabra de los poetas y de los escritores de nuestra región del mundo. Ella, que nos habla, nos toca, nos emociona y nos remite a lo más profundo de nosotros mismos.

Para empezar decir junto con José Luis González, este gran escritor puertorriqueño que en 1979 nos dejó su libro de culto, *Los cuatro pisos de la cultura puertorriqueña*:

“Es urgente que nosotros reconozcamos que asumamos una realidad que incluso los más conscientes entre nosotros, hemos tenido la tendencia a ignorar ayer y todavía hoy. El hecho de que los pueblos del Caribe hablen lenguas diferentes, importadas de Europa, ha sido considerado como un factor de desunión... Pero debemos considerar la diversidad de lenguas del Caribe como un vínculo entre todos nuestros pueblos, porque la diversidad es el resultado de nuestra historia común. La gran comunidad caribeña es una comunidad plurilingüe; es un elemento histórico irreversible, que debería constituir una riqueza y un factor de progreso”.

Y en eco, Jean-Claude Bajeux y Aimé Césaire :

“Disperso como un « sembradío de guano » en el mar Caribe, la “Polinesia” antillana, ya marcada por el atomismo geográfico, recibió, en cinco siglos de colonización, el legado de la diversidad racial, cultural, lingüística y política. Donde cada potencia colonial, dejó su huella en las poblaciones por una parte arrancadas de África y por otra emigrada de Europa”.

En la geografía césariana :

Islas cicatrices de las aguas

Islas evidencias de heridas

Islas migajas

Islas deformes

Islas mal papel roto sobre las aguas

Islas pedazos pegados fichados sobre la espada, flambeadas del Sol...

Y mi original geografía también; el mapa del mundo hecho para mi uso, no teñido de los arbitrarios colores de los sabios, sino de la geometría de mi sangre derramada, que acepto”.

Conocemos la poesía de Césaire, su teatro, su Toussaint Louverture, en el cual no dudó en proclamar, hablando del problema colonial y de Haití:

“El primer país donde se gestó este problema.

El primer país donde se desató”

Pero nos es necesario también releer al que fue su alumno brillante y que nos dejó textos para cortarnos el aliento. Escuchemos la gran lección humanista de Frantz Fanon:

“Cada vez que un hombre hizo triunfar la dignidad del espíritu, cada vez que un hombre dijo no a un intento avasallamiento de su semejante, yo me sentí solidario con su acto...”

Si en algún momento la pregunta se planteó para mí de ser efectivamente solidario con un pasado determinado, es en esa medida en donde me he comprometido conmigo mismo y con mi prójimo para combatir durante toda mi existencia, con toda mi fuerza, para que nunca más, haya en la tierra, pueblos esclavos.

¿Era esto una utopía? Tal vez, aún mejor, una bella invitación a soñar con un mundo otro, un Caribe otro, un Haití otro, tomando la medida del largo camino que la historia ha querido que tomemos “desde Elam, desde Akkad, desde Summer”.

Escuchemos a Glissant:

“¿De qué manera la memoria de nuestro tiempo fue perturbada por la Plantación? En la distancia que constituía el embrollo, siempre multilingüe y con frecuencia multirracial se trenzó de manera innegable el tejido de filiaciones y rompió por ahí, la ordenanza clara, lineal, a la cual los pensamientos de Occidente habían dado un gran resplandor. Alejo Carpentier encuentra entonces Faulkner, Edward Kamau Brathwaite se reúne con Lezama Lima, yo me reconozco en Derek Walcott, nos alegramos arropados con el tiempo en el siglo de la soledad de García Márquez. La Plantación destruida tocó alrededor de las culturas de las Américas.

En el Caribe y en América Latina, el brote de las villas miseria ha atraído como imanes a las masas de los necesitados y ha cambiado el ritmo de sus voces. Campesinado, negro o hindú, han librado combate dentro de las islas contra lo arbitrario y la pobreza absoluta. Los

negros del sur de los Estados Unidos subieron hacia el norte, a lo largo del “underground railroad”, hacia las ciudades violentamente en vías de deshumanización, donde sin embargo los escritores de Harlem, por ejemplo, escribieron en las paredes de la soledad, su renacimiento”.

Tal vez se me reprochará el no haber citado lo suficiente a aquellos y aquellas de por aquí, los nuestros, pero estoy segura que ellos y ellas lo serán a lo largo de esta semana, y ya es mañana, para casi todos los y las participantes. Escogí sobretodo de hacer mía la gran tradición de bienvenida de Haití yendo hacia los otros y haciendo nuestra, la palabra de aquellos que están también aquí, dentro de este gran NOSOTROS colectivo del Caribe.

Pero todavía hay dos excepciones. Para empezar una frase de la prologuista del libro de Marie Vieux Chauvet *El baile sobre el volcán*, que me parece ser de suma actualidad. Sobre todo porque el año 2016 está marcado por los eventos que conmemoran el centenario del nacimiento de la gran novelista haitiana.

“La violencia la revolución haitiana que fue juzgada detestable evoca peligrosamente los sobresaltos que agitan hoy nuestro planeta... Parece que en Haití toda la alegría de vivir y la desgracia del mundo se dieron cita en un crisol donde estaban en ebullición las emociones, esperanzas, celos, rencores del mundo”.

Y finalmente, cómo no hacer un llamado a aquel que nosotros tendremos el placer de recibir y escuchar dentro de algunos instantes y que nos dejó una tan obra importante para todo el Caribe, yo quiero citar a Jean Casimir.

« Ras nou, sosyete nou ak Leta nou pran apati de yon pakèt boujon depaman. Se libète ki sèvi fanmchay pou akouchman sa a. Solidarite pa t la nan randevou an. Fò nou bati li ak de men nou »

“Nuestra nación, nuestra sociedad y nuestro Estado nacieron desmembrados. La libertad preside a su nacimiento. Pero, nosotros no recibimos nuestra solidaridad en la cuna. Nos es necesario construirla”.

Antes de terminar, quiero agradecer a todos aquellos y todas aquellas que han contribuido a la gestión de este gran evento. Gracias a la Presidenta de CSA, Carole Boyce Davies, gracias al comité internacional de organizaciónn Angelique Nixon y Marie José N’Zengou Tayo, a mis dos co-presidentes Philippe Dodard y Jhon Picard Byron. Gracias a los ministro de cultura, de economía y de finanzas, de turismo y de relaciones exteriores, a la OMRH, a la asociación de Taptaps... A Babacar MBow.

Gracias a los patrocinadores FOKAL, AIC, fondations Unibank y Sogebank, Digicel, gracias a los artistas, Erol Josué, Jean-René Delsoin, James Germain, gracias a Julie Chavenet y Michèle Bayard, a los estudiantes voluntarios, a todos aquellos y todas aquellas que yo no he citado. Y gracias a ustedes.

Y para terminar, esta bella reflexión de Nick Nesbit :

« Pensar Haití, es rechazar su reducción a un espacio en estado salvaje donde la violencia haría un eterno regreso; es convencernos que este Haití está con nosotros, en nuestro *Primer* Mundo. Es también retomar y renovar la lucha de los haitianos para la universalización de la singularidad humana como la libertad, la belleza, el placer y el deseo, la comprensión – combate de largo aliento en el cual Haití aparece como una de las más grandes culturas del mundo, libre y humana”

Buena estancia en Haití y bella conferencia CSA 2016.

Les agradezco

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIRS



Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo and Angelique V. Nixon

Program Chairs full report will be posted on the CSA website.

Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo
Angelique V. Nixon
Program Chairs, CSA 2015-2016

EDUCATION DAY

In Honor of Haitian Teachers: Sustainability and Viability

In the midst of the bustle of CSA Haiti 2016, one remarkable day was planned and executed in solidarity, triumph and honor of Haiti's K-12 teachers at the Marriot Hotel in Port au Prince, Haiti. Day 6: Teacher's Day was made available to 300 K-12 teachers. Teachers Day closed the general CSA 2016 full conference with a series of 6 Teachers Workshops.



The focus of the workshops ranged from enhanced pedagogy for novice learners to economic sustainability. The specific roster of workshops included the following: 1) The Cuban Model of Education and its Implications for the Caribbean 2) Art and Culture in the Teaching of History, Place and Self 3) Education, the Environment and Economic Sustainability 4) The Haiti PEER Project: A case study of education and economic sustainability 5) Competency Based Education Programs, Technical Education and the Acquisition of Job Performance Skills 6) Redefining Leadership: Building a new generation of leaders to accelerate quality education for all. Each workshop paired international academics in lecture, practice and problem-based interactive activities with Haitian educators. While this was a new way of learning for some teachers, the comradery, humor and arrangements of workshop seating allowed them opportunities to share their ideas and genius with the community of teachers. The goal of the workshops was to contribute to a foundation for economic sustainability and political stability by increasing and enhancing the education and professional development opportunities for teachers of young children and adolescents. This kind of development requires the contributions of all citizens thus, the workshop formats and the input—both written and spoken—provided valuable information for the organizers and scholars who want to help Haiti achieve her goals and contribute more of the nations genius to the world. Teachers Day included morning and afternoon snack breaks and a beautiful, delicious outdoor luncheon provided by CSA and served by the Marriott staff. These opportunities allowed participants to continue the discourse begun in their workshops, meet new people and even teach a few people a little Creole. Teachers Day closed with the awarding of certificates of completion and an uproarious raffle of 5 gift baskets filled with everything from pens and sticky notes to children's books. Items were donated by ordinary people—many of them students and teachers themselves in the US—who dream and hope for a strong, well-educated Haiti. Teachers Day reminds me of a line from African American poet Paul Lawrence Dunbar. "Everything was rich and prime; we just had one scrumptious time."

- Dr. Linda Spears Bunton, *Workshops Coordinator*

COMMUNITY SERVICE IN HAITI

The first people I saw when my flight touched down in Port-au-Prince Haiti for the Caribbean Studies Association conference were student leaders from Cornell University. As we sweltered in the tap-tap eagerly looking through narrowly carved windows and skylights, I learned that they had organized a service trip to support the Déléard School, a k-6 school in the mountains of Petionville, Haiti. I first learned about the trip on the CSA website. I passed



the call for donations on to my colleagues and my 10-year-old daughter and I collected pencils, toothbrushes, a few books in French and English that we could find and some lovingly used Black dolls to pass on to the children. I soon realized that the spirit of service and community development was deeply woven into the fabric of the conference under the leadership of Dr. Carole Boyce-Davies. There was daily tabling where one could drop off donations and attendees were given envelopes for donations at the CSA banquet.

We were committed to actually seeing the school and my colleague Natanya Duncan was able to help me and my daughter secure transportation to Déléard School to make our donations personally. The drive to the school was grueling due to a lack of infrastructure. There were endless yawning ditches, harrowing narrow roads and an endless supply of rocks and dust as the terrain switched from lush to acrid. We feared many times that our hired driver would surrender to the terrain but driven by our determination, we finally arrived.

Déléard school consisted of a few humble structures. But rather than a feeling of deprivation, we were overwhelmed by the spirit of the teachers reciting lessons out loud and the vigor of the students chanting their letters and math facts in unison in a familiar call of response. The smiles, gratitude and curiosity of the children and their teachers was heartwarming. I knew



this was a moment that my daughter would never forget. It was so beautiful to see each and every child receive a backpack of supplies with the CSA logo etched proudly on the back. The fundraising and organization that went behind this effort was embodied in the many suitcases the students tirelessly unpacked. They even had educational materials for the teachers. And I daresay that the dolls my daughter donated provided additional joy.

It was a wonderful afternoon and we left with a sense of accomplishment but also a sense of ongoing need and continuing purpose. The school and children were tidy and their days unfolded in an orderly fashion. But I had noted too many feet in ill-fitting shoes and wondered at how education could multiply in the face of additional classroom resources. On the way back down the mountain, we gave the teachers rides, silently marveling at the daily commute they made to serve their students. What we witnessed is the typical reality of rural education in the Caribbean. But CSA has provided members with an opportunity to improve the circumstances of children in this one school in a way that is both respectful of community needs and connected to local partners. I applaud them for their efforts and am committed to continuing my support.

- Robyn C. Spencer, Asst. Professor, Lehman College



Theoria Cason, Marcus Scales (administrators) and students from Ujamaa Residential Life, Cornell University

» [CLICK HERE to View the Video](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR HAITIAN CHILDREN PROJECT

The CSA-Haiti, 2016 Education Day and School Supplies Project would like to thank the generous individuals and organizations for their support of our project to bring school supplies for teachers and students; and those anonymous donors who donated supplies at the conference site. The following provided gifts, supplies, in-kind and direct support and/or coordinated donations from their institutions:

1. Winsome Chunnu-Brayda, of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Ohio University, provided backpacks which were brought to Haiti as extra luggage at her own cost.
2. Linda Spears-Bunton, Florida International University, spearheaded a Miami supplies drive and travelled with bags of supplies to Haiti also at her own cost.
3. Marcus Scales and Theoria Cason of Cornell University, Ujamaa Residential college coordinated a Cornell supplies drive, brought students and supplies to Haiti for this project, visited school in Deleard and handed out backpacks
4. Marsha Jean-Charles, Graduate Student, Cornell University, did pre-conference coordination to assist in this process.
5. Ivan Banks, Florida Gulf Coast University
6. Ira K. Blake, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA
7. Flavia Iuspa, Florida International University
8. Bahia Simmons-Lane, PhD candidate, School of Education & Human Development Florida International University
9. Marilyn Vincent, Office of the Executive Director, School of Education & Human Development, Florida International University
10. Suzanne Barcenas, Office of Graduate Studies, School of Education & Human Development, Florida International University
11. Grace Carroll, Carroll Associates, CEO Wordsmith Junior, Oakland, CA donated 30 books
12. Patty Barbetta, School of Education & Human Development Florida International University

13. Alicia Romero, PhD Candidate, School of Education & Human Development Florida International University
14. The Office of the Executive Director, School of Education & Human Development, Florida International University
15. Victor Malo-Juvera, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
16. The choral students of Regan Doral High School, Miami, FL
17. Marilyn Caputo, Coral Gables Congregational Church, UCC, Coral Gables, FL
18. Cindy Camuf, Coral Gables Congregational Church, UCC, Coral Gables, FL
19. Patricia McClury, Coral Gables Congregational Church, UCC, Coral Gables, FL
20. Nancy Morgan, Coral Gables Congregational Church, UCC, Coral Gables, FL
21. Living Literacy, Inc, Miami, FL
22. Myung Sook-Hyun, Florida International University
23. Rachael Jean, Florida International University, travelled with donated supplies and packed and organized backpacks for distribution and travelled to Deleard
24. Carolyn Reid-Brown, Florida International University, travelled with donated supplies and packed and organized backpacks for distribution and travelled to Deleard
25. Robyn Spencer, Lehman College (with daughter Sira) brought supplies and travelled to Deleard at her own expense
26. Natanya Duncan, Lehigh University, brought supplies and travelled to Deleard at her own expense
27. Eugene Verin, Alabama judge, donated T-Shirts in bulk
28. The Fair Trade Shop, Miami.
29. Coral Gables Congregational Church, Miami.
30. The wonderful staff and children of Deleard for being so beautiful and Jonas Petit for driving us safely to Deleard.



Thank you for those who contributed to the School Supplies for Haitian Children Backpack drive, especially Winsome Chunnu-Brayda and Ohio State University which donated backpacks and Cornell University Ujamaa which held a donation drive and FIU College of Education Dr. Linda Spears Bunton who coordinated the process along with our Teacher Workshops.

Several people have asked for an opportunity to contribute to the Children of Deleard and were unable to during the conference. Your donations will help with everything from Teachers Salaries to providing meals. There is still an opportunity to donate [CLICK HERE](#).

Carole Boyce Davies

Initiator and Coordinator of the Community Service/Outreach/Service-Learning Component of CSA-Haiti, 2016.

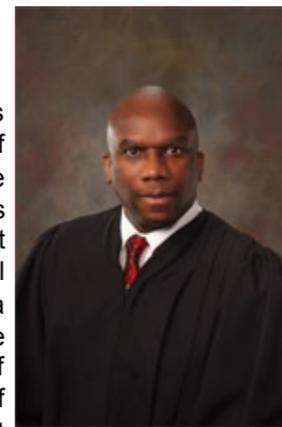
CSA CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHER

CSA was fortunate to have the services of Eugene Verin who is a judge in his professional life, but having accompanied his wife to the conference, offered to photograph the conference. This he did with amazing professionalism and camaraderie with daily photographs and postings to our web manager which created an amazing conference archive still available on our website www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org. Be sure to look for photographs of your panels and other sessions including the pre conference trip to the Citadelle. Judge Verin also donated generously to Deleard. Thank you Judge Eugene Verin and please come back to CSA.

Eugene R. Verin, Presiding Judge

10th Judicial Circuit of Alabama, Bessemer Division

Judge Eugene R. Verin, a 1978 honors graduate of Rutgers University and a 1981 graduate of Howard University School of Law, has served as a Circuit Judge in Bessemer, Alabama since 1998. He is the first African-American to serve as the Court's Presiding Judge and presently is assigned to the civil docket having previously handled domestic relations and criminal dockets. After graduating from law school Judge Verin served as a Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellow assigned to the Tuscaloosa Regional Office of the Legal Services Corporation of Alabama (1981 – 1983); an associate attorney with the law firm of Shores, Larkin & Massie (1983 – 1985); an Assistant District Attorney with the Bessemer District Attorneys Office (1985 – 1987); and, for the next eleven years until his election as circuit judge, a part-time municipal judge for the city of Bessemer (the first African-American to be appointed to that position) while practicing law in his own general practice law firm.



Judge Eugene R. Verin

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GIVING THANKS

On behalf of CSA, I would like to thank the following who contributed to making this conference a success.

The CSA Executive Council was amazing this year from helping out in the secretariat to chairing sessions and doing a great deal of work in helping to manage the large attendance at plenary sessions and special events. Executive members and CSA Program members like Rosamond King put in amazing numbers of hours to make the conference run without

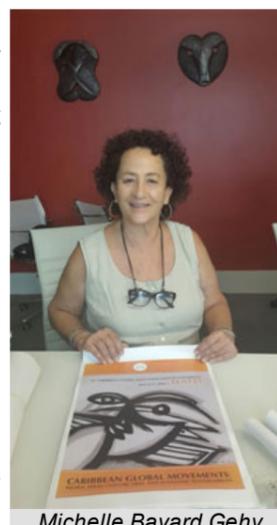
incident. The Program Chairs Angelique Nixon and Marie Jose Nzengou Tayo did a heroic job in creating and managing the program of perhaps the largest CSA conference and the historic CSA-Haiti 2016. Past President Anton Allahar as MC for the opening ceremony was exemplary in handling this task.

Michele Bayard Gehy was part of a team hired by the LOC to do ground coordination and did a super job of troubleshooting and managing onsite problems.

CSA Local Volunteers. A team of 24 students from local universities assisted the conference on a day to day basis. They were super in helping attendees find their way to sessions, register local participants and served as hosts and hostesses at some of the formal events.

Carene Calixte, an administrator with L'Ecole Mixte de Deleard attended the conference every day, accompanied us to Deleard and helped in the conference preparation days with creating the conference bags, receiving supplies and generally assisted the program chairs whenever she was needed. Berthe Petit offered superb assistance during the Education Day on Saturday June 11th.

Linda Spears Bunton and her graduate students Rachel Jean and Carolyn Reid Brown coordinated the packaging of 150 backpacks from the supplies that were donated for this purpose.



Michelle Bayard Gehy

Marsha Jean Charles, graduate student from Cornell University, Africana Studies worked over and beyond the call of duty as a conference assistant and provided consistent service to the conference.

The Staff of the Marriott Hotel offered superior and cordial conference service. Thanks are due to Krystal Alexander, Carmen Dorvilly especially, and their entire conference team especially for organizing the very elegant banquet tables. Ritchara Bastien of the Oasis did a super job of ensuring the guests were taken care of appropriately.

The Dodard family hosted conference guests in their home provided a reception for Angela Davis on her first night in Haiti. Mme Rafaelle Dodard is thanked as well for floral arrangements at the conference.

Special thanks to Babacar M'bow who travelled to Haiti before the conference and was instrumental in getting the conference program booklet printed in a short period of time, doing quality control for the printing process, coordinating the ground transportation portion of the conference, providing translation at press conference, meeting with relevant government ministers, visiting hotels to get numbers before the conference, arranging with the APATAH-TapTap president for appropriate professionalism in meeting guests and, generally did a great deal of coordination and hosting from The Oasis Hotel. He also worked with LOC Logistics Chair, Philippe Dodard to organize [Haitopia](#) and generally functioned as a behind the scenes logistics and programming consultant in an ongoing basis during the conference.

- Carole Boyce Davies
CSA President 2015-2016

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

CSA Haiti 2016 in Retrospect!

This conference was by far one of the most well attended over the forty-one year existence of The Caribbean Studies Association. Haiti had always been seen as a mystery and in June of this year the secret was revealed.

Although an external organisation, a scene all too familiar in Haiti's past, we were greeted with warm welcoming smiles and open arms by the people, the academic community and the government. The myriad volunteers and local artisans who filled our conference foyer on a daily basis brought Haitian art, culture and society right to our doorsteps, literally.

The sights, sounds and vistas of the Haitian landscape was breath-taking and left us speechless as we traversed for miles to do yeoman service by delivering school bags, books and other educational supplies to the nation's youth. Evoking much emotion was the Citadelle and other remnants of the historic meanderings of a colonial past.



Meagan Sylvester

Given the large number of presenters and plenaries held at the conference, it is clear that academic success was had and that intellectual stimulation was never lacking during the six day meeting of minds. Graduate students intermingling with senior scholars of world renown was a pleasing sight as it signalled the symbolic hand over the baton to the younger generation who were yet still being guided by their learned forefathers.

Culturally, Haiti is rich beyond words! Treated to several displays of Haitian music, voices and dance allowed for conference goers to catch but a glimpse of the interconnected web of African and French culture in a delightful mix of an artistic extravaganza.

All told, #CSAHaiti2016 was a sounding success.

Meagan Sylvester
Newsletter Editor
Caribbean Studies Association

Nouvèl (Martinican French Creole)

ASOSYASYON ETID KARAYIB AN AYITI

«Mouvman Karibéyen an monn-lan : moun, lidé, kilti, ar, dirabilité ékonomik ». Sé té tèm prinsipal di konfèrans anuèl de Asosyasyon Etid Karayib ki fèt Ayiti di 5 o 11 jwen. Sé té lotel Marriott ki situé dan vil Pò-o-Pwens ki pli de 300 partisipan ki vini di Canada, di Karayib, di Etazuni é di Léwòp pou yo palé di antropoloji, mizik, politik, sosyoloji, istwa, édikasyon, imigrasyon, kilti. Té ni osi dokimantè. Yon ba Deborah Thomas è lòt-la ba Robin Hayes. Pwemyé-a sé té «Four Days in May » (4 jou mwa mé) épi dézyènm-la sé té «Black and Cuba (Nwè épi Kuba).



Héléne Zamor

Chak wikenn, artis loko té ka vini expozé pinti épi bijou-yo. Pandan sé pòz-la, sé konfèransyé-a té pé achté ou byen admiré talan artis ayisyen. Pwemyé jou konfèrans-la fini pa an sérémoni douvèti épi an résepsyon de byenvenu. Ni chanté épi dansé Vodou ki vini animé swaré-a.

Lelandemen, sé konfèransyé a ay vizité galri ou byen mézon styl «Gingerbread » ou « Penzépis ». Modèl architek-ti tala parèt pwemyé kar ventyèm sièk-la. An plis di sa, i sanm prann rasin-li adan sé mouvman architekuro kon Léklektrism épi styl Vikoryen. Mézon Penzépis fèt an bwa. Mè stil architekti tala ni tandan ka disparèt. Tou sa ka rive akòz di viéyisman natirel di bwa-a li menm, kou élivé di bwa-a é di restorasyon-an épi boulvèsman klimatik.

Mekredi 7 jwen, Asosyasyon-an organizé an swaré kiltirèl ki pasé lotèl Karybe kip a lwen Pò-o-Pwens. Chanté ayisyen James Germain fè nou tann bèl vway-ï. Pou fini swaré-a. Ni dèt artis ki fè nou dékouvè Mizik Rara. Sa sa an fèt popilè ki sòti Ayiti. Sé Ayisyen-an ka défilé an lari-a diran périòd Paskal.

Jédi 8 jwen, Angela Davis an fanm militant ki ka lité pou dwa sivik adan péyi dorigin-li ki sé Léjazuni vini fè an bon diskou twè rich. I palé di rasism-la ki afekté popilayson nwè-a. I évoké istwa Ayiti épi i insisté asou difikilté Ayiti konnèt. Menm si konfèrans-la pran fin le sanmdi 11 jwen, Asosyasyon-a organizé an bankè lavèy. An lo moun vin anmizé épi kouté bon Mizik Rasin. Sé Boukman Eksperyans ki vini jwé. Pandan sé lanné 90, Mizik Rasin té vini popilè épi gwoup sèlèb kon Boukman Eksperyans, Ram épi Azor. Yo ka jwé Mizik Rasin épi tanbou Vodou, sentétizè é guita.

 Helene Zamor
French & Martinican Creole Language Sub-editor
CSA Newsletter

Français

L'ASSOCIATION DES ETUDES CARIBÉENNES EN HAITI

«Mouvements caribéens dans le monde : personnes, idées, culture, arts et durabilité économique ». Tel était le thème principal de la conférence annuelle de l'Association des Etudes Caribéennes qui s'est tenue à Haïti du 5 au 11 juin 2016. Situé à Port-au-Prince, l'hôtel Marriott a accueilli plus de trois cents participants qui sont venus du Canada, de la Caraïbe, des Etats-Unis et d'Europe pour faire de des interventions sur divers sujets actuels tels que l'anthropologie, l'immigration, la culture, la politique, l'éducation, l'histoire, la musique et la sociologie. Notons également la diffusion de documentaires portant sur des faits sociaux qui ont marqué nos sociétés caribéennes. Faisons ici référence à « Four Days in May » (Quatre Jours au Mois de Mai) que nous a produit Deborah Thomas ou bien à «Black and Cuba » (Le Noir et Cuba) de Robin Hayes.



Héléne Zamor

Tous les week-ends, des artistes locaux venaient exposer leurs peintures et leurs bijoux. Même pendant les pauses, les conférenciers ont eu l'opportunité d'acheter ou d'admirer le talent des artistes haïtiens. Le premier jour de la conférence s'est terminé par la cérémonie d'ouverture et la réception de bienvenue. Quelques chanteurs et danseurs de Vaudou ont animé la soirée. Le lendemain, les conférenciers pouvaient visiter soit des galeries d'art soit les maisons du style «Gingerbread » ou « Pain d'épices ». Né en Haïti au début du vingtième siècle, ce style semble avoir pris ses racines dans des mouvements architecturaux bien connus comme l'éclectisme et le style victorien. Les maisons au «Pain d'épices » sont en bois. Mais, ce type d'architecture a tendance à disparaître pour diverses raisons : coût élevé du bois et des restaurations, vieillissement naturel du bois et bouleversements climatiques.

Le mercredi 7 juin, la soirée culturelle de l'association s'est déroulée à l'hôtel Karibé qui se se trouve aux confins de la ville de Port-au-Prince. Le chanteur haïtien James Germain nous a fait entendre sa belle voix. Pour clôturer la soirée, des jeunes artistes nous ont fait découvrir leur fête populaire connue sous le nom de Rara. Pendant la période pascale, les participants de cette manifestation défilent dans les rues au son des instruments à vent et du tambour.

Le jeudi 8 juin, Angela Davis, militante des droits civiques, nous vient des Etats-Unis où elle enseigne la philosophie. Elle a prononcé un discours éloquent et très enrichi dans lequel elle s'est opposée au racisme contre les Noirs en particulier. Elle a aussi fait un tour d'horizon sur l'histoire de l'île d'Haïti. Elle a mis l'accent sur les difficultés que connaît ce pays.

Bien que la conférence se soit terminée le samedi 11 juin, un banquet avait été organisé la veille. De nombreux membres y étaient présents pour se divertir et se laisser charmer par la «Mizik Rasin » du groupe musical haïtien Boukman Eksperyans. La musique Racine a atteint son apogée pendant les années 90 avec Boukman Eksperyans, Ram et Azor. Elle

s'accompagne de percussions Vaudou, guitares électriques, d'un synthétiseur et d'une batterie.

Helene Zamor
French & Martinican Creole Language Sub-editor
CSA Newsletter

GRADUATE STUDENT CORNER

Another year, another CSA! The annual conference held in Port Au Prince, Haiti was very well attended and boasted a packed program. From the moment we arrived at the airport the warm welcome and hard work of the organizing committee was clear. There were also many new faces at this year's conference, and many of them graduate students. Current President Keithley Woolward ran the annual grad student breakfast on Wednesday morning. It was a lively discussion and many of us made fruitful connections.



Lauren Pragg

Following this meeting and in hoping to address the requests for more grad student programming, I hope you find me open and available to your questions and suggestions. Some of the ideas I'll be following up on for CSA Bahamas will be more graduate student programming and space. I also hope many grad students will join me in taking the lead on forming an accessibility committee within the CSA.

Please get in touch with me at lrpragg@yorku.ca if you have any questions, comments or suggestions. Also please be in touch if you'd like to be featured in the Graduate Student Corner in the coming months. Have a great year!

Lauren Pragg
Graduate Student Representative
CSA 2015- 2017

PLENARY SESSION NOTES

This year we used the model of daily opening themed sessions titled "Ouvri bay pou" to identify salient themes and have a high powered discussion at the start of every day. Here are reflections from two moderators of these sessions:

OPENING THEMED SESSIONS:

One of the most powerful of the Daily Opening Themed Sessions was: "Migrations of Afro Caribbean Spirituality," Chaired by Patrick Bellegarde Smith and held on Tuesday 7 June 2016.

Speakers were:

- M. Jacqui Alexander
- Errol Josue
- Rachel Beauvoir Dominique

Here is the reflection from the chair of that session:

"Thank you for the opportunity to serve as convener for the plenary on Caribbean spirituality. The mandate that we were given was not quite what took place, in fact, what one might have expected is an academic and scholarly endeavor that would have specified the vibrancy of the Caribbean spiritual enterprise in our diasporas. What took place, instead, was a far reaching discourse on the spiritual and philosophical dimensions that frame our lives as people of primary African descent. The introductory poetic note given by Kyrah Malika Daniels and Gina Athena Ulysse became the tone for what was to follow by Erol Josue, M. Jacqui Alexander and Rachel Beauvoir-Dominique. We were far and away from a pedestrian, plodding review and deep into the maw of what matters. I was pleased by the sudden and unexpected turn of events, and all in the room seemed transfixed by what transpired. This was an eventful morning!"

Patrick Bellegarde-Smith, Ph.D.
Professor emeritus of Africology,
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Migrations, Politics, Reparations, and Human Rights - Thursday June 9, 2016

The fourth Opening Session of the 2016 Caribbean Studies Association conference, Migrations, Politics, Reparations, and Human Rights, examined the intersection of these four themes, particularly as they relate to contemporary Haiti. Chaired by Terry-Ann Jones, the session featured four distinguished scholars from different yet complementary disciplinary backgrounds. Jahlani Niaah, Lecturer in Cultural and Rastafari Studies at UWI Mona; Antonio Tillis, Dean of the School of Languages, Cultures, and World Affairs at the College of Charleston; Jeremy Levitt, Distinguished Professor of International Law at Florida A&M University; and Rose-Marie Antoine, Dean of Law at UWI St. Augustine.

The session began with the chair providing a brief overview of the process by which the CSA Executive Council developed a statement on the denaturalization and deportation of Dominicans of Haitian descent from the Dominican Republic. The statement, which remains on the CSA website, explicitly and unequivocally condemns this violation of human rights, and

calls on governments, activists, scholars, and others to work toward justice. This introduction formed the juncture of the four presentations that followed, all of which broached the issue of human rights. Jahlani Niaah's presentation, "From Vodun to Rastafari: The Haitian Jamaican axis and the evolution of African Reparation" examined Rastafari's leadership in movements toward reparatory justice, and illustrated the connection to Vodun. Antonio Tillis followed with a discussion of anti-Haitianism in the Dominican Republic, titled, "Contextualizing the Dominican Republic: Discourses on Whitening, Nationalism, Immigration, and Anti-Haitianism." Jeremy Levitt's presentation, "Haiti vs. World: Human Rights, Development and the Black Diaspora," interrogated the role of the diaspora in Haiti's political and economic development. Although travel challenges prevented Rose-Marie Antoine's arrival in Port-au-Prince, she was able to connect via Skype to discuss her perspectives on human rights in the Caribbean.

These four engaging presentations raised provocative questions that inspired a lively discussion between the panelists and audience. While time constraints curtailed the panelists' responses, the exchanges extended beyond the conclusion of the session. One audience member, for example, challenged a panelist's assertion that it could be beneficial for Haitian children to learn English in school. His valid point, that English is useful for its global dominance, and her equally valid rejoinder, that Creole and French have their own power, intersected with another panel, in which Gina Ulysee's commentary on her tri-lingual book, *Why Haiti Needs New Narratives*, suggested that each language has its role. Of course, there is never enough time to exhaust the range of ideas that themes as stimulating as migrations, politics, human rights, and reparations evoke. I expect that these themes will reemerge when we meet in the Bahamas, and I look forward to continuing the conversation then.

Terry-Ann Jones
Member of the CSA Executive Council

POETRY, ART AND DANCE AT CSA-HAITI



Gina Ulysee after her performance, Carolle Charles, CSA Past President, Dr. Michele Pierre-Louis, Jean Casimir, Keynote speaker & Minister of Culture

CSA-Haiti 2016, began with the powerful performance of Gina Ulysee, a welcome breakthrough and the deliberate positioning of a talented Haitian-American to open the conference. And after a series of welcome addresses as indicated, ended with an breathtaking performance by Errol Josue and *21Nachon.



Errol Jose and 21 Nachon

Throughout the conference art exhibitions courtesy of the Smithsonian Foundation, National Museum of African American Art and Culture and the Green Foundation featured "[Haitopia](#)" an art exhibition" and a wearable art exhibition featuring handbags and jewelry. Cultural Night at the Karibe Hotel hosted by the LOC in conjunction with ACURIL featured Compagnie de Danse Jean-Rene Delsoin and singer James Germain and a lively Rara finale to which members joined in energetically.

The closing banquet, CSA Night also opened with dance by Michelle Murray dedicated to Katherine Dunham titled "Living Memory" and featured a reading by writer Edwidge Danticat and a closing poem by Eintou Pearl Springer and the racine band Boukman Esperyans who delayed a trip to Liverpool so that they could perform for her us and welcome us to Haiti.

We thank all these amazing artists who made CSA-Haiti, 2016 such a celebratory event.

AWARDS

Barbara Christian Prize for the BEST book in the Humanities:

Submitted by Heather D. Russell

At CSA in Haiti this year we were privileged to award, in its newly configured form, the first Barbara Christian Prize for *the best book* in the Humanities to ***Resisting Paradise: Tourism, Diaspora and Sexuality in Caribbean Culture*** (UP of Mississippi, 2015) by Angelique V. Nixon. After a touching tribute to her sister, Dr. Cora Christian made the announcement and conferred the award. I would like to especially thank Vilma Diaz, Donette Francis, Sheri-Marie Harrison, Rosamond King, and Omisé-eke Tinsley who all served along with me, as judges this year.



Angelique Nixon receives Barbara Christian Award for Resisting Paradise

[[CLICK HERE to read the full article](#)]

EDWIDGE DANTICAT RECEIVES CSA CARIBBEAN GRIOT AWARD

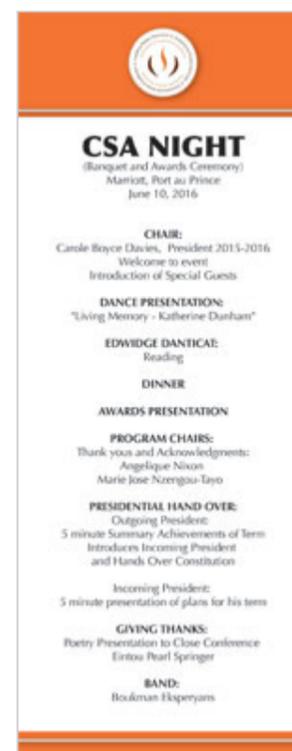
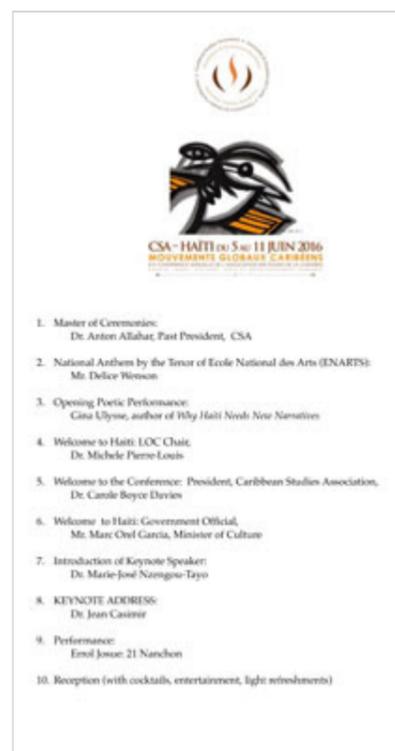
One of the highpoints of CSA Night was a moving reading by Edwidge Danticat which, along with a young Haitian actress who read the Kreyol version of the story, created a moving depiction of the sometimes difficult movement of people which scholars study as Caribbean migration to other locations. This was followed by the presentation of a CSA Award to Edwidge for the amazing contributions of this writer to the advancement of the knowledge of the Caribbean and its people and in particular the advancement of Caribbean literary excellence.



Outgoing and Incoming President present award to Edwidge Danticat

Report on the Gordon and Sybil K. Lewis Award will be posted on CSA website.

CSA OPENING NIGHT AND BANQUET PROGRAMS



[[CLICK HERE to view program](#)] [[CLICK HERE to view program](#)]



Awards to Newsletter Editor, LOC co-chairs Philippe Dodard and Jhon Picard Byron and Ileana Sanz of CTET

OUTCOMES: ARTS AND ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

A grand event: CSA's impact on Port-au-Prince

A grand event as defined in the hotel and hospitality industry has impacts and outcomes of several natures ranging from: creation of value, image effect, social cohesion and entertainment, a strong international impact through the participation of foreign visitors, mobilization of important financial fluxes beyond the event itself to the profits of several sectors of activities (infrastructure, transport, lodging, tourism, foods and drinks). CSA-Haiti 2016 was an initiative that impacted the industry of Port-au-Prince with economic and territorial outcomes and an international media impact that benefited Haiti. These are some of the areas where there has been documentable impact.

Arts and Economic Sustainability

Culture, as knowledge capital and resource, provides for the needs of individuals and reduces poverty. The ability of culture to provide employment has been at the heart of this 2016 CSA's Conference. This concern, CSA addressed through innovative introductions of new components such as the organization of an art exhibition --- [HAITOPIA](#) which brought Caribbean artists of various generations, CSA's LOC creation of a **Market place for the Arts and crafts (MAPLAC)**, and the groundbreaking use of the



Philippe Dodard explains art exhibition at "Haitopia"

legendary **Tap-Tap** -- the local urban transportation as the conference shuttles both from the airport to various hotels and from there to the conference center. The potential of innovation and creativity of creative industries and cultural diversity were also mobilized, especially by promoting small and medium enterprises (local cultural performance groups) for various entertainments and **Wearable art and accessories** (fashion show) all based on materials and renewable, sustainable resources environmentally, locally available and accessible to all groups of society, and respecting intellectual property rights.

[HAITOPIA](#). This exhibition of about sixty works provided Caribbean artist participants with opportunities to present their ideas on the conference theme, participate on the roundtable specifically designed to address the role of art in Caribbean global movements. Hosted at one of the recently refurbished gingerbread houses, this was an opportunity to engage Haitian Art of established artists.

TAP-TAP CONFERENCE TRANSPORTATION. For the first time in Haiti, the traditional means for urban transportation was put to use for an international conference. The sight of these rolling artworks at Toussaint Louverture airport and in front of the Marriott, Caribe and other hotels articulated CSA's commitment to sustainable development. By working with the Association of professional and craftsmen of the Haitian Tap-Tap (APATAH) and its dynamic president Petit-Bois Ancener in developing and implementing a strategy for transporting attendees the length of the conference, (welcome of guests, maintenance of tap-tap-, scheduling) CSA articulated a model for economic development built on cultural patrimony; its protection and promoting. The mobilization of more than twenty tap-tap buses for eight days also provided significant income for the operators of these small enterprises. Lessons learned by these and hotel managers can now be established as a frame for future conference. And one concrete outcome is that the Marriott has now assigned a Tap -Tap to be one of its official local transportation options for those wanting that cultural experience. Mr. Ancener said on Sunday at the end of the conference: "God sent me CSA."



Tap Taps bearing CSA-Haiti signage

MAPLAC. Taking effectively into account culture as a pillar of sustainable development, CSA partnered with local vendors to create the CSA's LOC-created **Market place for the Arts and crafts**. It was about insuring the integration of traditional craft productions in terms of styles and trends thus providing a base for economic activity the length of the conference. Thus, the cultural heritage deployed as a source of multiple income for the local population found articulation through the presentation of local art production. Popular items included sale of metal work, (*fer-coupé*) and popular art.

Wearable art and accessories: CSA's Fashion Night

Conceived as a vitrine for Caribbean cyclical transformation of the collective tastes in term of clothing in *haute couture* CSA's Fashion night highlighted this important aspect of an economic system emerging from Caribbean creativity characterized by the offering of symbols and demand of signs applied to handbags, jewelry and clothing design. The event provided an opportunity to see Haiti's contribution to Caribbean fashion trends as an expression of an aesthetic and creative autonomy that revealed the mechanisms of social influence. One tangible outcome is that one of these designers participated in Caribbean Fashion Week.

CSA's impact on Port-au-Prince hotel industry

Filling 100% of the capacity of MARRIOT Port-au-Prince, the host of the conference, for at least 10 days, CSA turned to surrounding hotels of the metropolitan zone to expand its impact on the industry. Thus, THE ROYAL OASIS, BEST WESTERN, PLAZA and countless smaller hotels of the capital saw their capacity occupied from 50% to 30% at a time of low season. This boost on the industry and related businesses (the taxi industry) was evidenced by various conversations with hotel managers and staff, and taxi drivers that lined up along the hotels. Mrs. Sacha Perez, Sales Manager of Best Western articulated best the impact of CSA on the Hotel industry "We want to thank CSA because our hotel has greatly benefited from the conference and look forward to similar initiatives."

The restaurant industry also benefitted from the conference. Attendees moved beyond the hotel to explore Port au Prince culinary offerings in restaurants such as The Tamarind, Chez Claude, L'Observatoire, Olofsson, Latin Quarter and other small surrounding restaurants saw a significant increase in clientele during the week of CSA conference.

CSA-Haiti, 2016 fulfilled in practice the conference's thematic goal of economic sustainability. It absolutely utilized the possibility of Arts and Culture for Economic sustainability in its selection of surrounding conference events and in providing the means for local businesses in Port au Prince to benefit from hosting the largest CSA Conference in its history.

Babacar Mbow, FLASC

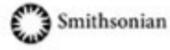
Advance Logistics and Communications Assistant to the President and LOC

CSA-HAITI CONFERENCE DONORS & SUPPORTERS

We thank the following organizations, businesses and government departments who contributed financially and in-kind to the delivery of CSA-Haiti, 2016.



A People's Journey.
A Nation's Story.



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