

REMEMBERING THE FUTURE

The Legacies of Radical Politics in the Caribbean



Cover image: Installation art "*Just Beyond My Imagination*" by Annalee Davis

Friday, April 3, 2009

5604 and 5130 Posvar Hall

and

Saturday, April 4, 2009

4127 Sennott Square

Keynote Speaker

RUPERT ROOPNARAINÉ

Working People's Alliance, Guyana

www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas/rememberingthefuture/index.html

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2009

Location: 5604 Wesley W. Posvar Hall

8:00-8:45 a.m. *Breakfast* (on site)

8:45-9:15 a.m. Conference Opening by **Kathleen Musante DeWalt**
Framing Reflections by **Shalini Puri**

Session I

9:15-10:55 a.m. **Dialogue on Cuba**

Moderator: **Elizabeth Dore**

Panelists

Rafael Hernández, “Cuba in the Caribbean”

Rafael Rojas, “What is Socialism in Cuba Today?”

Elizabeth Dore, “‘Fidel Became our God’: Life Histories
in the Cuban Revolution”

Respondent: **Sam Farber**

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Keynote Address**

Rupert Roopnaraine

Working People’s Alliance, Art Critic, Poet, Filmmaker—Guyana

“Resonances of Revolution: Grenada, Suriname, Guyana”

Introduction by **Shalini Puri**

12:30-2:00 p.m. *Break for Lunch*

Session II

2:00-4:30 p.m. **Caribbean Routes to the Present**

Moderator: **Lara Putnam**

Panelists:

O. Nigel Bolland, “Depression and War: Labor Protests, the Rise of Nationalism, and Constitutional Changes After 1929”

Caldwell Taylor, “Remembering the Grenadian Revolution: A Participant’s Restrospective”

Merle Collins, “After October 1983: Reviewing the Past to Remember the Future”

Alex Dupuy, “What is Left of the Left in Haiti After Aristide?”

Yarimar Bonilla, “Reinventing the Mass Strike: A New Political Era in Guadeloupe”

Respondent: **Patricia J. Saunders**

Location: 5130 Wesley W. Posvar Hall

4:45-6:15 p.m. **Workshop with Audience**

Moderators: **Alissa Trotz and Cecilia Green**

(A dialogue between audience members and conference speakers, shaped by audience questions and considerations)

Location: Frick Fine Arts Auditorium

(125 Frick Fine Arts Building)

8:30 p.m. **Film Screening**

(An Amigos del Cine Latinoamericano Feature)

Pictures from a Revolution:

A Memoir of the Nicaraguan Conflict

a film by Susan Meiselas, Richard Rogers, and Alfred Guzzetti

Introduction by Juan Duchesne-Winter

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2009

Location: 4127 Sennott Square

210 South Bouquet Street

8:30-9:00 a.m. *Breakfast (on site)*

Session III

9:00 – 10:45 a.m. **Organizing for the Future I**

Moderator: **Jay Mandle**

Panelist:

Alissa Trotz, “Valuing Labour: Reflections on Women's Organizing and Radical Politics in Guyana”

Norman Girvan, “The Caribbean’s EPA Affair: Lessons in Ideology, Power and Politics”

Respondent: **Cecilia Green**

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Organizing for the Future II**

Moderator: **Jerome Branche**

Panelists:

Luis Duno-Gottberg, "Mob Politics: Reconsidering Non-Traditional Social Movements in Contemporary Venezuela”

John Beverley, “Beyond the Paradigm of Disillusion: Rethinking the Armed Struggle in Latin America ”

Respondent: **Rupert Roopnaraine**

1:00-2:45 p.m. *Break for Lunch*

2:45-4:45 p.m. **Workshop with Audience**

Moderators: **Samuel Farber** and **Rupert Roopnaraine**

(A dialogue between audience members and conference speakers, shaped by audience questions and considerations)

5:00-6:00 p.m. **A Reading by Merle Collins**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rupert Roopnaraine (Working People's Alliance, Art Critic, Poet, Filmmaker) holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Cornell University. He was recruited by Walter Rodney and worked closely with him, becoming the co-leader of the Working People's Alliance. He has also served as an MP in Guyana. He is the author of *The Primacy of the Eye: The Art of Stanley Greaves*; *Web of October: Rereading Martin Carter*; and a book of poetry entitled *Suite for Supriya*. He also has made a film on political memory entitled "The Terror and the Time."

PANELISTS

John Beverley

is Professor of Spanish and Latin American Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. His recent publications include *Testimonio: On the Politics of Truth* and *Subalternity and Representation. Arguments in Critical Theory*. He is a founding member of the Latin American Subaltern Studies Group.

O. Nigel Bolland

is Charles A. Dana Professor of Sociology and Caribbean Studies Emeritus at Colgate University. He is the author of the award winning book, *The Politics of Labour in the British Caribbean: The Social Origins of Authoritarianism and Democracy in the Labour Movement*.

Yarimar Bonilla

is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Virginia. She is currently working on a book manuscript entitled *A Striking Past: Labor and the Politics of History in the French Antilles*.

Jerome Branche

is Associate Professor of Latin American and Cultural Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. His most recent publication is *Social Transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean*. He currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana.

Merle Collins

is a novelist and poet and Professor of Comparative Literature and English at the University of Maryland at College Park. Collins also served in Grenada's Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the Grenadian Revolution. Her publications include the novels *Angel*, *The Colour of Forgetting* and several books of poetry, including *Lady in a Boat*.

Kathleen Musante DeWalt

is Professor of Anthropology and Public Health and Director of the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. She is a cultural anthropologist whose main research interests are in health and nutrition in Brazil, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, and rural Kentucky.

Luis Duno-Gottberg

is Associate Professor of Caribbean Literature and Cultural Studies at Rice University. His forthcoming publications include *Miradas al margen: Cine y Subalternidad en América Latina* and *La humanidad como mercancía*.

Elizabeth Dore

is Professor of Latin American Studies at the University of Southampton, UK, and is currently a Visiting Scholar at the Latin American Studies Center, Harvard University. She directed *Memories of the Cuban Revolution*, a large oral history project carried out in Cuba, the first of its kind since a similar study led by Oscar Lewis was closed down in 1970.

Juan Duchesne-Winter

is Professor of Latin American Literature at the University of Pittsburgh. His most recent publication is *Del príncipe moderno al señor barroco: la república de la amistad en Paradiso, de José Lezama Lima*. He also serves as Director of Publications of the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana.

Alex Dupuy

is Professor of Sociology at Wesleyan University. His most recent work is *The Prophet and Power: Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the International Community, and Haiti*. He also has appeared on *The NewsHour* with Jim Lehrer and is a frequent commentator on Haitian affairs on the *BBC's Caribbean Service*.

Norman Girvan

is Professorial Research Fellow at the Graduate Institute of International Relations at the University of the West Indies in St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. His most recent publication is *Cooperation in the Greater Caribbean, The Role of the Association of Caribbean States*. He has been Secretary General of the Association of Caribbean States, and head of the National Planning Agency of the Government of Jamaica.

Samuel Farber

is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. His most recent work is *The Origins of the Cuban Revolution Reconsidered*. He is also a member of the editorial board of the socialist journal, *Against the Current*.

Cecilia Green

is Associate Professor of Sociology at the Maxwell School, Syracuse University. Among her most recent publications are several journal articles: "Between Respectability and Self-Respect: Framing Afro-Caribbean Women's Labor History" and "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea: Mercantilism and Free Trade."

Rafael Hernández

is the editor of *Temas*, a Cuban quarterly in the field of history, culture, economics, and politics. His most recent publication is *Looking at Cuba: Essays on Culture and Civil Society*. In 2006, he received the Illiteracy Campaign Medal and the LASA Academic Excellency Award.

Jay R. Mandle

is the W. Bradford Wiley Professor of Economics at Colgate University. Published widely on the economic development of the Caribbean and globalization, his most recent book is *Democracy, America and the Age of Globalization*. He is also the author of *Big Revolution, Small Country: The Rise and Fall of the Grenada Revolution*.

Shalini Puri

is Associate Professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh. She is working on two books: one on cultural memory of the Grenadian Revolution and its legacies for egalitarian politics in the region, and a second collaborative book that theorizes the role of fieldwork in the humanities. Her book *The Caribbean Postcolonial: Social Equality, Post-Nationalism, and Cultural Hybridity* (2004) won the Gordon and Sybil Lewis Prize in 2005 for best book on the Caribbean.

Lara Putnam

is Associate Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh. Her recent work includes *Contact Zones: Heterogeneity and Boundaries in Caribbean Central America at the Start of the Twentieth Century* and *To Study the Fragments/Whole: Microhistory and the Atlantic World*.

Rafael Rojas

is Professor and Researcher at the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas in Mexico. This spring, he is the Tinker Visiting Professor at the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of *Essays in Cuban Intellectual History*. His latest book, *Tumbas sin sosiego. Revolución, disidencia y exilio del intelectual cubano* received the Premio Anagrama.

Patricia J. Saunders

is Assistant Professor of English at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, where she co-directs the Caribbean Literary Studies Program and is Associate Editor of *Anthurium: A Caribbean Studies Journal*. Her publications include *Alien-Nation and Repatriation: Translating Identity in Anglophone Caribbean Literature and Music*, *Memory, Resistance: Calypso and the Caribbean Literary Imagination*.

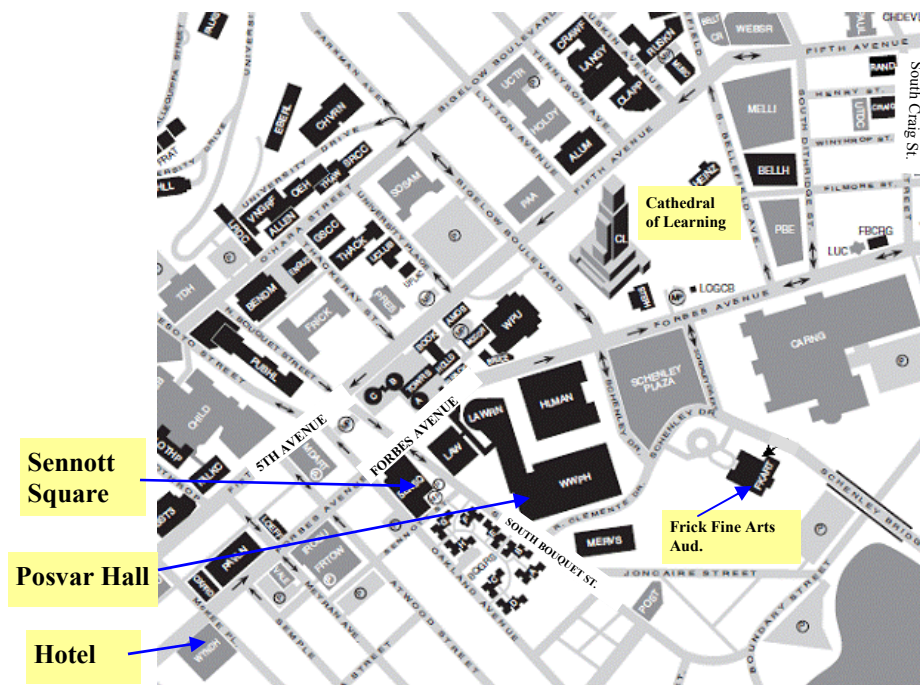
Caldwell Taylor

is Contributing Editor of *Big Drum Nation*. He served as Grenada's Ambassador to the United Nations from 1980 to 1983 and as Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1982 to 1983.

Alissa Trotz

is Associate Professor in Women & Gender Studies and Director of the Caribbean Studies Program at the University of Toronto. She is a member of Red Thread Women's Development Organization in Guyana and edits a weekly column, *In the Diaspora*, in the Guyanese newspaper, *The Stabroek Daily News*.

MAP OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH



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