



2004

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Recommended Citation

Collett, Anne, Notes on Contributors, *Kunapipi*, 26(1), 2004.
Available at: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/kunapipi/vol26/iss1/26>

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Abstract

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Born in Port of Spain, Trinidad, WAYNE BROWN is the editor-producer of The Literary Arts Supplement of the (Jamaican) *Sunday Observer*, Lecturer in English in the Department of Literatures in English, University of the West Indies, tutor in Feature Writing at Carimac, UWI, and founder-tutor of the Observer Creative Writing Workshop. He was awarded the Commonwealth Prize for Poetry for his volume *On The Coast* (Andre Deutsch, 1973) and has subsequently published poetry, biography and literary criticism, the most recent of which is a collection of short stories and remembrances, *Landscape with Heron* (Observer Literary Books, 2000). Wayne has also edited numerous volumes of poetry and selections of creative work drawn from the *Jamaica Observer*.

MARTA JIMENA CABRERA has a Ph.D. in Communication and Cultural Studies from the University of Wollongong, Australia, with a thesis on Colombian historical novels and their relation to the construction of the nation. Her scholarly interests include Colombia's cultural history, literature and visual culture.

MAXINE CLARK completed a Bachelor of Creative Arts/Law, majoring in Creative Writing in 2002. Her plays have appeared in Short and Sweet New Short Works Festival at The Edge Theatre in 2004, and Tasty Morsels New Short Works Festival at The Riverside Theatres in 2003. Maxine is a regular Theatre Reviewer for *The Sydney Observer* and has performed her poetry on Word Jammin' (2SER Radio), at The Newcastle Writers Festival, The Shoalhaven Writers Festival and has published in *Voiceworks Magazine*.

FRANCES COKE was born in Kingston, Jamaica. Head of the UWI School of Business, her poetry and fiction have won several awards in the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission's National Literary Festival Competition and have appeared in *the Jamaica Observer Literary Arts Magazine* and *Bearing Witness*. Her first collection of poems, *The Dusk of Balm Lilies*, was published in 2000 by the Jamaica Observer Limited.

Born in Guyana, CYRIL DABYDEEN has written over 15 books of poetry and fiction. His latest books include, *Hemisphere of Love* (TSAR Publications), *Imaginary Origins: New and Selected Poems* (Peepal Tree Press, UK) and *Play a Song, Somebody* (Mosaic Press). Cyril is a former Poet Laureate of Ottawa and is currently based in the Department of English, University of Ottawa.

ERIC DOUMERC teaches English at the University of Toulouse-Le Mirail in Toulouse, south-western France, and wrote his PhD dissertation on the influence of the Caribbean oral tradition on Black British performance poetry.

DELORES GAUNTLETT was born in St Ann, Jamaica. Her poems have appeared in *The Jamaica Observer Literary Arts Magazine*, *London Poetry Society's Poetry News*, *Byline USA*, *Sisters of Caliban Anthology*, *Obsidian III*, *The Sunday*

Gleaner, The Caribbean Writer, Bearing Witness, and Bayswater: German Textbook. She is a multiple winner in The Jamaica Observer Annual Arts Magazine Awards and the Jamaica Cultural Development Corporation, the recipient of a commendation prize from the National Book Development Council of Jamaica for her first full-length manuscript-in-progress 'Freeing Her Hands to Clap', which was also a semi-finalist in the University of Wisconsin Poetry Series competition; a Writer's Digest award, and the 1999 winner of the David Hough Prize from *The Caribbean Writer*. *Freeing Her Hands to Clap* was published in 2001 by The Jamaica Observer Limited. Her second collection of poems, *The Watertank Revisited*, is due out this year from Peepal Tree press, UK.

VERNA GEORGE was born in Kingston, Jamaica. A librarian at the UWI, her poems have appeared in *Pathways, The Caribbean Writer, The Jamaica Observer Literary Arts Magazine, and Bearing Witness*. Her awards include first prize, Humanities Week Poetry Competition (UWI Faculty of Arts and General Studies, 1994), silver and bronze medals in the Jamaica Cultural Development Corporation's National Literary Arts Competition (2001), and second place in *The Jamaica Observer's Annual Arts Magazine Awards* (2003).

After having taught theatre studies and postcolonial literatures for the past decade at the University of Queensland, HELEN GILBERT is soon to take up a position at Royal Holloway College, U.K. Her books include the award-winning *Sightlines: Race, Gender and Nation in Contemporary Australian Theatre* (1998) and *Post-Colonial Drama: Theory, Practice, Politics* (co-authored with Joanne Tompkins, 1996). She is the editor of *Post-Colonial Plays: An Anthology* (Routledge 2001) and, with Anna Johnston, co-edited *In Transit: Travel, Text, Empire* (Peter Lang 2002).

RHONDA HAMMOND completed her PhD on the classical influences on Derek Walcott's poetry in 2001 through the Open University in the UK. Since then she has continued to work on Walcott as a Research Associate attached to the Post-Colonial Literature Group at the Open University and has presented papers at conferences in Australia, Belgium and the UK. Having lived in Australia for six years, she is now based in Antwerp, Belgium.

CHARLES HAWKSLEY lectures in Politics and International Relations in the School of History and Politics at the University of Wollongong. His research interests include international relations theory, imperialism, colonialism and economic development in small states. He is a keen student of the game of cricket, bowls right arm slow and is a genuine lower order bat.

B.W. HIGMAN is Professor of History in the History Program, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra. He was a member of the Department of History at the University of the West Indies, Mona, from 1971 to 1995, and is the author of several works on the history of Jamaica and the Anglophone Caribbean.

LUZ MERCEDES HINCAPIÉ was born in Colombia and migrated to the US where she graduated with honours in Intercultural Studies at Simon's Rock of Bard College with a thesis describing the migration(s) of her family. Luz has recently finished an MA in Post-Colonial Literature at the University of Wollongong with her thesis, 'Immigrant, Exiled and Hybrid: Nineteenth-Century Latin American Women Travel Writers'. Her research interests are in the area of travel writing, displacement and identity.

DOROTHY JONES is an honorary fellow in the School of English Literatures, Philosophy and Languages at the University of Wollongong where she taught from 1971–1996. Dorothy has published widely in the area of postcolonial literature with special emphasis on women writers and is currently engaged in projects that explore the relationship between textile and literature. She is also working collaboratively with Anne Collett on a comparative study of the painting of Emily Carr and the poetry of Judith Wright.

SHARON LEACH is a columnist and freelance feature writer for the *Jamaica Observer*. Her short fiction has appeared in the newspaper's Literary Arts magazine and in *Bearing Witness* 2000, 2001, 2002, publications of the *Jamaica Observer*.

BÉNÉDICTE LEDENT is a graduate of the University of Liège where she now teaches English language and grammar, Caribbean literature and English literatures of the Commonwealth. Her major field of research is contemporary Caribbean fiction but she is also interested in 'Black British writing', linguistic creolisation in the Caribbean, and in the literary explorations of diasporic identity. Bénédicte has written on Fred D'Aguiar, Robert Antoni, Jamaica Kincaid and Michelle Cliff, has co-authored (with Hena Maes-Jelinek) a chapter on the Caribbean Novel since 1970 in the *History of Literature in the Caribbean* (edited by James Arnold), and has recently published a book on Caryl Phillips' fiction (Manchester UP, 2002).

ANDREW MILLER was born in Kingston, Jamaica. In 2001, he attended the Cropper Foundation workshop for emerging Caribbean writers. A multiple first prize winner for poetry and fiction in the Jamaica Observer Annual Arts Awards, his stories and poems have appeared in *Bearing Witness* and the *Jamaica Observer Literary Arts* magazine.

NEIL MORGAN is currently a student at the School of Continuing Studies UWI, and has been writing poetry for three years, 'though my interest in literature started from prep school days ... I preferred books to people.' He acknowledges being influenced by the American 'Beat' poets and also by music. 'I don't study poetic forms because I like my poetry not to have the appearance of structure.'

PHILIP NANTON has recently joined the Department of Liberal Studies, St. George's University, Grenada after many years of University teaching in Britain

and more recently, Barbados. He has published widely on Caribbean culture and literature and while in Britain he made a number of radio programmes on these themes for BBC Radio networks 3 and 4. He is editor of the forthcoming collection of essays *Remembering the Sea: An Introduction to Frank A. Collymore of Barbados*.

BEVERLEY OMEROD NOAKES from Jamaica, was until 2002 Associate Professor of French at the University of Western Australia. She formerly lectured at the University of the West Indies (Mona Campus). She is the author of *An Introduction to the French Caribbean Novel* (Heinemann, 1985) and co-author, with Jean-Marie Volet, of *Romancières africaines d'expression française* (L'Harmattan, 1994).

EVELYN O'CALLAGHAN is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) of Literatures in English, in the Department of Language, Linguistics and Literature at the Cave Hill (Barbados) campus of the University of the West Indies. She has published *Women Writing the West Indies, 1804–1939: 'A Hot Place, Belonging to Us'* (London: Routledge, 2003), *Woman Version: Theoretical Approaches to West Indian Fiction by Women* (London: Macmillan, 1993), *The Earliest Patriots, being the True Adventures of Certain Survivors of 'Bussa's Rebellion' (1816) in the Island of Barbados and Abroad* [Historical fiction] (London: Karia Press, 1986) and other articles and chapters on West Indian literature, particularly by women. Her edition of a nineteenth-century Caribbean novel *With Silent Tread* by Frieda Cassin, appeared in the Macmillan Caribbean Classics series in 2002.

OLIVE SENIOR is the author of three collections of short stories: *Summer Lightning* which won the Commonwealth Writers Prize, *Arrival of the Snake-Woman* and *Discerner of Hearts*; two of poetry — *Talking of Trees* and *Gardening in the Tropics* (winner of the F.G. Bressani Literary Prize) and non-fiction works on Caribbean culture including *Working Miracles: Women's Lives in the English-Speaking Caribbean*. Her *Encyclopaedia of Jamaican Heritage* has just been published and a poetry collection *Over the Roofs of the World* is forthcoming.

PAUL SHARRAD is Associate Professor in English at the University of Wollongong. He has been working on an Australian Research Council Discovery grant project on textiles, texts and trading, and teaches postcolonial literatures with special focus on the Pacific and India. Paul has edited the *CRNLE Reviews Journal* and *New Literatures Review* and published a book on Raja Rao. His most recent book is *Circling the Void: Albert Wendt and Pacific Literature* (Manchester UP/Auckland UP, 2003), a review of which will be published in the next General Issue of *Kunapipi*.

SAFIYA SINCLAIR was born in Montego Bay, Jamaica. She is a JCDC awardee, and at 17 won second prize (Poetry) in the 2002 Observer Annual Arts Awards. Her poems have appeared in *Bearing Witness* and the *Jamaica Observer Literary Arts* magazine.

KARINA SMITH is a lecturer in the Foundation Studies program at Wollongong University College (Sydney Campus). She completed her doctoral dissertation on Sistren Theatre Collective in 2001. She has recently been travelling and researching African diasporic oral traditions in South America.

ANDREW STONE was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He holds a BSc in Economic Management from UWI, Mona. Andrew is a singer, songwriter and poet whose poems have appeared in *Bearing Witness* and the *Jamaica Observer Literary Arts* magazine.

BONNIE THOMAS completed her PhD thesis on gender identity in French Caribbean literature in 2003. She currently lectures in French and French Caribbean literature at the University of Western Australia and is preparing a manuscript entitled 'Woman is a Chestnut and Man is a Breadfruit: An Exploration of Gender Identity in Contemporary French Caribbean literature'. Her recent publications include 'Gender Identity on the Move: Gisèle Pineau's *La Grande Drive des esprits*', *The French Review*, 76.6, 2003 and 'Moving Away From Stereotypes: Gisèle Pineau's *L'Espérance-macadam*', *Essays in French Literature*, 40, 2003.

SUE THOMAS is the author of *The Worlding of Jean Rhys* (1999), co-author (with Ann Blake and Leela Gandhi) of *England through Colonial Eyes in Twentieth-Century Fiction* (2001), and compiler of *Elizabeth Robins (1862–1952): A Bibliography* (1994), and many other titles in the Victorian Fiction Research Guides Series. She has published extensively on nineteenth- and twentieth-century women's writing and decolonising literatures. She is a Reader in English in the School of Communication, Arts and Critical Enquiry at La Trobe University, Melbourne.

ELIZABETH WALCOTT-HACKSHAW is a lecturer of Francophone Caribbean Literature and Nineteenth-Century French Poetry at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. Her research focuses on the Caribbean cultural landscape as presented in the works of Gisèle Pineau, Yanick Lahens and Simone Schwarz-Bart. As a fiction writer her most recent short stories have appeared in *Callaloo* and *Small Axe*. She is presently working on a collection of her short fiction and a trilingual anthology of Caribbean Women Writers from the Anglophone, Francophone and Hispanophone regions.

GWYNETH BARBER WOOD was born in Kingston, Jamaica. A travel agent, she has won several awards in Jamaican literary competitions and is a fellow of the Virginia Centre for Creative Arts. Her poems have appeared in *Bearing Witness*, the *Jamaica Observer Literary Arts* magazine and *Caribbean Writer*. Her first collection of poems, *The Garden of Forgetting*, is due out this year from Peepal Tree press, UK.