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BOOKSHELF 2003

"Perhaps this is the start of a golden age for the reviewer," said the *Times Literary Supplement* last fall, "an era in which a previously rather under-regarded skill might become highly prized and well rewarded. Already some critics are being asked to sign exclusive deals. Can it be long before experienced reviewers are involved in bidding wars and transfer fees, powerful agents and lucrative contracts?"¹

Would that such observations applied to *NWIG* and other scholarly journals! In last year's Bookshelf we wrote, "We can't be sure, but we do have the impression that fewer and fewer academics are taking the time to write book reviews (or even to answer requests to review a book)." The intervening months have not altered things – indeed, other book review editors have told us that they are experiencing similar difficulties. So, it is with very special gratitude that we acknowledge the generosity of those scholars who have taken the time to provide reviews for the *NWIG*, allowing the journal to continue its role as the premier site for reviews of Caribbean scholarship.

In this same vein, we are pleased to announce that this year's Caribbeanist Hall of Shame includes only three titles – works that have not been discussed in the journal because the scholars who agreed to review them have, despite reminder letters, neither provided a text nor relinquished the books so that we could assign them to someone else. As has become our custom, we indicate slack reviewers' names with both initial and final letters in an attempt to forestall false accusations and protect the reputations of the innocent.

- *Protestantism and Political Conflict in the Nineteenth-Century Hispanic Caribbean*, by Luis Martínez-Fernández (New Brunswick NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2002. xiii + 246 pp., paper US\$ 30.00) (F—o A. S—o)
- *Òsun across the Waters: A Yoruba Goddess in Africa and the Americas*, edited by Joseph M. Murphy & Mei-Mei Sanford (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2001. x + 274 pp., paper US\$ 29.95) (H—y J. D—I)

1. September 19, 2003, p. 16.

- *Working Slavery, Pricing Freedom*, edited by Verene A. Shepherd (New York: Palgrave, 2002. x + 538 pp., paper US\$ 22.95) (D—d V. T—n)

The following pages include a large number of books for which we were unable, after several tries (sometimes five or six!), to find a reviewer, as well as a smaller number of titles that did not seem to merit full review. We present them promiscuously, grouped in very rough categories, with occasional comments, in this year-end wrap-up.

It is our custom to begin with literary works (which by tradition do not receive full reviews in *NWIG*) and, since we are in Martinique, with that island's continuing rich production. Edouard Glissant's *Ormerod* (Paris: Gallimard, 2003, paper € 22.50) takes readers on a vertiginous ride through time, place, and language, moving outward from the vertical hills of Ste. Marie, the author's birthplace, with their Andean inflections (Morne Pérou), to the hills of eighteenth-century St. Lucia with its heroic Brigands led by Flore Bois Gaillard, but also taking in Maurice Bishop's revolution, betrayal, and death, the author's schooldays at the Lycée Schoelcher, and even the Mapuches and Cossacks, as well as a brief history of the guillotine and readings of Melville's novels, and moving between the ever-present *plage du Diamant* and the beaches and hills across the channel. Glissant positively sings the archipelagic Caribbean, in sentences that sometimes go on for pages, paying homage along the way to friends old and new. For fans of this *maître à penser*, there is much heady material (including numerous echoes of earlier imaginative works – as well as *Le discours antillais*) in the various peaks and valleys.

New novels have also been written by two of the self-proclaimed three musketeers of *créolité*: Raphaël Confiant has published the last of his “sugarcane trilogy,” *La dissidence: récit* (Paris: Ecriture, 2002, paper € 18.95), and Jean Bernabé his (masturbatory) first novel, *Le bailleur d'étincelles* (Paris: Ecriture, 2002, paper € 18.95), whose hero has not one but two unusually long and effective penises, which operate independently (or, rather, in alternance) of one another. And, from the only woman sometimes included in the *créolité* orbit, Guadeloupean Gisèle Pineau, a 1995 novel (*L'espérance-macadam*) has appeared in English translation – *Macadam Dreams* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003, paper US\$ 20.00) – recounting a woman's experience and memory of two hurricanes.

Three novels reprinted with excellent notes and comments in Macmillan's Caribbean Classics series: *Creoleana and: The Fair Barbadian and Faithful Black*, by J.W. Orderson (edited by John Gilmore) (Oxford: Macmillan Caribbean, 2002, paper £8.00), first published in 1842 and perhaps the first Caribbean novel written by a native of the region; *Lutchmee and Dilloo: A Study of West Indian Life*, by Edward Jenkins (edited by David Dabydeen) (Oxford UK: Macmillan Caribbean, 2003, paper £7.95), first published in

1877 and the earliest novel of Indo-Guyanese life; and *With Silent Tread*, by Frieda Cassin (edited by Evelyn O'Callaghan) (Oxford UK: Macmillan Caribbean, 2002, paper £8.00), first published in Antigua in the 1890s. *Busha's Mistress or Catherine the Fugitive: A Stirring Romance of the Days of Slavery in Jamaica*, by Cyrus Francis Perkins (edited by Paul E. Lovejoy, Verene A. Shepherd & David V. Trotman) (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2003, paper US\$ 16.95), written in the mid-nineteenth century and first published in 1911, presents a window on many aspects of Jamaican slave society and is here presented with extensive notes and commentary.

Turn Thanks, by Lorna Goodison (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1999, paper US\$ 13.95), is the seventh published collection by this acclaimed Jamaican poet. Two books by Monserrat-born E.A. Markham: *A Rough Climate* (London: Anvil Press Poetry, 2002, paper £8.95, US\$ 11.95), his seventh collection of poems which was shortlisted for the 2002 TS Eliot Prize, and *John Lewis & Co.: A Little Play with Interludes* (London: Anvil Press Poetry, 2003, paper £5.00, US\$ 7.95), a play within a poem (or vice-versa) with West Indian migrants evoking London and Paris. *Black Woman and Other Poems/Mujer negra y otros poemas*, by Nancy Morejón, translated by Jean Andrews (London: Mango Publishing, 2001, paper £9.99) is a rich Spanish/English facing-page collection of more than sixty poems, selected by the noted Cuban author.

St. Martin playwright Louie Laveist has brought out *The House That Jack Built and Other Plays* (Philipsburg, St. Martin: House of Nehisi Publishers, 2003, paper US\$ 15.00), a collection of three plays written in the 1990s and staged on several Caribbean islands, dealing with family relations, drugs, and other contemporary issues.

The Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing, edited by Peter Hulme & Tim Youngs (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002, cloth £45.00), is a stimulating compilation but contains only glancing references to the Caribbean. *Literary Occasions: Essays Including His 2001 Nobel Prize Lecture "Two Worlds"* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003, paper US\$ 24.00) gathers a miscellany of V.S. Naipaul's reflections on literature and writing. Finally, *Act of God: A Collection of Caribbean Short Stories*, edited by Undine Giuseppe (Oxford UK: Macmillan Caribbean, 2003, paper £5.45), is intended mainly for secondary-school use.

Leaving behind imaginative literature, we begin with the French Antilles and two works on Martinique. Raphaël Constant's *Quelques affaires de justice à la Martinique* (Case Pilote, Martinique: Editions Lafontaine, 2003, paper € 20.00) is a relentless but reasoned attack on continuing colonialism in the justice system. With barely controlled irony, Constant – a leading human rights lawyer – analyzes a number of local cases, some obscure and others better known, ranging from gendarmes hauling innocent families from their beds on anonymous tips that a St. Lucian (by local definition a

likely drug dealer) might be present to the jailing of alleged political terrorists (independentists). He shows clearly how the system works one way for white Creoles and their associates and for French people living in the island and quite another way for the mass of Martiniquans. Case after case (from summary expulsions of Haitian immigrants to the frequent decisions of state prosecutors to look the other way when they do not wish to bring certain kinds of people or companies to justice) show both why the rate of prosecution and incarceration in Martinique is twice that in France and why the rich and powerful are so infrequently brought to justice. *Sang mêlé: Les miens dans l'humaine condition*, by Emile Désormeaux (Lamentin, France: Editions Désormeaux, 2003, paper € 20.00) is at once a meditation on the human condition, from the perspective of a Martinique *mulâtre*, and a history of his ascendants since the eighteenth century, wrapped up in a pseudo-philosophical genre that only the French could have invented.

La pêche aux Antilles: Martinique et Guadeloupe, edited by Gilles Blanchet, Bertrand Gobert & Jean-Alfred Guérédrat (Paris: IRD Editions, 2002, paper € 27.00) is a varied, up-to-date collection covering all aspects of local fishing, from marine biology to economics, social organization, and belief systems; it's the best starting place for anyone interested in the problems and potentials of small-scale commercial fishing in the two islands. *Vichy in the Tropics: Pétain's National Revolution in Madagascar, Guadeloupe, and Indochina, 1940-1944*, by Eric T. Jennings (Stanford CA: Stanford University Press, 2001, cloth US\$ 55.00), provides an intriguing, comparative perspective on French colonialism, analyzing some of the ways that (local) culture and history make a difference. *Forms of Protest: Anti-Colonialism and Avant-Gardes in Africa, the Caribbean, and France*, by Phyllis Taoua (Portsmouth NH: Heinemann, 2002, paper US\$ 24.95), explores some of the long-range intellectual relationships among anti-colonial, avant-garde writers in the French empire (with the Caribbean largely represented by Césaire and Fanon). *Retour de Guyane*, by Léon-Gontran Damas (Paris: Jean-Michel Place, 2003, paper € 20.00), republishes this mordant, classic 1938 assessment of the colony, accompanied by a couple of Damas's contemporaneous journalistic pieces.

Several works on the Netherlands Antilles. *St Martin Yesterday Today*, by José Speetjens (Philipsburg, St. Martin: Foundation History St. Martin, 2003, cloth US\$ 85.00), is a luscious scrapbook of miscellaneous prose and color photos about the island's history, tourism, artists (including sojourner Romare Bearden), writers (claims are made on Derek Walcott, whose grandfather was from the island), hospitals, politicians, agriculture, stamps, and currency. *1963, A Landmark Year in St. Martin: A Retrospective Look/1963, Année charnière à Saint-Martin*, by Daniella-Pilot (Philipsburg, St. Martin: House of Nehisi Publishers, 2003, paper US\$ 18.00), is a bilingual piece of local history drawing heavily on local newspaper accounts and memo-

ries of girlhood, examining the year that marks, for many St. Martiners, the transition from “tradition” to “modernity.” *Hoge hakken, wereldbaan! Vrouwen in sleutelposities op Curaçao*, by Paula Kibbelaar & Clarisse van Haersma Buma (Zutphen, The Netherlands: Walburg Pers, 2003, paper € 13.95), analyzes the careers of some of the island’s most occupationally successful women, discusses the problem of glass ceilings and other reasons for continuing discrimination, and sets agendas for the future. And A.M.G. Rutten’s *Magische kruiden in de Antilliaanse folklore: Etnofarmacologie van het Caribisch gebied* (Rotterdam: Erasmus Publishing, 2003, paper € 27.00) is a Dutch pharmacist’s wide-ranging, idiosyncratic survey of psychotropic and other “magical” plants used in the Netherlands Antilles (and elsewhere in the tropical Americas); to mention just one reflection of the author’s non-anthropological perspective, stories of “magical flight” (as in Saramakas’ First-Time stories, which he cites at length), are said to depend on *obia*, which he reduces against all ethnographic evidence to a “hallucinogenic concoction.” Thus – as elsewhere in the book – it is largely matter over mind.

As usual, there are many books on Cuba, the region’s most populous and contested isle, for which we were unable to find willing reviewers; several were turned down by five different scholars, and the quality of the books does not seem in any way determinant. *The Virgin, the King, and the Royal Slaves of El Cobre: Negotiating Freedom in Colonial Cuba, 1670-1780*, by María Elena Díaz (Stanford CA: Stanford University Press, 2000, cloth US\$ 49.50), is an ambitious and fascinating historical analysis of this famous mining (and now religious) center, emphasizing the ways that enslaved Africans and their descendants reshaped their own lives and identities. *State and Revolution in Cuba: Mass Mobilization and Political Change, 1920-1940*, by Robert Whitney (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2001, paper US\$ 18.95) focuses on this somewhat neglected period of twentieth-century history. *Centenario de la República cubana: 1902-2002*, edited by William Navarrete & Javier de Castro Mori (Miami FL: Ediciones Universal, 2002, paper US\$ 35.00), dedicated to republican ideals, is a miscellany by twenty-seven specialists about Cuban life and institutions during the twentieth century. *Secret Missions to Cuba: Fidel Castro, Bernardo Benes, and Cuban Miami*, by Robert M. Levine (New York: Palgrave, 2001, cloth US\$ 31.95) examines the continuing influence of militant Cuban exiles on the Cuban American community, as well as the consequences for state and national politics. In *Constructing National Interests: The United States and the Cuban Missile Crisis* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1999, paper US\$ 18.95), Jutta Weldes uses a nontraditional approach to deconstruct the concepts of “national interest” and “crisis,” analyzing the public discourse surrounding the events of 1962. *Inside the Cuban Revolution: Fidel Castro and the Urban Underground*,

by Julia E. Sweig (Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 2002, cloth US\$ 29.95) focuses on the fifteen months from November 1956 to July 1958, when the leadership of the urban underground played a key role in revolutionary decision-making. *Vida Clandestina: My Life in the Cuban Revolution*, by Enrique Oltuski (New York: Wiley, 2002, cloth US\$ 24.95), is an important memoir by one of the organizers of the urban guerrilla movement. Two books that form a rather different pair: *Bay of Pigs: An Oral History of Brigade 2506*, by Victor Andres Triay (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2001, cloth US\$ 24.95), which borders on hagiography as it attempts to tell "the personal stories of the invasion in an account that restores the human dimension to a pivotal moment in the history of the Cold War," and *Embracing America: A Cuban Exile Comes of Age*, by Margaret L. Paris (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2002, cloth US\$ 24.95), which presents the story of three sisters who were among the 14,000 children airlifted to a new life in the United States in 1961 by Operation Pedro Pan (which Victor Triay also wrote a book about).

This is Cuba: An Outlaw Culture Survives, by Ben Corbett (Cambridge MA: Westview Press, 2002, cloth US\$ 26.00), is the fruit of several years of journalistic wanderings. *Cuban Legends*, selected and introduced by Salvador Bueno, illustrated by Siegfried Kaden, translated from Spanish by Christine R. Ayorinde (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2003, paper US\$ 22.95), presents varied tales, largely without commentary. *Rumba: Variaties op een Cubaanse bekenbeweging*, by Huib Billiet (Berchem, Belgium: EPO, 2001, paper € 20.00), is a readable, serious account of the dance's history and performance, by a journalist who has long written on world music and Cuba. *Canada, the United States, and Cuba: An Evolving Relationship*, edited by Sahadeo Basdeo & Heather N. Nicol (Coral Gables FL: North-South Center Press, University of Miami, 2002, cloth US\$ 49.95), provides a varied set of essays on international relations. *Alejandro García Caturla: A Cuban Composer in the Twentieth Century*, by Charles W. White (Lanham MD: Scarecrow Press, 2003, cloth US\$ 55.00, with a CD of Caturla's works), offers analysis of the life and music of the composer who Alejo Carpentier called "the richest and most generous musical temperament that has appeared on the island." And *José Martí: Selected Writings*, edited and translated by Esther Allen (New York: Penguin Books, 2002, paper US\$ 15.00), is the best selection available in English.

Three on Jamaica. *A Narrative of Events, since the First of August, 1834*, by James Williams (edited by Diana Paton) (Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2001, paper US\$ 16.95), reprints one of very few autobiographical texts by former Caribbean slaves, with extensive notes and historical contextualization. *A Slaving Voyage to Africa and Jamaica: The Log of the Sandown, 1793-1794*, edited by Bruce L. Mouser (Bloomington:

Indiana University Press, 2002, cloth US\$ 27.95), is one of the few first-hand accounts of the trade. And given the constraints imposed by the genre, *Culture and Customs of Jamaica*, by Martin Mordecai & Pamela Mordecai (Westport CT: Greenwood Press, 2001, cloth US\$ 45.00), does a reasonable job of presenting the island to a general audience of outsiders.

Two on Puerto Rico. *Taino Revival: Critical Perspectives on Puerto Rican Identity and Cultural Politics*, edited by Gabriel Haslip-Viera (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener, 2001, cloth US\$ 38.95), includes some fascinating essays on attempts by neo-Tainos to refashion Puerto Rican identity, often at the expense of the African legacy. *The Politics of Language in Puerto Rico*, by Amílcar Antonio Barreto (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2001, cloth US\$ 55.00), analyzes the controversial 1990s language policies of the Puerto Rican government.

Three books on the Dominican Republic: *Sugar and Power in the Dominican Republic: Eisenhower, Kennedy, and the Trujillos*, by Michael R. Hall (Westport CT: Greenwood Press, 2000, cloth US\$ 58.00); *Rag-Tags, Scum, Riff-Raff, and Commies: The U.S. Intervention in the Dominican Republic, 1965-66*, by Eric Thomas Chester (New York: Monthly Review Press, 2001, paper US\$ 22.95), which provides a critical account of the U.S. manipulation of Dominican affairs and assessment of its consequences for the region; and *The Transnational Villagers*, by Peggy Levitt (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001, paper US\$ 18.95), which provides a sophisticated analysis of the ongoing ties between Dominicans who live in Jamaica Plain (Boston) and their home town of Miraflores.

Diverse: *Surinamistiek. Jagernath Lachmon: Een politiek testament*, by Roy Khemradj (Amsterdam: KIT Publishers, 2002, paper € 12.50), consists of a series of wide-ranging interviews with the dean of Surinamese politicians, only weeks before his death in 2001. *Suriname 1650-2000: Een politieke studie*, by Henk Waltmans (Oosterhout, The Netherlands: Henk Waltmans, 2002, paper n.p.), is a self-published attempt at "objective" history by a Dutch journalist-politician. *Ethnic-Cultural and Socio-Economic Integration in The Netherlands: A Comparative Study of Mediterranean and Caribbean Minority Groups*, by Arend Odé (Assen, The Netherlands: Van Gorcum, 2002, paper € 18.50), compares the adaptations of Turks, Moroccans, Surinamese, and Dutch Antilleans in the Netherlands. *De kleine geschiedenis van de slavernij: Sporen in Amsterdam*, edited by Renske de Jong & Annet Zondervan (Amsterdam: KIT Publishers, 2002, paper US\$ 7.00), presents prose, poetry, and photos relating to often-hidden traces of slavery in the Dutch city. *Sexual Behaviour and Sexually Transmitted Diseases among Saramaka and Ndjuka Maroons in the Hinterland of Suriname*, by Julia Terborg (Paramaribo: Medische Zending and Prohealth, 2001, paper n.p.), is a brief survey based on scanty fieldwork which mixes misinformation with occasional insights, including a couple of interest-

ing pages on the importance of “dry sex” (the drying and tightening of the vagina) and on some alarming new techniques, sometimes inspired by porn films. Moravian historian Hartmut Beck has published, annotated, and introduced his father Siegfried Beck’s *Erinnerungen an die Brüdermission im Saramacca-Gebiet* (Karlsruhe, Germany: Transatlantische Moravische Dialog Korrespondenz, 2003, paper € 5.00), focusing on the nineteenth century along the Saramacca River. And Silvia W. de Groot has published in a limited edition *Suriname Maroon Chiefs in Africa in Search of their Country of Origin* (Amsterdam, 2003, n.p.), an abridged English version of her 1974 *Surinaamse Granmans in Afrika*, with some additional color photos.

Index of Vernacular Plant Names of Suriname, by Charlotte I.E.A. van ’t Klooster, Jan C. Lindeman & Marion J. Jansen-Jacobs (Leiden, The Netherlands: Nationaal Herbarium Nederland, Blumea supplement 15, 2003, paper € 50.00), attempts to tie scientific plant names to vernacular names in several of Suriname’s languages, with uneven results – not surprisingly, since (for example) Saramaka plant names were collected “in a Surinamese shop in Amsterdam” as well as being checked in the Saramaka village of “Pikin Slee,” where it “proved quite difficult for the inhabitants to recognize the [already recorded] Saramaccan plant names.” In the opening sections, the degree of authorial parochialism about sources beyond botany strains credulity: “Much has been written about when and how the different [Maroon] tribes came into existence ... We recommend reading Hoogbergen (1992), Arends (2002), and Smith (2002).”

Guyane, Guyanes: Une géographie “sauvage” de l’Orénoque à l’Amazone, by Emmanuel Lézy (Paris: Belin, 2000, paper € 22.00), conjures up a fascinating vision of the Guianas, envisioned as an island zone defined by the Oronoco, Rio Negro, and Amazon, and touches on populations, economy, history, literature, and much else, particularly the fabulous dreams of generations of explorers, from Raleigh to Crevaux and beyond, and their legacies for the mapping of the region. Sometimes wrong on details (Lézy claims, for example, that the “Village Saramaka” of Kourou is “populated for the most part by Boshi Nenge [Ndjuka] from Suriname”), this work by a French geographer nonetheless offers an unmatched panorama of the region’s soaring possibilities and brutal realities. And in this same vein, we might mention Candace Slater’s evocative *Entangled Edens: Visions of the Amazon* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002, paper US\$ 19.95), which contains a fine chapter on descendants of *quilombos* in the Amazon, just across the border from Suriname.

Two on Haiti: *Le Créole haïtien de poche*, by Dominique Fattier (Chennevières-sur-Marne, France: Assimil, 2001, paper € 8.00) which is a useful phrase book, and *The Use of Herbal Remedies in Two Haitian Communities and Implications for Health-Care Providers Worldwide*, by Riché C. Zamor (Lewiston NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2001, cloth US\$ 109.95).

We've been sent several guidebooks. Three by Harry S. Pariser – *Explore Barbados* (3rd edition, 2000, paper US\$ 18.95), *Explore the Virgin Islands* (5th edition, 2002, paper US\$ 17.95), and *Explore Puerto Rico* (5th edition, 2003, paper US\$ 17.95), all published by Manatee Press in San Francisco – have a strong authorial voice and stand a notch above others of this genre. *Cycling Cuba: Discover the World on Two Wheels*, by Rosa Jordan & Derek Choukalos (Oakland CA: Lonely Planet, 2002, paper US\$ 21.99), appears to contain pretty much everything a would-be cyclist-tourist might need to know. And two French guidebooks, *Geoguide Martinique 2003/2004*, by Frédéric Denhez, and *Geoguide Guadeloupe 2003/2004*, by Thierry Théault & Frédéric Denhez (both Paris, Gallimard, 2003, paper € 12.90), are filled with fine-print detail on every bar, beach, and road; they leave little to the imagination or to adventure, yet for all their detail, the amount of misinformation (historical, geographical) remains substantial.

A miscellany of books no one wished to review: *Hispanas de Queens: Latino Panethnicity in a New York City Neighborhood*, by Milagros Ricourt & Ruby Danta (Ithaca NY: Cornell University Press, 2003, paper US\$ 17.95), which focuses on the development of a new transcultural identity among women in Corona who were born in the Dominican Republic, Cuba, and elsewhere in the hemisphere; *C.L.R. James: A Life*, by Farrukh Dhondy (New York: Pantheon Books, 2001, cloth US\$ 24.00), a controversial biography of this towering figure; *Slavery, Freedom and Gender: The Dynamics of Caribbean Society*, edited by Brian L. Moore, B. W. Higman, Carl Campbell & Patrick Bryan (Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2001, cloth US\$ 35.00), which collects thirteen Elsa Goveia Lectures delivered between 1987 and 1998 by various luminaries; *Kitsch tropical: Los medios en la literatura y el arte en América latina*, by Lidia Santos (Madrid: Iberoamericana, 2001, paper € 16.80), an excellent critical study of the phenomenon from Argentina and Brazil to Puerto Rico (mainly, in the work of Luis Rafael Sánchez) and Cuba (mainly, Severo Sarduy); *The Snakes of Trinidad and Tobago*, by Hans E.A. Boos (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2001, cloth US\$ 47.95), which includes careful detail (nicely illustrated) about the more than sixty species of snakes found in the twin-island nation; and *Barbadian Popular Music and the Politics of Caribbean Culture*, by Curwen Best (Rochester VT: Schenkman Books, 1999, paper US\$ 18.95).

Finally, several classics in Caribbean studies have been reprinted. We can be grateful to Markus Wiener for publishing two of them: Germán Arciniegas's *Caribbean: Sea of the New World* (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2003, paper US\$ 24.95), which first appeared in Spanish in 1945 and in English in 1946, and Leslie B. Rout, Jr.'s *The African Experience in Spanish America* (Princeton NJ: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2003, paper US\$ 24.95), originally published in 1976, which remains the

only survey of its subject. Even more useful is the republication in affordable paperback of the second edition of *Dictionary of Jamaican English*, edited by F.G. Cassidy & R.B. Le Page (Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2002, paper US\$ 30.00), which remains a joy to consult.

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