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RICHARD PRICE & SALLY PRICE

BOOKSHELF 1998

With the usual solemnity, it is once again our duty to announce the annual Caribbeanist Hall of Shame. As always, we list those books that, as of press time (January 1999), have not been reviewed because the scholars who agreed to the task have – despite reminder letters – neither provided a text nor relinquished the books so that they could be assigned to someone else. (Continuing the practice initiated in 1997, we indicate names with both initial and final letters, in an attempt to forestall false accusations and protect the reputations of the innocent.) And as in past years, we hope these paragraphs may serve as a kind of backlist “books received.” We are pleased to report that the advent of email has helped make this year’s list even briefer than in the past. (As George Mentore wrote, in reply to an email, “Thank you for the gentle reminder; shame, as you know, always works for Caribbeanists.”) And we join other *NWIG* readers in expressing heartfelt thanks to all those scholars who did take the time to prepare reviews and share their assessments.

We continue to await an important review article from R—t L. P—e covering *The Making of New World Slavery: From the Baroque to the Modern, 1492-1800*, by Robin Blackburn (London: Verso, 1997, cloth US\$ 35.00), *Serfdom and Slavery: Studies in Legal Bondage*, edited by M.L. Bush (London: Longman, 1996, paper £12.25), *Empire, Enslavement and Freedom in the Caribbean*, by Michael Craton (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1997, paper US\$ 24.95), *The Business of Abolishing the British Slave Trade 1783-1807*, by Judith Jennings (London: Frank Cass, 1997, cloth US\$ 39.50, paper US\$ 19.50), and *Questioning Slavery*, by James Walvin (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1997, paper US\$ 22.95).

Double reviews that have not materialized include: two books by Pedro San Miguel, *Los campesinos del Cibao: Economía de mercado y transformación agraria en la República Dominicana, 1880-1960* (San Juan: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, 1997, paper US\$ 12.95)

and *La isla imaginada: Historia, identidad y utopia en La Española* (San Juan, Isla Negra, Santo Domingo: La Trinitaria, 1997, paper n.p.) [N—i M. Z—r]; *Critical Issues in Caribbean Development: West Indian Development and the Deepening and Widening of the Caribbean Community*, by William G. Demas (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1997, paper US\$ 20.00) and *Critical Issues in Caribbean Development: The New World Trade Order: Uruguay Round Agreements and the Implications for Caricom States*, by Frank Rampersad (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1997, paper US\$ 22.95) [I—w L. G—h]; and *Che Guevara: A Revolutionary Life*, by Jon Lee Anderson (London: Bantam, 1997, cloth £ 12.99), and *Episodes of the Cuban Revolutionary War, 1956-1958*, by Ernesto Che Guevara (New York: Pathfinder Press, 1996, paper US\$ 23.95) [I—n S—s]. Because of illness, Antonio Lauria has not been able to complete a double review of *La memoria rota: Ensayos sobre cultura y política*, by Arcadio Díaz-Quinones (Río Piedras: Huracán, 1993, paper n.p.) and *Colonial Dilemma: Critical Perspectives on Contemporary Puerto Rico*, edited by Edwin Meléndez & Edgardo Meléndez (Boston: South End Press, 1993, paper US\$ 16.00); we wish him a continuing speedy recovery.

Three individual book reviews, long outstanding, have not been submitted. As always, we would be pleased to publish them even if tardily, but in the meantime we simply list them here. *Medicine and Morality in Haiti: The Contest for Healing Power*, by Paul Brodwin (Cambridge UK: Cambridge University Press, 1996, cloth £50.00, paper £17.95) [D—e V—n]; *Jamaica Genesis: Religion and the Politics of Moral Orders*, by Diane J. Austin-Broos (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1997, cloth US\$ 50.00, paper US\$ 19.95) [J—n W. P—s]; and *Merengue: Dominican Music and Dominican Identity*, by Paul Austerlitz (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1997, cloth US\$ 54.95, paper US\$ 19.95) [L—s W—n].

We turn now to publications which, for a variety of other reasons, are not being given full reviews in the journal. First, literature (including, of course, only those volumes that have been sent to the journal by their publishers). *The Farming of Bones* (New York: Soho Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 23.00), Edwidge Danticat's luminous historical novel about the Trujillo regime's 1937 massacre of Haitians, is a triumph – sweet, melancholy, and written with the firm voice of truth. Antonio Benítez-Rojo's *A View from the Mangrove* (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 24.95) is a variegated set of Caribbean stories, with settings ranging from sixteenth-century Mexico to Revolutionary Saint-Domingue to contemporary Cuba, told in a virtuosic variety of narrative styles – a genuine pleasure to read. *True & False Romances: Macho Latin Meets His Match*, by Ana Lydia Vega (New York: Serpent's Tail, 1994, paper US\$ 10.39), is the first collection in English of this Puerto Rican

author's deft short stories (plus a novella), playing with the varieties of genre fiction to comment on contemporary Puerto Rican gender wars.

Three literary anthologies have reached us. *They Came in Ships: An Anthology of Indo-Guyanese Prose and Poetry* (Leeds UK: Peepal Tree Press, 1998, paper US\$ 24.95), edited by Joel Benjamin, Lakshmi Kallicharan, Ian McDonald & Lloyd Searwar, is a valuable collection, drawing on novels, short stories, essays, and poems that relate to the East Indian experience in Guyana, arranged chronologically and culminating with the mid-twentieth-century flowering of writings by Indo-Guyanese themselves. *The Whistling Bird: Women Writers of the Caribbean*, edited by Elaine Campbell & Pierrette Frickey (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1998, paper US\$ 22.95), intended as "a book of celebration," is a perhaps necessarily thin sampling of fiction, poetry, and drama in English (some in translation), arranged alphabetically by island of origin. And the sixteen short stories in *Cubana: Contemporary Fiction by Cuban Women* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 26.00), edited by Mirta Yáñez, constitute a vibrant selection in English from *Estatuas de Sal*, published in Cuba in 1996, focusing on questions of feminism, consciousness, and identity, and revealing much about daily life under Castro.

The French Antilles continue their remarkable literary production. In *Desirada* (Paris: Robert Laffont, 1997, paper 129 FF), which was awarded the 1997 Prix Carbet de la Caraïbe, Maryse Condé traces the lives of three generations of women, from la Désirade to Paris to Boston, sharing lies, secrets, multiple relationships, and a rich mixture of tenderness, disappointment, and bitterness – a cosmopolitan novel, staunchly woman-centered, which breaks the mold of the Creolist prize-winners that preceded it. Appearing simultaneously (same price, same publisher) is Condé's, *Pays Mêlé*, a series of short stories with similar range. Patrick Chamoiseau's *L'esclave vieil homme et le molosse* (Paris: Gallimard, 1997, paper 80 FF) is a haunting tale of Old Man Slave who one day maroons and the beastly hound who pursues him through the Martiniquan wilderness; in magical language, interspersed with snippets from Glissant, Chamoiseau has produced what we find his most powerful writing since *Chronique des sept misères*. Speaking of which, *Elmire des sept bonheurs* (Paris: Gallimard, 1998, paper 130 FF), Chamoiseau's latest, with photos by Jean-Luc Laguarigue, is an homage to the Saint-Étienne distillery in Gros Morne, expressed through the author's homogenizing, imagino-poetic ventriloquism of "an old laborer," apparently built in some way (we are never told how or in what form) upon the oral histories of the place maintained by long-term workers – coffee-table writing to match the coffee-table photos. And Marie-Reine de Jaham, Martinique's best-selling *béké* writer, has now produced a two-volume historical romance / dynastic

saga, *L'or des îles* (Paris: Robert Laffont, 1996, paper 139 FF) and *Le sang du volcan* (same publisher, 1997, paper 129 FF) for the apparently insatiable hexagonal market.

In 1854, Trinidadian Maxwell Philip published what appears to be the first Anglo-Caribbean novel, *Emmanuel Appadocca; or, Blighted Life: A Tale of the Boucaniers*, now reprinted and ably edited by Selwyn R. Cudjoe & William E. Cain (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1997, cloth US\$ 60.00, paper US\$ 17.95), who help contextualize it in relation to English and American literary production on the eve of the U.S. Civil War. *The History of Mary Prince, A West Indian Slave, Related by Herself*, edited by Moira Ferguson (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1997, paper US\$ 14.95), is an augmented edition of the 1993 version, with a new introduction and several interesting appendixes relating to current debates about slavery in Bermuda. From the contemporary Anglophone Caribbean we have *Virgin's Triangle*, by Kevin Baldeosingh (Oxford UK: Heinemann, 1997, paper £5.99), a light, comic look at contemporary Trini lifestyles, and *Prash and Ras*, two novellas by N.D. Williams (Leeds UK: Peepal Tree Press, 1997, paper £6.99) – the unconvincing *Ras* is in the form of the diary of a month in the life of a young German woman who goes to Jamaica to find herself, and ends up (predictably) among some Rasta brethren, while the rather more successful *Prash* describes the travails of a Guyanese family who migrate to the Bronx.

In his posthumously published *Paulina's hemelvaart: Surinaamse verhalen* (Amsterdam: Bert Bakker, 1997, paper NLG 29.90), Herman Wekker retells stories remembered from his youth in Paramaribo, ranging from tales of talking animals and spirits told him by his Arawak grandmother to accounts of slave rebellion on the Upper Cottica that lie deep in Creole oral tradition. From Laetitia Boeken in Rotterdam we have received an apparently random selection from the numerous lightweight novels of Suriname-born Don Walther Donner – *Het bloed kruipt...*, (1997, translated by the author from his *The Shadow of the Past*), *Zeg nooit nooit (Kroniek van een verwoest leven): Een Caraïbisch drama* (1998, which seems to have originated in a 1991 publication called *Never Ever Say Never (a thriller)*, published in Costa Rica), *The Conspiracy: An Entertainment* (1995), and *The Politicians* (n.d., with an “international best seller” stamp on the jacket). *Eigen richting*, by Jan van Hout (Arnhem: Ellessy, 1997, paper NLG 32.50), is another Dutch thriller set in Suriname that gives, in a glossary, such helpful explanations as that “Djuka's” are “an Indian tribe.”

Finally, we note the recent translation of two Caribbean-based novels: Patrick Chamoiseau's *Solibo Magnificent* (New York: Pantheon, 1997, cloth US\$ 23.00) manages to capture in English something of the extra-

vagant French-Creole wordplay of the 1988 original, and Richard & Sally Price's *Die Instrumente der Fälscher* (Hamburg: Ernst Kabel Verlag, 1998) invites German readers to ponder the enigmas of art forgery in the Guianas.

For younger readers, *Antia Hulandes mirá pa wowo di mucha*, by Marie Wijk (Meppel: Editorial Edu'Actief, 1997, cloth NLG 27.50), is illustrated with wonderful children's drawings and provides a fine introduction to Papiamentu; and *Anansi tussen god en duivel* (Rotterdam: Lemniscaat, 1997, cloth NLG 34.50) is veteran storyteller Noni Lichtveld's latest contribution, in Dutch and with colorful illustrations, to the ever expanding saga of the Atlantic world's greatest trickster, here caught playing four-hands piano as well as coaching a football team.

Works of literary criticism that we are otherwise unable to review include several relating to Cuba: *Guillermo Cabrera Infante: Two Islands, Many Worlds*, by Raymond D. Souza (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1996, paper US\$ 14.95), a fast-paced literary biography based in part on interviews with the author; *Cuban-American Literature of Exile: From Person to Persona* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 45.00, paper US\$ 19.50), in which Isabel Alvarez Borland explores the ways diasporic Cuban writers – Cabrera Infante, Reinaldo Arenas, Cristina Garcia, and others – have managed the shift of language and cultures in their fictions of exile and displacement; and *Dance Between Two Cultures: Latino Caribbean Literature Written in the United States*, by William Luis (Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1997, cloth US\$ 39.95), a rich and lively analysis of poetry, stories, and novels by writers from (or with roots in) Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic – an important work.

The appearance of literary criticism relating to Francophone works continues apace. *Littératures francophones. II. Les Amériques: Haïti, Antilles-Guyane, Québec*, by Jack Corzani, Léon-François Hoffmann & Marie-Lyne Piccione (Paris: Belin, 1998, paper n.p.), is more than simply an excellent summary of the literary history of each territory with numerous exemplary texts, for it expresses (sometimes with sly wit) forceful opinions on movements such as “la créolité.” *Conversations with Maryse Condé*, by Françoise Pfaff (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1996, paper US\$ 15.00) is a translation of an excellent 1993 French book which consisted of interviews between 1981 and 1991, augmented here by a 1994 interview discussing two of Condé's more recent works. *The African and Caribbean Historical Novel in French: A Quest for Identity*, by Paschal B. Kyiiripuo Kyoore (New York: Peter Lang, 1996, cloth US\$ 46.95), is a plodding study that considers historical novels against a background of *négritude* ideology, and includes chapters on “revalorizations” of the figure of the maroon in the novels of Léonard Sainville and Édouard

Glissant. *Une branche emportée par le vent: Franstalige literatuur uit de Cariben*, edited by Aart G. Broek, Herman G. van Genderen, Pamela H. v.d. Poel-Cassé, Tineke A.J. Pruis-Groot & Christa M. Roose-Weijer (Curaçao: Carilexis [Postbus 4221, Curaçao, Ned. Antillen], 1997, paper NLG 31.00), is a nice collection of text excerpts in French and Creole, with Dutch introductions and annotations, designed as a preliminary entree for Dutch speakers to Francophone Caribbean literature. *Le folklore et la littérature orale créole dans l'oeuvre de Simone Schwarz-Bart (Guadeloupe)*, by Kathleen Gyssels (Brussels: Koninklijke Academie voor Overzeese Wetenschappen, 1997, paper n.p.), is an insightful sixty-odd-page pamphlet reworking aspects of the author's 1996 dissertation. *Paradoxes of French Caribbean Theatre: An Annotated Checklist of Dramatic Works – Guadeloupe, Guyane, Martinique from 1900*, by Bridget Jones & Sita E. Dickson Littlewood (London: Department of Modern Languages, Roehampton Institute, n.d., paper £5.00), is a useful checklist of the often ephemeral (because usually unpublished) plays written and produced in the French Antilles during the twentieth century. *Mythologie du métissage*, by Roger Toumson (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 1998, paper 138 FF), is an erudite historical-philosophical-literary analysis of the concept of métissage, beginning with "the dialogue between Oedipus and the Sphinx," laboriously working its way through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, all building toward an indirect critique of the *créolistes* (none of whom are mentioned by name) and the contemporary "roman créolitaire."

We've received a mini-shelf of books that focus on Jamaica. *Chanting Down Babylon: The Rastafari Reader*, edited by Nathaniel Samuel Murrell, William David Spencer & Adrian Anthony McFarlane (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 69.95, paper US\$ 29.95), is an excellent anthology, with extensive bibliography – an important source book for Caribbeanists. *Reggae Routes: The Story of Jamaican Music*, by Kevin O'Brien Chang & Wayne Chen (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1998, paper US\$ 19.95), is a heavily illustrated popular history of the subject written "from a Jamaican point of view." *Cattle and I: An Autobiography*, by T.P. Lecky (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1996, cloth US\$ 39.95), centers on cattle-breeding but contains a good bit about class, color, and the inner workings of Jamaican society during much of the twentieth century. *Drumblair: Memories of a Jamaican Childhood*, by Rachel Manley (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1996, cloth US\$ 20.00, paper US\$ 15.95), provides a revealing child's-eye view of the author's father, Michael, and particularly of her grandparents, Norman and Edna, in the years surrounding independence. And *A Man Divided: Michael Garfield Smith, Jamaican Poet and Anthropologist 1921-1993*, by Douglas Hall (Kingston: The Press University of the West Indies, 1997,

paper US\$ 15.00), is an insightful biography of the prolific scholar who, more than any other Caribbeanist, relentlessly championed the plural society thesis; the book is laced with extracts from Smith's poetry and is complemented by a bibliography of his work.

Various books on Cuba merit brief mention. *Cuba at the Crossroads*, by Fidel Castro (Melbourne: Ocean Press, 1996, paper n.p.), is a collection of speeches between 1994 and 1996. *CIA Targets Fidel: Secret 1967 CIA Inspector General's Report on Plots to Assassinate Fidel Castro* (Melbourne: Ocean Press, 1996, paper \$ 9.56), presents the "Secret Eyes Only" report, declassified (but with deletions) in 1994, describing the use of everything from chemically-treated cigars, to a powder that was to be deposited in Fidel's shoes (when they were put out to be shined at night) to make his beard fall out, to a skin-diving suit given him as a gift and treated with chemical weapons containing tuberculosis bacilli, to an explosives-filled spectacularly beautiful seashell he might pick up off the seabed on one of his diving expeditions – and the Mafia is never far offstage. Could it possibly be true? *Cuba Today: The Slow Demise of Castroism, with a Preamble for Spaniards*, by Carlos Alberto Montaner (Madrid: Fundación para el Análisis y los Estudios Sociales, 1996, paper n.p.), offers a collection of this Cuban-born anti-Castro journalist's recent newspaper articles. *Canada-Cuba Relations: The Other Good Neighbor Policy*, by John M. Kirk & Peter McKenna (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1997, cloth US\$ 49.95), provides an excellent analysis of the ways Canada has, despite considerable pressure from the United States, steered its own course in relations with Castro's Cuba. *Presencia castellana en el "Ejército Libertador Cubano" 1895-1898*, by Juan A. Blanco Rodríguez & Coralía Alonso Valdés (Salamanca: Junta de Castilla y León, 1996, paper n.p.), analyzes the contributions of men from Castilla and León – as opposed to Spaniards more generally – to the struggle for Cuban independence. *Cuba and the United States: A Chronological History*, by Jane Franklin (Melbourne: Ocean Press, 1997, paper US\$ 21.95), is an updated version, running through 1995, of the author's 1992 *The Cuban Revolution and the United States: A Chronological History* – this remains a very useful sourcebook. *Cuba: Talking about Revolution – Conversations with Juan Antonio Blanco*, by Medea Benjamin (Melbourne: Ocean Press, 1997, paper £ 7.95), is a reprint of a 1994 book plus one additional interview. *Guerrilla Warfare*, by Che Guevara, edited by Brian Loveman & Thomas M. Davies, Jr. (Wilmington DE: Scholarly Resources, 1997, cloth US\$ 55.00, paper US\$ 21.95), is the third edition of this 1985 work, which groups Che's 1960 classic with two later essays, "Guerrilla Warfare: A Method" (1963) and "Message to the Tricontinental" (1967).

We were unable to secure reviewers for several books on Cuba, including three written from a U.S. perspective: *Cuba: Clearing Perilous Waters?*, by Edward Gonzalez (Santa Monica CA: Rand, 1996, paper US\$ 15.00), which was prepared for the Office of the Secretary of Defense; *The Cuban Missile Crisis: The Struggle over Policy*, by Roger Hilsman (Westport CT: Greenwood, 1996, cloth US\$ 45.00), which has a blurb by Senator Edward Kennedy; and *The United States and Cuba under Reagan and Shultz: A Foreign Service Officer Reports*, by Kenneth N. Skoug, Jr. (Westport CT: Praeger, 1996, cloth US\$ 57.95), former Coordinator of Cuban Affairs in the U.S. State Department. No one agreed to review *Rumba: Dance and Social Change in Contemporary Cuba*, by Yvonne Daniel (Bloomington: University of Indiana Press, 1995, cloth US\$ 29.95, paper US\$ 12.95), or *Transición y transacción: La revista cubana Casa de las Américas (1960-1976)*, by Nadia Lie (Leuven, Belgium: Leuven University Press, 1996, paper US\$ 30.00). Nor could we find a willing reviewer for two German works about recent history and current prospects for the island: *Kuba Zwischen Plan und Markt: Die Transformation zur "dualen Wirtschaft" seit 1985*, by Knut Henkel (Hamburg: Lit Verlag, 1996, paper DM 34.80), and *Kuba: Der lange Abschied von einem Mythos*, by Hans-Jürgen Burchardt (Stuttgart: Schmetterling, 1996, paper n.p.). A more recent Dutch-language work covering much of the same ground, though intended for a more general audience, is *De gok van Fidel: Cuba tussen socialisme en kapitalisme?*, by Marc Vandepitte (Berchem-Antwerp: EPO, 1998, paper NLG 38.00).

We have received several publications on the Netherlands Antilles. Three books by J. Hartog (each published in 1997 in cloth at Zaltbommel by Uitgeverij Europese Bibliotheek and priced at NLG 29.90), which one must suppose to be definitive about local forts and earthworks in the Netherlands Antilles, are filled with photos, plans, and maps: *De forten, verdedigingswerken en geschutstellingen van Curaçao en Bonaire: Van Van Walbeeck tot Wouters, 1634-1942*; *De forten, verdedigingswerken en geschutstellingen van Sint Maarten en Saint Martin: Van Jan Claeszen tot Willem Rink, 1631-1803*; and *De forten, verdedigingswerken en geschutstellingen van Sint Eustatius en Saba: Van Pieter van Corselles tot Abraham Heyliger, 1636-1785*. In *Carnival in Aruba: History and Meaning in Aruba's Bacchanal* (Amherst NY: Cenda Publications, 1997, paper US\$ 15.00), anthropologist Victoria M. Razak offers a brisk illustrated runthrough of the history of the island's carnival, focusing on its stock characters, masquerade groups, and music. *Fighting Money Laundering: With Comments on the Legislations of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba*, by Cees Schaap (Cambridge: Kluwer Law International, 1998, paper US\$ 57.00), is a technical guide designed "for the staff of financial institutions, government personnel, accountants,

and the legal profession" in the fight against sophisticated laundering practices of money that has been obtained from criminal activities. *Catalogus prentbriefkaarten van Curaçao: Uitgevers en uitgaven van 1898 tot 1950*, by Ben Smit (Curaçao: Ben Smit, 1996, paper n.p.), presents more than one hundred historic postcards of Curaçao. *The Nature of Saba: Ten Years of Conservation Work*, text by Tom van 't Hof, photographs by Dos and Bertie Winkel (Saba: Saba Conservation Foundation, 1997, cloth NLG 75.00), offers coffee-table-quality photo-essays mainly depicting the flora and fauna of the island. And *The Fruit of Her Hands: Saba Lace History and Patterns*, by Eric A. Eliason (Saba: Saba Foundation for the Arts, 1997, paper n.p.), is a little gem of history and photodocumentation about the locally important art of drawn-thread lace making.

Some miscellaneous works on Caribbean economic development. *Economic Policy and the Environment: The Caribbean Experience*, edited by Mark D. Griffith & Bishnodat Persaud (Mona, Jamaica: Centre for Environment and Development, University of the West Indies, 1995, paper US\$ 15.00), is a broad-ranging series of papers from a 1994 conference in St. Kitts. *Poverty, Empowerment and Social Development in the Caribbean*, edited by Norman Girvan (Mona, Jamaica: Canoe Press University of the West Indies, 1997, paper US\$ 12.00), is a collection of papers from a 1995 conference in Barbados. *Problems and Challenges in Modelling and Forecasting Caribbean Economies*, edited by Shelton Nicholls, Hyginus Leon & Patrick Watson (St. Augustine, Trinidad: Caribbean Centre for Monetary Studies, 1996, paper n.p.), is a series of highly technical papers presented in 1994 in Jamaica. *The Debt Dilemma*, by Horace A. Bartilow (London: Macmillan, 1997, paper £14.95), analyzes the 1980s conflicts of interest between the IMF and the United States in Caribbean policy, as well as the constraints faced by Caribbean debtor nations. *Why Workers Won't Work. The Worker in a Developing Economy: A Case Study of Jamaica*, by Kenneth L. Carter (London: Macmillan, 1997, paper £14.95), is a study written for "practitioners of human resource management" and analyzes workers' dissatisfactions and their distrust of employers which lead them to underproduce. *Metayage, Capitalism and Peasant Development in St Lucia 1840-1957*, by Peter Adrien (Kingston, Jamaica: Canoe Press University of the West Indies, 1997, paper US\$ 10.00), explores the emergence of a "capitalist" peasant class engaged in export agriculture from a post-emancipation form of sharecropping in Dennery. *Land, Sea and Human Effort in the Caribbean*, edited by Beate M. W. Ratter & Wolf-Dietrich Sahr (Hamburg: Institut für Geographie der Universität Hamburg, 1997, paper DM 45.00), presents varied papers from a 1996 International Geographical Congress symposium. *El Primer Foro de la Sociedad Civil del Gran Caribe:*

Documentos (Caracas: INVESP, 1998, paper n.p.) includes various documents from the 1997 Cartagena conference on pan-Caribbean regional cooperation. *Evaluation, Learning and Caribbean Development*, edited by Deryck R. Brown (Mona, Jamaica: Canoe Press University of the West Indies, 1998, paper n.p.), presents case studies from throughout the Caribbean written by students in the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences (UWI). *Teodoro Moscoso and Puerto Rico's Operation Bootstrap*, by A.W. Maldonado (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1997, cloth US\$ 49.95), a quasi-hagiographic work, will be of interest particularly to true believers in "the Puerto Rican miracle." And *Ideology and Caribbean Integration*, by Ian Boxill (Mona, Jamaica: Canoe Press University of the West Indies, 1997, paper US\$ 10.00), reprints his 1993 work, which analyzes the deleterious effects of a weak regional ideology on Caribbean integration.

Turning to linguistics, we welcome two scholarly books devoted to African influences on creoles and other vernacular speech in the Americas. *América negra: Panorámica actual de los estudios lingüísticos sobre variedades hispanas, portuguesas y criollas*, edited by Matthias Perl & Armin Schwegler (Frankfurt am Main: Vervuert, 1998, paper n.p.), presents studies by creolists of Caribbean Spanish, Papiamentu, Palenquero, and vernacular Portuguese from the perspective of African influences, and *Huellas etno-sociolingüísticas bozales y afrocubanas*, by Luis A. Ortiz López (Frankfurt am Main: Vervuert, 1998, paper n.p.), offers an analysis of African influences on Cuban speech. *Englishes Around the World (1: General Studies, British Isles, North America – Studies in Honour of Manfred Görlach; 2: Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Australasia – Studies in Honour of Manfred Görlach)*, edited by Edgar W. Schneider (Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 1997, cloth n.p.), includes a half dozen varied chapters on particularities of Caribbean language use. *A Learner's Dictionary of Haitian Creole*, by Albert Valdman, Charles Pooser & Rozevel Jean-Baptiste (Bloomington: Indiana University Creole Institute, 1996, cloth US\$ 45.00), is designed as a supplement to the available dictionaries that go in the opposite direction (from Haitian Creole to English) and contain a greater number of total entries – this volume provides some 8000 English entries and sub-entries, with nicely contextualized Haitian Creole translations. *Dictionnaire du français régional des Antilles*, by Sylviane Telchid (Paris: Editions Bonneton, 1997, cloth n.p.), attempts to catalogue the non-standard uses of French (often spilling over from Creole) that occur when Antilleans speak French. And *Stemmen uit het verleden: "Indiaanse woorden in het Papiamentu,"* by Gerard van Buurt & Sidney M. Joubert (Alphen aan den Rijn: Van Buurt BoekProducties, 1997, cloth NLG 75.00), analyzes the Amerindian origins of (and offers historical documentation for) some 200 words and 150 toponyms in Papiamentu

(many of which appear in the speech of the rest of the Caribbean as well).

As happens each year, we have received a number of more general books that include at least some materials relevant to the Caribbean, and we list them here. *The Last Colonies*, by Robert Aldrich & John Connell (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998, cloth £40.00), sheds sometimes surprising light in a broad comparative context on the specificities of the French DOMs, the remaining Dutch and British Caribbean territories, and Puerto Rico, by defining "colonies" liberally and taking a truly global perspective on the varieties of political dependence. *Post-colonial Literatures in English: History, Language, Theory*, by Dennis Walder (Oxford: Blackwell, 1998, cloth £45.00, paper £13.99), provides a thoughtful introduction to the burgeoning field of postcolonial literary theory, with substantial sections on Anglophone Caribbean writers such as Naipaul, Brathwaite, and Walcott. *AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean*, edited by George C. Bond, John Kreniske, Ida Susser & Joan Vincent (Boulder CO: Westview Press, 1997, cloth US\$ 56.00, paper US\$ 22.00), based on 1991 research papers, includes a chapter each on Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. *Gatherings in Diaspora: Religious Communities and the New Immigration*, edited by R. Stephen Warner & Judith G. Wittner (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 59.95, paper US\$ 24.95), has one chapter on Haitians and another on (mainly Jamaican) Rastas in New York City. *Beyond Praetorianism: The Latin American Military in Transition*, edited by Richard L. Millett & Michael Gold-Bliss (Coral Gables FL: North-South Center Press, 1996, paper US\$ 24.95), includes a chapter on the armed forces in Cuba. *Global Diasporas: An Introduction*, by Robin Cohen (London: UCL Press Limited, 1997, paper £12.95), is a useful review of the history of "diaspora" as a concept and an analysis and typology of a number of cases. *Racism in a Racial Democracy: The Maintenance of White Supremacy in Brazil* (New Brunswick NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1997, paper US\$ 17.00), by France Winddance Twine, despite its geographical locus, is a book with implications for the (particularly Hispanic and French) Caribbean, in demonstrating how racism – both institutionalized and personal – is (unconsciously) perpetuated as "common sense" through ordinary discourse and practice.

A number of miscellaneous Caribbeanist works merit notice here. *Op zoek naar Surinaamse normen: Nagelaten geschriften van Jan Voorhoeve (1950-1961)*, selected, introduced, and edited by Peter Meel (Utrecht: CLACS & IBS, 1997, paper NLG 75.00), is a 600-plus-page labor of love, a work of real importance to anyone interested in Suriname studies and one with important implications for Afro-American studies more generally. This collection of previously unpublished letters, lectures, articles, and reports, with excellent introduction, bibliographies and indexes,

underlines the theoretical and methodological influence of this personally modest missionary linguist and ethnographer. As Meel justly notes in his introduction, the influence of Voorhoeve's work regarding the balance of African and New World contributions to the development of Sranan, and his insistence on the dynamic processes of creolization in Suriname, led quite directly into ongoing rethinkings of the Herskovitsian legacy (particularly Mintz and Price's *The Birth of African-American Culture*) and in largely unacknowledged ways continues to influence our own work today (see, for example, the final chapter of Price & Price, *Maroon Arts*, Beacon Press, 1999).

We have been unable to find a reviewer for *West Indies Accounts: Essays on the History of the British Caribbean and the Atlantic Economy in Honour of Richard Sheridan*, edited by Roderick A. McDonald (Barbados: The Press University of the West Indies, 1996, cloth n.p.), a Festschrift for Richard Sheridan that includes contributions by many of the heavyweights of Anglophone Caribbean history.

América Latina y el Caribe anglófono: ¿Hacia una nueva relación?, edited by Andrés Serbin (Buenos Aires: Nuevohacer, 1997, paper n.p.), presents papers from a 1996 conference in Argentina devoted to changing relations between South American countries and the Anglophone Caribbean. *El ocaso de las islas: El Gran Caribe frente a los desafíos globales y regionales*, by Andrés Serbin (Caracas: Nueva Sociedad, 1996, paper n.p.), considers prospects for regional integration in the face of shifting global politico-economic realities. *Caribe 2000: Definiciones, identidades y culturas regionales y/o nacionales*, edited by Lowell Fiet & Janette Becerra (San Juan: University of Puerto Rico, 1997, paper n.p.), is a refreshingly original series of papers on Caribbean identity, aesthetics, and performance (music, poetry, theater), stemming from the ongoing Rockefeller Humanities Program at U.P.R.

Restavec: From Haitian Slave Child to Middle-Class American (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 25.00, paper US\$ 12.95) is the autobiography of Jean-Robert Cadet, who spent his childhood as one of an estimated 250,000 *restavecs* (poor children in the unpaid service of well-to-do Haitian families), emigrated to the United States, and, despite racist barriers, educated himself; he now teaches high school in Cincinnati. *Fifty Years of Change in the Caribbean/Cincuenta años de cambio en el Caribe*, by Thomas Mathews (Dominican Republic: Amigo del Hogar, 1996, paper US\$ 10.00), is a self-published, bilingual, supremely "anecdotal autobiography of my fifty years in the Caribbean" by a former director of the Institute of Caribbean Studies at U.P.R.

Fanon's Dialectic of Experience, by Ato Sekyi-Otu (Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 1996, paper US\$ 19.95), represents what the author calls an "Africanist-situationist" reading of the Martiniquan thinker,

an attempt to counter what he sees as "the almost exclusive concern of recent Fanon studies with the diaspora of the metropolis." *Citoyenneté et sujétion aux Antilles francophones: Post-esclavage et aspiration démocratique*, by Mickaëlla Périna (Paris: L'Harmattan, 1997, paper n.p.), won Martinique's 1998 Prix Frantz Fanon for the author's comparative analysis of the differentially stunted political development of Haiti and the French Antilles.

La nación soñada: Cuba, Puerto Rico y Filipinas ante el 98, edited by Consuelo Naranjo, Miguel A. Puig-Samper & Luis Miguel García Mora (Madrid: Ediciones Doce Calles, 1996, paper Pts 5.850), presents 893 tight-packed pages of proceedings, by some sixty authors, of a 1995 conference in Aranjuez. *La lucha por el sufragio femenino en Puerto Rico 1896-1935*, by María de Fátima & Barceló Miller (Río Piedras PR: Huracán, 1997, paper n.p.), is a careful, well-documented study of the women's suffrage movement in Puerto Rico, which culminated in universal suffrage in 1935. *Cadenas de esclavitud ... y de solidaridad: Esclavos y libertos en San Juan, siglo XIX*, by Raúl Mayo Santana, Mariano Negrón Portillo & Manuel Mayo López (San Juan PR: Centro de Investigaciones Sociales UPR, 1997, paper n.p.), adds one new chapter to two recently published journal articles concerning aspects of urban slavery in nineteenth-century San Juan.

Family in the Caribbean: Themes and Perspectives, by Christine Barrow (Kingston/Oxford: Ian Randle/James Currey, 1996, paper US\$ 20.00), is a massive hybrid of a book combining the author's reviews of the literature relevant to such themes as plural society/creole society, gender roles, and methodology, with short excerpts from many of the key articles and books in the field. *The Young Colonials: A Social History of Education in Trinidad and Tobago, 1834-1939*, by Carl C. Campbell (Kingston: The Press University of the West Indies, 1996, paper J\$ 875.75), is a serious reprise, expanded, of his *Colony and Nation: A Short History of Education in Trinidad and Tobago* (1992). *Potions, Poisons, and Panaceas: An Ethnobotanical Study of Montserrat*, by David Eric Brussel (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 69.95), is an excellent illustrated compendium of the useful plants of Montserrat and a loving homage to the detailed knowledge that its inhabitants have built up over the centuries – how much otherwise survives the volcano? *Rastafari and Other African-Caribbean World-views*, edited by Barry Chevannes (New Brunswick NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 48.00, paper US\$ 17.95), is an unchanged reprint of its 1995 Macmillan namesake.

De Belizaanse Garifuna: De contouren van een etnische gemeenschap in Midden-Amerika, by Carel Roessingh (Amsterdam: Thela Thesis, 1998, paper NLG 45.00), a Utrecht dissertation in anthropology, focuses on

ethnicity among the Garifuna of Belize. *Inpakken onder schijnwerpers: De prijs van het Surinaamse leger*, by Math Verstegen (Amsterdam: Van Soeren, 1997, paper NLG 36.00), recounts from a Dutch perspective the early 1970s decolonization negotiations, particularly concerning the future Suriname military. Finally, *The History of the Caribbean Telegraphs before the First World War*, by Jorma Ahvenainen (Helsinki: Suomalainen Tiedeakatemia, 1996, paper n.p.), presents everything you might ever have wanted to know about that particular subject.

Two major reference works on world slavery have appeared (and we hasten to add that we have copies only because R.P. contributed articles to each – on Maroons, Slave Republics, and related topics): the *Macmillan Encyclopedia of World Slavery*, edited by Paul Finkelman & Joseph Miller (New York: Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1998, cloth US\$ 195.00), 1065 pages in two volumes, and *A Historical Guide to World Slavery*, edited by Seymour Drescher & Stanley L. Engerman (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998, cloth US\$ 65.00), 429 pages in a single volume. Considering the usual hazards of the genre, both of these works are surprisingly successful, with truly substantive entries written by acknowledged authorities. It is difficult to compare the publications directly, as they cut up the relevant history of the world – from ancient Greek and Roman slavery to Nazi slave labor – somewhat differently, but on the whole the Oxford volume tends to have longer entries and the Macmillan volumes shorter (but more numerous) ones. These two publications nicely complement one another and are strongly recommended for students from high school well onward.

Suriname: A Bibliography 1989-1995, by Irene Rolfes (Leiden: KITLV Press, 1997, paper NLG 60.00), takes off from where the three previous volumes published by KITLV in 1972, 1980, and 1990 left off, covering more than 3000 recent books, articles, dissertations, and other publications received by the library at the KITLV, the most complete current collection of Surinameana in the world. Despite the author's admirable diligence, the compilation is necessarily incomplete, since it lists (without annotation) only those items actually received by the library, thereby missing many articles in non-area-specific journals.

No one was willing to review *General History of the Caribbean, Volume III: The Slave Societies of the Caribbean*, edited by Franklin W. Knight (London: UNESCO Publishing & Macmillan, 1997, cloth £40.00, paper £25.00), which has been under construction for over a decade, for by the time it finally appeared many of its chapters, though solid, were already out of date. And the chapter on "Maroon communities in the circum-Caribbean" could hardly be considered as other than an embarrassing example of petty personal politics – the sources used on Suriname, home to the circum-Caribbean's largest and longest lasting

Maroon communities, range from unpublished manuscripts by Silvia de Groot to the here mis-titled dissertation of John Lenoir (claiming that he worked with Saramakas, not Paramakas), but there is not a single mention of the work of Chris de Beet, Kenneth Bilby, Wim Hoogbergen, Sally Price, Bonno Thoden van Velzen or Ineke van Wetering who have, collectively, during the past three decades, done so much to make the history of these societies the best documented of all New World Maroon communities. And the editorial acrobatics performed in order to avoid any mention at all of *First-Time* or *Alabi's World* are indeed impressive. As the title of historian James Axtell's recent book put it: "The pleasures of academe"...

We note several books in which visuals play a key role: *Suriname door het oog van Julius Muller: Fotografie 1882-1902*, by Steven Vink (Amsterdam: KIT Press, 1996, paper NLG 29.00), presents some of the wonderful images of Paramaribo and outlying districts made in the final decades of the nineteenth century by Suriname photographer Julius Muller – a treasure. *Caribbean Baroque: Historic Architecture of the Spanish Antilles*, by Pamela Gosner (Pueblo CO: Passeggiatta Press, 1996, paper n.p.) is a monumental companion piece to her *Caribbean Georgian* (1982) on the non-Hispanic Caribbean, covering Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic, with numerous drawings of buildings great and small. In *Les épaves du volcan: Martinique 8 mai 1902, La catastrophe de Saint-Pierre* (Grenoble: Editions Glénat, 1997, cloth 260 FF), Claude Rives and Frédéric Denhez create a popular beau-livre, filled with underwater photos of ships sunk in the disaster, interspersed with observations and pictures of Saint-Pierre then and now – pop underwater archaeology and pop history combine in a non-book which originated as a reportage for the French TV show "Thalassa." *Des corps & des voix*, by Monchoachi (Marin, Martinique: Office Municipale de la Culture, 1998, paper n.p.), is a rather curious exhibition catalog, with texts in French by the well-known Creole-language poet and images that juxtapose old photos of Martinique and Guyane with those from Suriname (taken from *Afro-American Arts of the Suriname Rain Forest*); the whole has a mini-"Family of Man" feel about it.

Various guidebooks and other works of travel have come our way. Starting from home: *Les Antilles: Martinique, Guadeloupe* (Paris: Guides Gallimard, n.d., cloth 249 FF) is an unchanged combination of the lavish Gallimard guides to each island, written with the help of local university scholars, that we have reviewed in previous issues (see for example *NWIG* 69:139-40) – it suffers from the same combination of chauvinism and insouciance that we noted earlier, once again taking graphic images of Suriname without acknowledgment from Benoit, Stedman, and Bonaparte and purveying them as representing the specificities of the French Antillean past. *Martinique*, by Claude Morneau (Montreal: Ulysses, 1998,

third edition, paper US\$ 17.95), while workmanlike, largely accurate, and up-to-date, nonetheless contains a few howlers; e.g., breadfruit is glossed as “a large melon-like fruit.” *Martinique Dominique et Sainte-Lucie*, by Michel Mac Leod and Jean-Bernard Carillet (Paris: Lonely Planet, 1997, paper US\$ 18.95) presents a vaguely youth-culture, Lonely Planet version of travel, this time in French, briskly covering sights, sounds, and smells.

Virgin Islands Handbook, by Karl Luntta (Chico: Moon Publications, 1997, paper US\$ 13.95), is an unsurprising guidebook by a veteran travel writer, distinguished only by its appropriation (unacknowledged) of two Stedman/Blake Suriname images, one on the title page. *Eastern Caribbean in Focus: A Guide to the People, Politics and Culture*, by James Ferguson (London: Latin America Bureau, 1997, paper US\$ 12.95), though necessarily superficial, is socially conscious enough to be worth several standard guidebooks.

Reishandboek Suriname, by Tessa Leuwsha (Rijswijk: Elmar, 1997, paper NLG 34.50), written by a journalist with Suriname roots who now lives there, is well-meaning and fairly comprehensive, and didn't make us wince more than once every few pages. *Reishandboek Curaçao*, by Rien van der Helm (Rijswijk: Elmar, 1997, paper NLG 34.50), written by a prolific guidebook writer – on every place from “Arizona and Utah” to Jamaica – dishes out the fully expectable. *Caribische eilanden en Suriname*, by Monica van Geest (Utrecht: Kosmos, 1997, paper NLG 34.90), which devotes too little space to any one place or subject, claims that “everyone [in Suriname] speaks Dutch” and that “Marie Rose Josephine Tascher de la Pagerie [Empress Joséphine] is a woman of whom the inhabitants of Martinique are proud” – try either of these out on Dutch tourists visiting a Saramaka village or standing before Joséphine's long-since-decapitated statue in the center of Fort-de-France!

In *Enkele reis Paramaribo: Terug in Suriname* (Amsterdam: Bert Bakker, 1998, paper NLG 29.90), Iwan Brave, a Suriname-born journalist who re-migrated to his homeland, collects the mordant observations he wrote for the Dutch press between 1996 and 1998 – interesting comments on everything from race politics to day-to-day living, with an overwhelming sense of the continuing power of former dictator Bouterse. *Suriname: Een gids voor vrienden*, by Astrid H. Roemer & Gerlof Leistra (Amsterdam: De Arbeiderspers, 1997, paper NLG 29.90), is an intimate, bittersweet essay on Suriname as it was and is, covering gender relations, the arts, and a host of other topics.

Three journal issues merit notice. *Wadabagei (A Journal of the Caribbean and its Diaspora)* has published its inaugural issue (1998), including articles on migration and identity by Roy Bryce-Laporte and others, as well as book reviews – subscription address is Caribbean Research Center, Medgar Evers College, 1150 Carroll St, Brooklyn NY

11225. A stimulating special issue of *Plantation Society in the Americas* (volume 5, number 1, 1998), devoted to "who/what is creole?" and edited by A. James Arnold includes articles by, among others, Michel-Rolph Touillot and Silvio Torres-Saillant as well as an interview with Sidney W. Mintz. *Bridging Enigma: Cubans on Cuba* is a special issue of *The South Atlantic Quarterly* (96:1, winter 1997, sold separately for US\$ 12.00) edited by Ambrosio Fornet and covering contemporary theater, film, music, and literature.

We end, happily, with singing and cooking: *Peter Was a Fisherman: The 1939 Trinidad Field Recordings of Melville and Frances Herskovits, Vol I*, produced by Donald L. Hill with notes by Donald L. Hill, Maureen Warner-Lewis, John Cowley & Lise Winer (Cambridge MA: Rounder Records, 1998, CD), is a gem of a collection, with terrific explanatory notes. We are treated to a variety of sacred and secular songs recorded in Toco (the site of *Trinidad Village*) and at a Shango ceremony in Laventille (Port of Spain) that sound almost as if they could have been recorded yesterday. Bring on the next volumes! *Folk Songs of Barbados*, by Trevor Marshall, Peggy McGahey & Grace Thompson (Kingston: Ian Randle, 1996, paper US\$ 12.95), is a fine collection of seventy-two born-in-Barbados songs, each presented with music, words, and stories about its origin (commemorating scandals, jokes, celebrations, revenge) – together, the songs offer a bright window on the social history of the island. *If I Can Cook/You Know God Can*, by Ntozake Shange (Boston: Beacon, 1998, cloth US\$ 20.00), is part memoir, part poetry, part cookbook, and part historical fancy: "What did L'Ouverture, Pétion, and Dessalines share," she wonders, "for their victory dinner, realizing they were the first African nation, slave-free, in the New World?" *The Pepper Lady's Pocket Pepper Primer*, by Jean Andrews (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1998, paper US\$ 17.95), is a superb guide to the identification of all varieties of peppers, with excellent photos – a must for every thinking Caribbean cook. *Dorinda's Taste of the Caribbean: African-Influenced Recipes from the Islands*, by Dorinda Hafner (Berkeley: Ten Speed Press, 1996, paper US\$ 16.95), is the Ghanaian-born author's gift to food-lovers – 100+ mouth-watering recipes (from goat stew and okra soup to tickle-me-belly and conky) and tight-focus color photos of dishes from Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, T & T, and other islands. Equally glossy but considerably more upscale is *The Sugar Mill Caribbean Cookbook: Casual and Elegant Recipes Inspired by the Islands* (Boston MA: Harvard Common Press, 1996, cloth US\$ 29.95), by transplanted Californians Jinx and Jefferson Morgan, who have served as *Bon Appetit* columnists and now run "a small hotel for a few special people" on Tortola – if rum-glazed roast turkey breast with plantain and mango stuffing or smoked scallops with salsa and Dijon cream sound like your kind of

dish, we imagine it might be easier to visit Tortola than to whip it up in your own kitchen.

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