MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MULTIPLYING OUR MEMBERSHIP: A CSA VISION FOR THE FUTURE

This year, and in the following years, one of the priorities for the Caribbean Studies Association, as it moves through its 40’s, from my point of view, should be reaching a larger audience and thereby multiplying its membership.

Someone in the business sector who had not heard about CSA before our conversation told me that he would assume that outside of CARICOM, we were the place where one got all sorts of informational links about the Caribbean and was indeed the source for studies of the Caribbean. I told him we were that source and indeed we are.

A few expansions to capture that basic mandate of CSA would help to reach a much larger audience. So far our membership is indicated between 800 and 900 members inclusive of all its various categories. LASA has now approximately 12,000 members according to their website and other organizations started with or after CSA have grown substantially. As we take the organization into the future, we should aim towards multiplying our membership. This multiplicative effort can be achieved in several ways for which we need the help of all members.

First of all “Multiplying our Membership” can be effected through bringing more graduate students who work on Caribbean topics into CSA. We have already created space for graduate students to feel at home professionally on our Executive Council and in several conference fora. The graduate caucus and the breakfast for graduate students is already a good model which can be enhanced through additional mentorship projects. A directed publication process as was raised by one recent graduate student at the last conference will be that there will be a publication of Selected Conference papers from CSA-Haiti and a process towards continuing that into the future.

In this regard, I want to congratulate Mala Jokhan of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine for completing her Ph.D. this year with a thesis titled “Childhood Experiences as a Consequence of Parental Migration in Trinidad and Tobago.” Many have known the now Dr. Jokhan as Mala who managed our Secretariat. But she did this while completing and now successfully defending her thesis. Let us know of your various students who complete dissertations on Caribbean topics so we can identify them and have them join our ranks.

We can also cultivate the various Caribbean Students Associations on our campuses who often have students getting degrees in various fields but maintain an interest in the Caribbean to become involved at the next level as professionals by joining CSA. For example, a past leader of Caribbean Students Association, Dr. Carol Archer who led the Caribbean Students Association at Binghamton University, is now a member of CSA. Let us nurture some of these budding interests even more. This year we have a great opportunity to advance the service/learning component which our students often want through...
A new book and supporting exhibition, in celebration of contemporary Caribbean architecture, will be launched in Port of Spain, on 19 November 2015.

The book, Contemporary Caribbean Architecture, by Trinidadian architect, Brian Lewis of acla:works, is a collector’s limited edition, large-format publication, showcasing 50 design projects throughout the English and French-speaking Caribbean. The exhibition, the first of its kind in the region, is curated from images within the book and will feature large-format, high-quality prints.

Both the book launch and exhibition are part of the 70 anniversary celebrations of acla:works, a Trinidad and Tobago-based architectural practice whose history and founder, Anthony C Lewis, are tied to the founding of a contemporary design movement in the English-speaking Caribbean. A history which includes the planning and re-design of Castries - the capital city of St Lucia which was destroyed by fire in 1948, the designining of the US naval base in Chaguaramas, Trinidad, during World War II, and the establishment of the country’s first governing body for local architects - the Trinidad and Tobago Society of Architects, in 1956.

The movement towards a Caribbean contemporary aesthetic in architecture came at a time of great change in the region, when countries like Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago were becoming independent and seeking to shake the bounds of the British Empire. When people of these emerging nations were hungry for new ways of thinking and doing, and new opportunities. According to the publishers, the Caribbean’s long history of colonial architecture introduced by settlers from the First World generated complex strains of a vernacular, popularly known as Caribbean architecture. In the face of this significant body of work, local

Members can also commit to having at least one of their university colleagues with interest in the Caribbean join the organization and attend its conferences. There are people in various units of the university who work on Caribbean subjects but are not connected to any Caribbean professional organization so whatever they write has no peer-review process from Caribbean scholars. Our conference in Haiti next year also provides just such an opportunity as there are several people with interest in Haiti, or who work on Haiti, who can be encouraged to be part of our conference and members of CSA.

Our retired members who are no longer active can be provided opportunities to continue their work as suggested by still active CSA member, though retired, Monica Gordon who lives in Florida and attends all intellectual initiatives related to the Caribbean. Christine Ho’s model which created an activist/intellectual roundtable at the New Orleans conference should be maintained as a standard as was decided at the end of that session.

Our multi-lingual foci can also be directed at membership enhancement in all of those locations across Latin America and the Caribbean which we have not substantially encouraged to join us. The Committee for Translinguistic Exchange and Translation (CTET) has been significant in maintaining these linkages through language. But we can do more direct membership enhancement in their various relevant institutions as suggested by Vilma Diaz from Cuba who is on our executive council and submitted the piece on Yolanda Wood in this issue.

And definitely we are also targeting this year all African Diaspora Studies, Latin American Studies and related Global Studies programs in the U.S. and elsewhere with information about our conference and organization and encouraging them to join us. Extending affiliations to other organizations as we have with the Haitian Studies Association and the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars provide additional possibilities for multiplied membership.

While CSA has maintained a very familiar profile of known members and long friendships, over the years, there is a growing generational shift. All of our members should each take the responsibility to bring in one additional member into CSA.

Please send us additional ideas as we continue to work on “multiplying our membership.”

Carole Boyce-Davies
President, CSA-2015-2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIRS

Report from CSA 2016 Program Co-Chairs

We have been receiving your submissions as well as many queries that we have tried to address as best as we could. In view of these, we have extended the deadline to November 15, 2015 and posted on the website a reminder for the steps to follow when submitting a paper or a panel. (http://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org/csa-2016-abstract-submission-process/)

We urge you to pay attention to these guidelines as most queries came in because many of you did not follow the appropriate steps in submitting their abstracts.

CLICK HERE for further details
architects faced a challenge to introduce contemporary designs, since there were few built examples to inform public awareness and they often met with resistance. The publishers' hope is that the book and exhibition can become a new reference point for architects and those interested in architecture and architectural photography, and expand the scope of discussion on contemporary Caribbean architecture and what is possible in the region. As Lewis says: “Architecture in its best form not only contributes to the built environment, but can raise the human spirit. Stunning architectural images can inspire. For me architecture and its photography are inextricably connected. I believe that creating architecture is one way to make a contribution. Another way is via the medium of architectural photography. By presenting the design intent of a building I can enhance the appreciation of architecture and its architects.”

Contemporary Caribbean Architecture is published by LUMIS Photography and acla:works. Copies of the book will be available following the launch in Trinidad (at Medulla Gallery) on 19 November. The book, which is available in English and French, can also be reserved online using the following link: http://www.lumisphotography.com/25-0-reserve-copies-contemporary-caribbean-architecture/

We also remind you that title of panels and papers MUST be submitted into two languages spoken in the Caribbean. We would also greatly appreciate to have the abstract in two languages as well but this is not mandatory (for the time being). This request is made against the background of discussions about nurturing a multilingual tradition at the CSA. We are asking that those of you who already submitted in one language, that you go back to your abstract submission page and add the translated version of your abstract in the section provided.

We would also like to report that booking at the Marriott is now open. There are 150 rooms reserved for the CSA. The cut-off date for booking is April 5, 2016. Please, check the CSA website for details (Book your group rate for Caribbean Studies Association Group Event) and as we confirm more details, we will keep you posted.

This month we invite you to meet the other co-chair of the local organizing committee, Mr Philippe Dodard. An acclaimed painter, sculptor, graphic artist and educator, Mr Dodard is the Director of the National School of Arts (ENARTS) since 2011. His work has been exhibited internationally and he is very involved in cultural and art circles in Haiti. According to Babacar M'Bow “Art, as a fairy, invited itself to his birth,” as he met, at age 15, three important Haitian painters (Jean-Claude Garoute [Tiga], Patrick Vilaire and Frido of the Poto-Mitan art school) who played a determining role in shaping his artistic destiny. His academic training completed in 1975 was furthered by four years of spiritual studies at the Kripalu Yoga Ashram in the mountains overlooking Port-au-Prince. His first solo exhibition at the Galerie Marassa in 1981 was inspired by his Yoga experience and was an instant success. Between 1981 and 1986, he researched the iconographies of the Arawak, Taíno and the African masks while directing an advertising agency. His style completely changed after the popular uprising against dictatorship in Haiti in 1986. He became more engaged in social work as co-founder of Fondation Culture Création in 1992 for the promotion of Art and Culture where he served as a President for five years. A cultural adviser to Mrs Préval, the former First Lady of Haiti (2006-2011), Dodard is the project manager of PlasTimoun, a psychosocial project created by her and which uses art and sport as therapy for the relief of children affected by the January 2010 Earthquake.

Philippe Dodard has participated in many biennial art events and group exhibitions in the Caribbean, North and South America, in Europe, Africa and Asia. He proposes an aesthetic approach in which the mind and the world, the spiritual and material, subject and object all dissolve into a harmonious unity. It is this iconographical approach to art that makes him a “Maroon in Modernism.” His most recent solo exhibition was held at the Frost Art Museum, Florida in May-June 2014.

Next month, we will tell you more about our presiding chair, Mrs Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis.

For all program-related inquiries or suggestions, please contact us directly at: program.chair@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Warm November Greetings to our CSA members!

We delve deep in this issue into celebrating the accomplishments of our Caribbean scholars and creative artists. From Haiti to Curacao to Cuba to Jamaica all the way to the last island of the archipelago, the twin island of Trinidad and Tobago. Join with us in saying to them all, congratulations on your accomplishments and thanks for showing the world that the Caribbean remains a force to be reckoned with on several fronts!

As Haiti 2016 approaches, the Program Chairs are again encouraging members to take advantage of their constant updates and email blasts to inform you about the details of the...
Nouvèl (Martinic French Creole)


Pou rézoud pwoblèm, Misié David Estwick ki minis Lagrikilti, Resous Dlo épì Lapèch di ki yo kòtè an plas pou sa se rézidan-an ni akèt dlo. Ko sa, sé moun-an ni ko an zòn rital kòt ni dlo é po fè zafer yo. I mèm pali di konstwi lisyin désalman mè projè ta kòt ke pwan twa zan pou i fèt. Sa se an solusyon i propozé a koz di lo chajman klimatik-la ki responsab pwoblèm-dlo. Aitchélman, ki mè banke (Banque Interaméricaine du Développement) épì Banque d’Amérique Latine jik propozé lajan pou Barbados Water Authority ranplasé se vey kanalizasyon.

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

Español

Marlon James, gana el Premio Man Booker por su novela sobre Bob Marley “A Brief History of Seven Killings”

Tomado de: http://cultura.elpais.com/cultura/2015/10/14/actualidad/1444817264_212543.html

Marlon James se ha convertido en el primer autor jamaicano que obtiene el premio Man Booker de la mano de una novela inspirada en el intento de asesinato de Bob Marley a mediados de los 70 del pasado siglo, A Brief History of Seven Killings. A lo largo de 680 páginas se recoge el trasfondo social y político de aquellos tiempos conflictivos en Jamaica. La historia recrea aquel 3 de diciembre de 1976, en vísperas de unas tensas elecciones generales en Jamaica, en que siete hombres trujmieron con metales en la casa de Bob Marley para matar al cantante de reggae y gloria nacional. No consiguieron pero el miedo y la violencia que aquel suceso desencadenó en las calles de Kingston –la capital jamaicana-, es narrado en el libro por una multiplicidad de voces que configuran “el retrato de un tiempo histórico y un lugar muy concreto”, en palabras del presidente del jurado, Michael Goods, convencido de que la novela ganadora “será considerada un clásico de nuestro tiempo”.

Muy emocionado al recibir el galardón Marlon James calificó de “surrealista” su victoria frente a otros cinco candidatos, entre los que sobresalió Yanagihara por el fenómeno de ventas que ha protagonizado su novela. La autora hawaiana, al igual que la también estadounidense Anne Tyler (A Spool of Blue Thread), los británicos Sunjeev Sahota (The Year of the Runaways) y Tom McCarthy (Satin Island), y el nigeriano Chigozie Obioma (The Fishermen) recibirán en calidad de finalistas 2.500 libras y una edición especialmente encuadernada de sus novelas.
El jamaicano James, las trenzas rasta recogidas en una coleta para la ocasión, quiso rememorar en su discurso y posterior rueda de prensa las dificultades y frustraciones en sus inicios como escritor. Hace ahora justo diez años, explicó, estaba decidido a arrojar la toalla después de que su primera novela fuera devuelta en siete ocasiones. Su reacción fue borrarla del ordenador. Pero la escritora Kaylie Jones (“le estaré eternamente agradecido”) insistió en que recuperara el texto del disco duro y le permitiera leerlo. Finalmente consiguió que fuera publicado bajo el título John Crow’s Devil. Fue el inicio de una prometedora carrera en la que A Brief History of Seven Killings es sólo el tercer y exitoso libro de James—tras John Crow’s Devil y The Book of Night Women—, con el que el autor busca reivindicar “la rica tradición literaria de Jamaica”.

Vilma Díaz
Spanish Language Sub-editor
CSA Newsletter

Dutch

Dubbelspel in film


De filmcrew heeft het druk met de opencasting van extra’s die alledaagse yu di Kòsou zijn. “De vraag is groot, maar uiteindelijk moeten we aan de script houden” klikt er bij de informatie sessies van de casting. Om de samenleving goed te kunnen weerspiegelen is het noodzakelijk dat alle titten weer te zien zijn als er later in Campo Alegre gefilmd gaat worden. De opnames duren tot eind 2015 en de productie verschijnt eind 2016.

Guido M. Rojer, Jr.
Dutch and Papiamentu Language Sub-editor
CSA Newsletter

Français

DES PROBLÈMES D’EAU À LA BARBADE

La saison pluvieuse, qui normalement dure de juin à novembre, constitue la source essentielle d’eau potable de la Barbade. Cette eau se transforme en nappes phréatiques et pénètre dans les couches de calcaire et coule sous terre. Mais cette année, la saison pluvieuse est plutôt chaude et sèche pour l’ensemble des îles de la Caraïbe. Quoiqu’elle n’ait pas encore touché à sa fin, on constate que les pluies n’ont pas été abondantes. La compagnie Barbados Water Authority se trouve en grandes difficultés car elle n’est pas toujours en mesure d’approvisionner en eau certaines paroisses du pays. Il s’agit des villes telles que St. Andrew, St. George, St. John, St. Joseph qui sont situées non loin des réservoirs d’eau de Golden Ridge, Castle Grant et Spring System sur la Côte Ouest. D’après les enquêtes de BWA, trois facteurs seraient à l’origine des problèmes d’eau dans le pays. Tout d’abord, les réservoirs d’eau qui viennent d’être mentionnés ne peuvent pas alimenter convenablement les résidents vu la quantité insuffisante de pluies. Ensuite, les ruptures de canalisations d’eau qui sont assez fréquentes obligent Barbados Water Authority à fermer les réservoirs pour effectuer des travaux pendant plus de quatre heures. Quelquefois, les réservoirs sont fermés de 22 heures à 4 heures du matin ou bien de 6 heures du matin à 16 heures. Mais, tout dépend de la paroisse. Les résidents plus touchés par le rationnement de l’eau sont ceux qui vivent à St. Andrew et St. Joseph. Enfin, de nombreux résidents préoccupés par la récession économique et les prix élevés de la nourriture préfèrent planter leurs légumes et leurs fruits qui arrosent régulièrement.

Pour pallier à ce problème, Dr David Estwick, ministre de l’Agriculture, des Ressources Hydrauliques et de la Pêche, a précisé que des citernes seraient mises à la disposition des résidents vivant dans les zones rurales. Grâce aux citernes, ils auront accès à l’eau potable et pourront mieux vaquer à leurs occupations. Monsieur Estwick précise même la construction d’une usine de dessalement en vue de faire face aux changements climatiques responsables de la pénurie d’eau. Il a commencé à collaborer avec le secteur privé. Cependant, ce nouveau projet ne commencera pas avant deux ou trois ans. Selon le ministre des Ressources Hydrauliques, la banque Interaméricaine de Développement et la banque d’Amérique latine proposent leur aide financière afin que Barbados Water Authority puisse remplacer les vieilles canalisations.

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

GRADUATE STUDENT CORNER

This month we have the second contribution in our inspiring feature series on graduate students and their work. If you’re a grad student who’d like to contribute please reach me at lrpragq@yorku.ca.
My name is Savitri Persaud, and I’m a PhD candidate in the Graduate Department of Social and Political Thought at York University in Toronto, Canada. I was born in Guyana and migrated to Canada as a child, but Guyana never left me despite my many years in Toronto. Guyana and the Caribbean profoundly influence my work and are the sites through which my research takes shape. I analyze Guyanese practices, narratives, and discourses of mental health, disablement, and violence. In particular, my work examines the associations made between conceptions of madness and spirit/demonic possession in Guyana in light of several killings of people with psychiatric disabilities in the last few years. My work seeks to understand how this violence is made possible in order to substantively address and prevent future incidents.

Any research on violence – and the ways in which underserved and marginalized communities are adversely affected by this violence – can be daunting because situations give the appearance of being too difficult to change. For me, it is imperative to apply theory and research to practice. Volunteering with the grassroots women’s collective Red Thread in Guyana provided a space of mobilization, where agentive working class women are the change-makers in their communities. My relationship with Red Thread began when I was an undergraduate student and is the place where I cut my teeth in Caribbean women’s activism. My work with Red Thread led me to pursue my current research, and as I enter the final stage of my PhD, the formative lessons of community accountability that run deep at Red Thread will forever stay with me. My social justice work is a crucial part of my self-care practices.

Self-care also takes the form of jogging with my partner, tree planting with friends, indulging in tropical fruits that remind me of Guyana like sapodilla and guava (which tend to be expensive imports in Toronto, sighs), accompanying my mother to the three different West Indian grocers she must buy from weekly, and reserving some time away from everyone where I’m able to pleasure read for a couple of hours every now and again – me time. Right now, Maryse Conde’s, I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem is the thrilling read that makes its home on my nightstand.

Why CSA? I attended my first CSA in 2010 in Bim, and I’ve been attending ever since. I’m drawn to the generative connections that are forged among scholars, practitioners, and activists at the conference and on the ground. This past year in New Orleans I appreciated how CSA linked with locals and grassroots associations as a means of knowledge creation and exchange. Here’s to a successful gathering in Haiti in 2016!

Lauren Pragg
Graduate Student Representative
CSA 2015–2017

MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS

CSA Congratulates Mala

The CSA Executive Council, on behalf of its membership, congratulates Mala Jokhan on the successful completion of her Ph.D at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. Mala has selflessly, cheerfully and professionally managed the CSA Secretariat, often going beyond normal expectations in her service to the organization. We are proud of your success and contribution to scholarship in Caribbean Studies.

FEATURED CSA MEMBER

Yolanda Wood, A Cultural Worker for Haiti

Yolanda Wood, professor and prominent art critic on issues concerning the Caribbean has remained for more than 30 years linked to Haitian culture. Her work begins as thesis advisor of Manuel Delgado whose work was titled “La pintura contemporánea en Haití” (1986). Later, she worked as Adviser to the Minister of Culture, Raoul Peck, at ENART to re-open the School of Arts of Haiti in 1996. She taught courses in Caribbean Art, invited by the Fondation Culture Création. The edited result of this work — in French- L’art La Caraïbe (Take Fondation Culture Création. Haiti. 2000.) The intention was to make a series of six books, but only the first was completed and published. She also gave a course of Caribbean Art at Quisqueya University (in French).

Her work in Art Criticism has been linked to the themes of Haitian culture and its relationship with Cuba and the region. Yolanda participated in several events: Forum of Ministers of Culture of Latin America and the Caribbean. Haiti. (2000); Premier Forum du cinéma et de l’Audiovisuel in Haiti. Port au Prince (2001); African-American Forum, organized by the Foundation of the same name (2006); Haiti: Memory and Heritage to the current time, in International Event of vernacular architecture. Havana, 2010; Large Haitian figures. UH Caribbean Chair, 2011; Situation of the arts in Haiti. Haitian culture week in Havana. 2012.
Among her most notable publications are:

- Lo visual en un sistema mágico religioso: el vodú, *Del Caribe*. Santiago de Cuba, 1989. Published in French in *Culture*, magazine of the Foundation Culture Création, Haiti.

Texts for catalogs

- Corrientes calientes. Exposición homónima. MUPANHA. Haiti, 2009

As Director of the Centro de Estudios del Caribe of Casa de las Américas, Cuba (2006-2015) Yolanda Wood has organized events, commemorations and publications on Haiti, for example, *Jacques Roumain, centenary* (2007) and the cultural program *Ayiti Cherie* in support of the Haitian people affected by the 2010 Earthquake.

Contributed by Vilma Diaz