

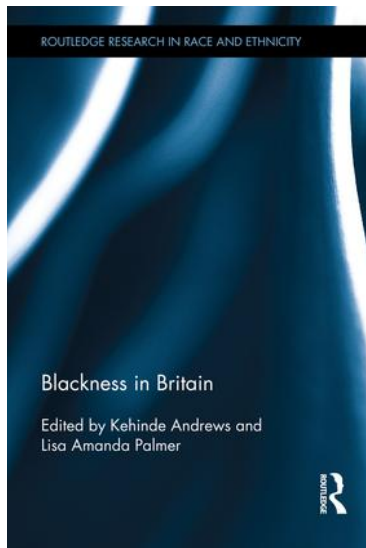
# Relevant Books



CHRISTINA SHARPE *In the Wake*  
On Blackness and Being

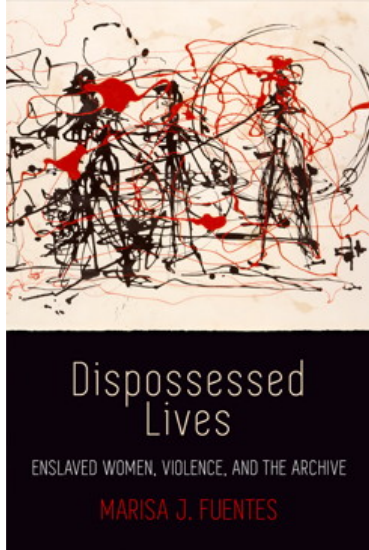
Sharpe, Christina. *In the Wake: On Blackness and Being*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2016, pp.192, ISBN: 0822362945.

This book interrogates literary, visual, cinematic, and quotidian representations of Black life that comprise what the author calls the "orthography of the wake." Activating multiple registers of "wake"—the path behind a ship, keeping watch with the dead, coming to consciousness, the author illustrates how Black lives are swept up and animated by the afterlives of enslavement, as what survives despite such insistent violence and negation is delineated. Initiating and describing a theory and method of reading the metaphors and materiality of "the wake," "the ship," "the hold," and "the weather," the book shows how the sign of the slave ship marks and haunts contemporary Black life in the diaspora and how the specter of the hold produces conditions of containment, regulation, and punishment, but also something in excess of them. In the weather, the author situates anti-Blackness and white supremacy as the total climate that produces premature Black death as normative.



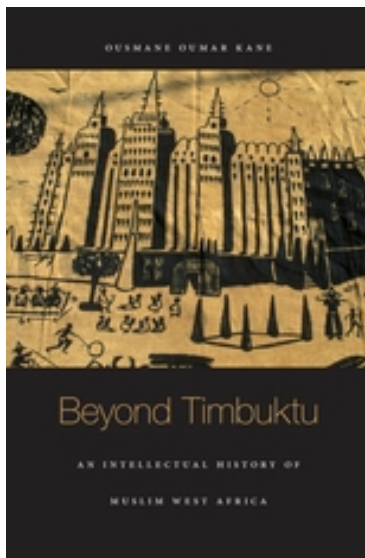
Andrews, Kehinde and Lisa Amanda Palmer, eds. *Blackness in Britain*. New York, London: Routledge, 2016, pp.222, ISBN: 9781138840638.

This interdisciplinary anthology attends to and grapples with the absence of Black Studies in Britain and the parallel crisis of Black marginality in British society. It begins to map the field of Black Studies scholarship from a British context, by collating new and established voices from scholars writing about Blackness in Britain. Split into five parts, it examines: Black Studies and the challenge of the Black British intellectual; Revolution, resistance and state violence; Blackness and belonging; exclusion and inequality in education; and experiences of Black women and the gendering of Blackness in Britain.



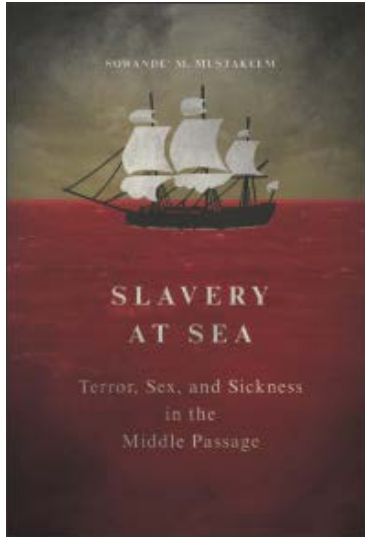
Fuentes, Marisa J. *Dispossessed Lives: Enslaved Women, Violence, and the Archive*. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016, pp.232, ISBN: 0812248228.

In the eighteenth century, Bridgetown, Barbados, was heavily populated by both enslaved and free women. The author of this work provides a portrait of urban Caribbean slavery in this colonial town from the perspective of these women whose stories appear only briefly in historical records which takes one through the streets of Bridgetown with an enslaved runaway; inside a brothel run by a freed woman of color; in the midst of a white urban household in sexual chaos; to the gallows where enslaved people were executed; and within violent scenes of enslaved women's punishments. In the process, the author interrogates the archive and its historical production to expose the ongoing effects of white colonial power that constrain what can be known about these women. Combining fragmentary sources with interdisciplinary methodologies that include Black feminist theory and critical studies of history and slavery, the book demonstrates how the construction of the archive marked enslaved women's bodies, in life and in death. By vividly recounting enslaved life through the experiences of individual women and illuminating their conditions of confinement through the legal, sexual, and representational power wielded by slave owners, colonial authorities, and the archive, the author challenges the way we write histories of vulnerable and often invisible subjects.



Kane, Ousmane Oumar. *Beyond Timbuktu: An Intellectual History of Muslim West Africa*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2016, pp.296, ISBN: 9780674050822.

This book charts the rise of Muslim learning in West Africa from the beginning of Islam to the present day, examining the shifting contexts that have influenced the production and dissemination of Islamic knowledge—and shaped the sometimes conflicting interpretations of Muslim intellectuals—over the course of centuries. Second, it corrects lingering misconceptions in both the West and the Middle East that Africa's Muslim heritage represents a minor thread in Islam's larger tapestry, but to the contrary, their connection with Muslims worldwide is robust and longstanding (the Sahara was not an insuperable barrier but a bridge that allowed the Arabo-Berbers of the North to sustain relations with West African Muslims through trade, diplomacy, and intellectual and spiritual exchange).



Mustakeem, Sowande M. *Slavery at Sea: Terror, Sex, and Sickness in the Middle Passage*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2016, pp.296, ISBN: 0252082028.

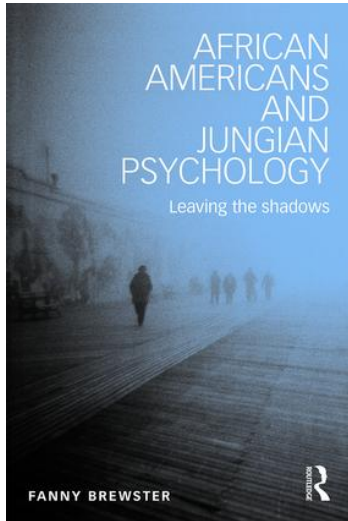
This book centers on how the oceanic transport of human cargoes--known as the infamous Middle Passage--comprised a violently regulated process foundational to the institution of bondage as the study goes inside the Atlantic slave trade to explore the social conditions and human costs embedded in the world of maritime slavery. Mining ship logs, records and personal documents, the author teases out the social histories produced between those on traveling ships: the enslaved, captains, sailors, and surgeons to show how crewmen manufactured captives through enforced dependency, relentless cycles of physical, psychological terror, and pain that led to the making--and unmaking--of enslaved

African people held and transported onboard slave ships. The author relates how this process, and related power struggles, played out not just for adult men, but also for women, children, teens, infants, nursing mothers, the elderly, diseased, ailing, and dying. And thus, the book offers provocative insights into how gender, health, age, illness, and medical treatment intersected with trauma and violence transformed human beings into the most commercially sought commodity for over four centuries. The author is an assistant professor in the Department of History and the African and African American Studies Program at Washington University in St. Louis, MO.



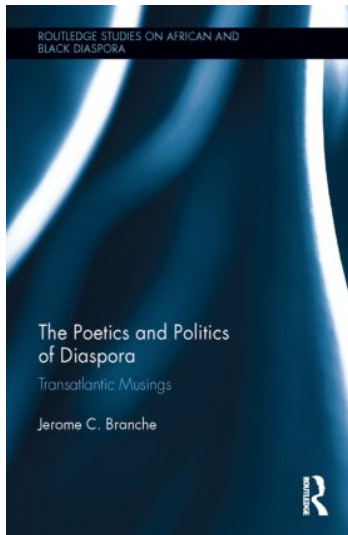
Edwards, Brent Hayes. *Epistrophies: Jazz and the Literary Imagination*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2017, pp, 320, ISBN: 9780674055438.

This work explores case studies in jazz literature—both writings informed by music and the surprisingly large body of writing by jazz musicians themselves. From James Weldon Johnson’s vernacular transcriptions to Sun Ra’s liner note poems, from Henry Threadgill’s arresting song titles to Nathaniel Mackey’s “Song of the Andoumboulou,” via an examination of an unending back-and-forth between music that hovers at the edge of language and writing that strives for the propulsive energy and melodic contours of music. Epistrophe is a term created in 1941 by Thelonious Monk and Kenny Clarke which refers to a literary device—the repetition of a word or phrase at the end of successive clauses—that is echoed in the construction of the melody.



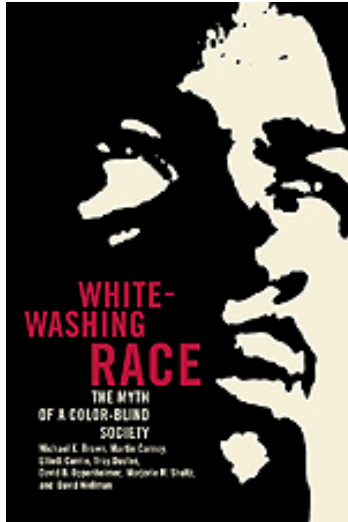
Brewster, Fanny. *African Americans and Jungian Psychology: Leaving the Shadows*. York, NY: Routledge, 2017, pp.160, ISBN: 9781138952768.

This book explores the racial relationship between the African diaspora and C.G. Jung's analytical psychology. Thus, the author looks at the culture of Jungian psychology in America and its often difficult relationship with race and racism by beginning with an examination of how Jungian psychology initially failed to engage African Americans, and continuing to the modern use of the Shadow in language and imagery. Using Jung's own words, the author establishes a timeline of Jungian perspectives on African Americans from the past to the present, and explores the European roots of analytical psychology and its racial biases, as well as the impact this has in contemporary society. Further, the book explores the positive contributions of African culture to Jung theories, expands on the negative impact of racism in American psychology to begin a dialogue, and by proposing how it might change thinking and behaviors to create a 21<sup>st</sup> century Jungian psychology that recognizes an American multicultural psyche and a positive African American culture.



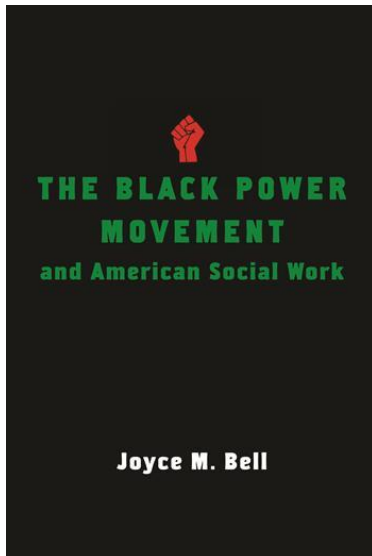
Branche, Jerome C. *The Poetics and Politics of Diaspora: Transatlantic Musings*. New York, NY: Routledge, 2017, pp.192, ISBN: 9780415787949.

This book studies the creative discourse of the modern African diaspora by analyzing poems, novels, essays, hip-hop and dub poetry in the Caribbean, England, Spain, and Colombia, and capturing diasporan movement through mutually intersecting axes of dislocation and relocation, and efforts at political group affirmation and settlement, or "location." Hence the author connects London's multimillion-dollar riots of 2011, and its antecedents associated with the West Indian settler community, to the discontent and harrowing conditions facing Black immigrants to contemporary Spain as gateway to Fortress Europe; it links the brutal massacres that target Colombia's dispossessed and displaced poor - and mainly Black - "throwaway" citizens, victims of the drug trade and neoliberal expansionism, to older Caribbean stories that tell of the original spurts of capitalist greed, and the colonial cauldron it created, at the center of which lay the enslavement of African people to revisit the question of what really has awaited Afro-descendants at the end of the Middle Passage.



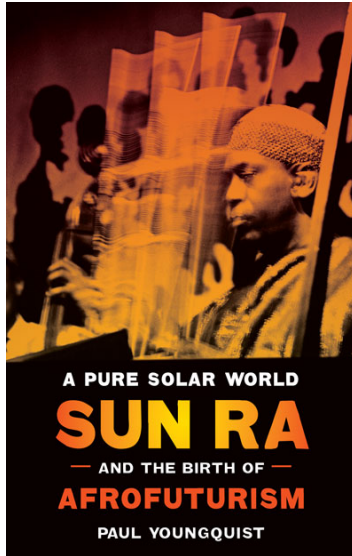
*Brown, Michael K., Martin Carnoy, Elliott Currie, Troy Duster , and David B. Oppenheimer. Whitewashing Race: The Myth of a Color-Blind Society. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2005, pp. 349, ISBN: 9780520244757.*

While not denying the economic advances of black Americans since the 1960s, this book draws on new and compelling research to demonstrate the persistence of racism and the effects of organized racial advantage across many institutions in American society—including the labor market, the welfare state, the criminal justice system, and schools and universities. Looking beyond the stalled debate over current antidiscrimination policies, the authors also put forth a fresh vision for achieving genuine racial equality of opportunity in a post-affirmative action world. Hence, this book brings together a team of sociologists, political scientists, economists, criminologists, and legal scholars to scrutinize the logic and evidence behind the widely held belief in a color-blind society—and to provide an alternative explanation for continued racial inequality in the United States.



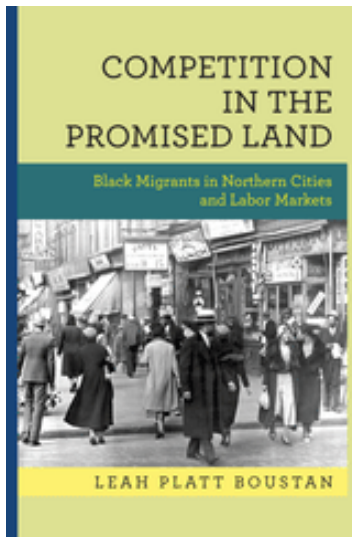
*Bell, Joyce M. The Black Power Movement and American Social Work. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, 2014, pp.256, ISBN: 9780231162609.*

Relying on extensive archival research and oral history interviews, the author follows two groups of Black social workers in the 1960s and 1970s as they mobilized Black Power ideas, strategies, and tactics to change their national professional associations. Comparing Black dissenters within the National Federation of Settlements, who fought for concessions from within their organization, and those within the National Conference on Social Welfare, who ultimately adopted a separatist strategy, she shows how the Black Power movement influence was central to the creation and rise of Black professional associations, and provides a nuanced approach to studying race-based movements to offer a framework for understanding the role of social movements in shaping non-state organizations of civil society.



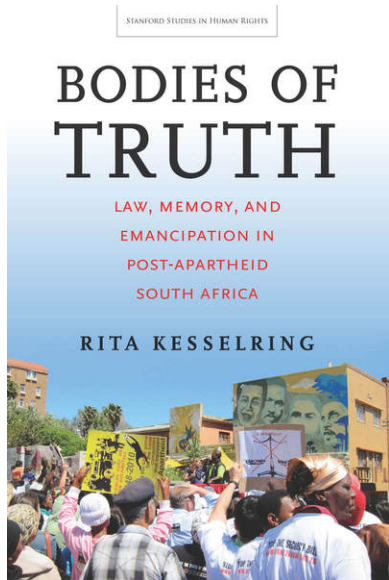
Youngquist, Paul. *A Pure Solar World: Sun Ra and the Birth of Afrofuturism*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 2016, pp.372, ISBN: 978-0-292-72636-9.

This book is an introduction to the life and work of the legendary but underappreciated jazz musician (piano, organ, keyboards, Minimoog, celesta, percussion, vocals, synthesizer player), bandleader, philosopher, composer, and poet Sun Ra (the “father of Afrofuturism”). Hence, the author explores and assesses Sun Ra’s wide-ranging creative output—music, public preaching, graphic design, film and stage performance, and poetry—and connects his diverse undertakings to the culture and politics of his times, including the space race, the rise of technocracy, the civil rights movement, and even space-age bachelor-pad music. By examining the Astro-black mythology that Sun Ra espoused, the author also demonstrates that he offered both a holistic response to a planet desperately in need of new visions and vibrations and a new kind of political activism that used popular culture to advance social change. Sun Ra (1914-1993) was known for his experimental music, Afro-cosmic philosophy, prolific output, and theatrical live performances.



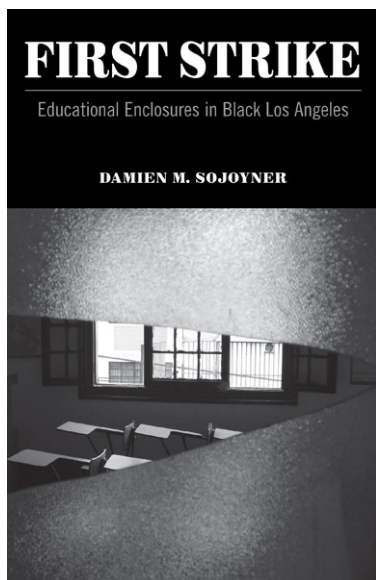
Boustan, Leah Platt. *Competition in the Promised Land: Black Migrants in Northern Cities and Labor Markets*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2016, pp. 216, ISBN: 9780691150871.

Traditionally, the Great Black Migration has been lauded as a path to general Black economic progress, in this book the author challenges this view, arguing instead that the migration produced winners and losers within the Black community to show that migrants themselves gained tremendously, more than doubling their earnings by moving North, but these new arrivals competed with existing Black workers, limiting black–white wage convergence in Northern labor markets and slowing Black economic growth. Furthermore, many white households responded to the Black migration by relocating to the suburbs, motivated not only by neighborhood racial change but also by the desire on the part of white residents to avoid participating in the local public services and fiscal obligations of increasingly diverse cities. The book employ historical census data and econometric methods revises the understanding of the Great Black Migration from 1940 to 1970, when nearly four million Black migrants left the American rural South to settle in the industrial cities of the North and West.



Kesselring, Rita. *Bodies of Truth: Law, Memory, and Emancipation in Post-Apartheid South Africa*. Redwood City, CA: Stanford University Press, 2016, pp.272, ISBN: 9780804798488.

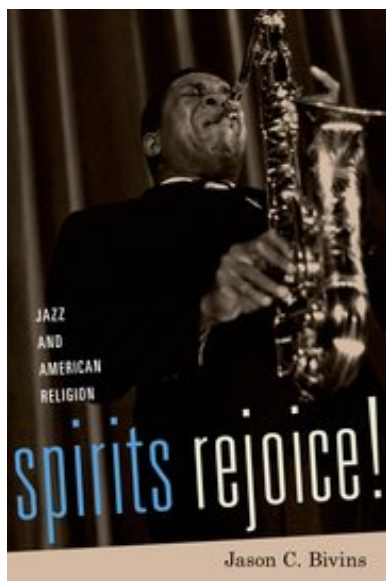
This work is an account of how apartheid victims deal with the long-term effects of violence, focusing on the intertwined themes of embodiment, injury, victimhood, and memory. Thus, the book shows victims' attempts to emancipate from their experiences by participating in legal actions, but also by creating new forms of sociality among themselves and in relation to broader South African society. In 2002, victims of apartheid-era violence filed suit against multinational corporations, accusing them of aiding and abetting the security forces of the apartheid regime. While the litigation made its way through the U.S. courts, thousands of victims of gross human rights violations have had to cope with painful memories of violence. They have also confronted an official discourse claiming that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of the 1990s sufficiently addressed past injuries. In this exercise, the author draws on long-term research with members of the victim support group Khulumani and critical analysis of legal proceedings related to apartheid-era injury. Using juridical intervention as an entry point into the question of subjectivity to asks how victimhood is experienced in the everyday for the women and men living on the periphery of Cape Town and in other parts of the country, and argue that the everyday practices of the survivors must be taken up by the state and broader society to allow for inclusive social change in a post-conflict setting.



Sojoyner, Damien M. *First Strike: Educational Enclosures in Black Los Angeles*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2016, pp.288, ISBN: 978-0-8166-9755-7.

This book critiques the trope of the “school-to-prison pipeline” and instead explores the realm of public school as a form of “enclosure” that has influenced the schooling (and denial of schooling) and imprisonment of Black people in California (home to the largest prison populations in the United States and consistently ranks on the bottom of education indexes). Through an ethnography of a public school in Los Angeles County, and a “day in the life tour” of the effect of prisons on the education of Black youth, the author looks at the contestation over education in the Black community from Reconstruction to the civil rights and Black liberation movements of the past three decades. Thus, the book demonstrates why the “school-to-prison pipeline”

connection exists and shows how school districts, cities and states have been complicit and can reverse a disturbing and needless trend. The author is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Irvine.

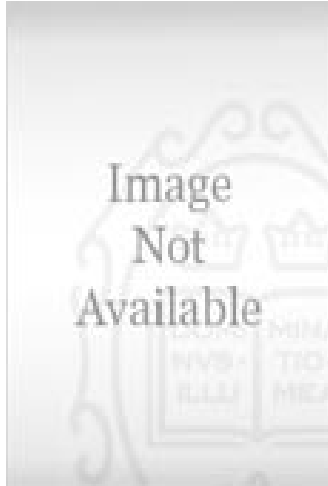


Jason C. Bivins. *Spirits Rejoice!: Jazz and American Religion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015, pp. 392, 15 halftones, ISBN: 9780190230913.

This work explores the relationship between American religion and American music, and the places where religion and jazz have overlapped that takes to heart a central characteristic of jazz itself and improvises, generating a collection of themes, pursuits, reoccurring foci, and interpretations. Hence, the author riffs on interviews, liner notes, journals, audience reception, and critical commentary, producing a work that argues for the centrality of religious experiences to any legitimate understanding of jazz, while also suggesting that jazz opens up new interpretations of American religious history as he examines themes such as musical creativity as related to specific religious traditions, jazz as a form of ritual and healing, and jazz cosmologies and

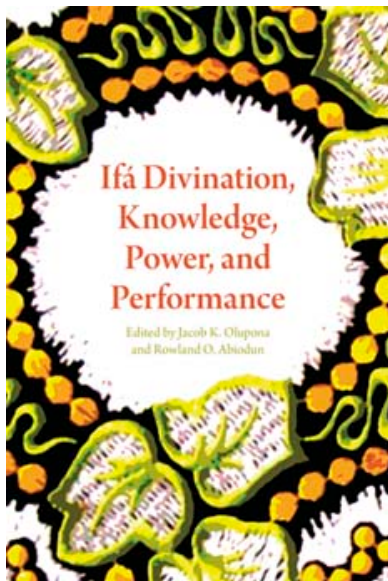
metaphysics. The book therefore improvisationally provides a fluid archive for thinking about religion, race, and sound in the United States to conclude on how the sound of spirits rejoicing challenges not only prevailing understandings of race and music, but also the way people think about religion.





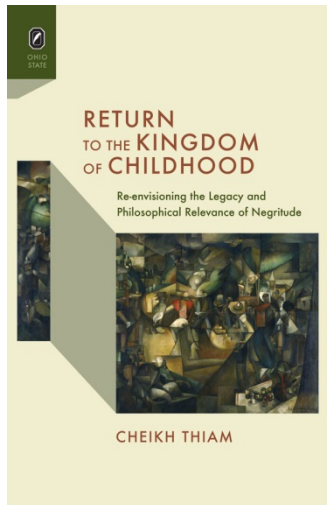
Das, Dee Joanna. *Katherine Dunham: Dance and the African Diaspora*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017, pp.280, 26 illustrations, ISBN: 9780190264871.

In this book, the author makes the argument that Katherine Dunham was more than a dancer, she was an intellectual and activist committed to using dance to fight for racial justice, and that she saw dance as a tool of liberation, as a way for people of African descent to reclaim their history and forge a new future as she put her theories into motion not only through performance, but also through education, scholarship, travel, and choices about her own life. Thus, the author also examines how Dunham struggled to balance artistic dreams, personal desires, economic needs, and political commitments in the face of racism and sexism; and her multiple spheres of engagement, assessing her dance performances as a form of Black feminist protest while also presenting new material about her schools in New York and East St. Louis, her work in Haiti, and her network of interlocutors that included figures as diverse as ballet choreographer George Balanchine and Senegalese president Léopold Sédar Senghor; and traces Dunham's influence over the course of several decades from the New Negro Movement of the 1920s to the Black Power Movement of the late 1960s and beyond. The author is an assistant professor of dance at Washington University in St. Louis, and she is a certified Dunham Technique instructor.



Olupona, Jacob K. and Rowland O. Abiodun, eds. *Ifá Divination, Knowledge, Power, and Performance*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2016, pp.390, ISBN: 978-0-253-01882-3.

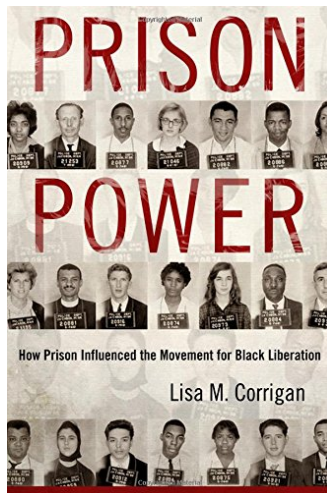
This volume brings readers into the diverse world of Ifá—its discourse, ways of thinking, and artistic expression as manifested throughout the Afro-Atlantic. Firmly rooting Ifá within African religious traditions, the essays consider Ifá and Ifá divination from the perspectives of philosophy, performance studies, and cultural studies. They also examine the sacred context, verbal art, and the interpretation of Ifá texts and philosophy. Jacob K. Olupona is Professor of African Religious Traditions at Harvard Divinity School and Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University and Rowland O. Abiodun is Professor of Art, the History of Art, and Black Studies at Amherst College.



Thiam, Cheikh. *Return to the Kingdom of Childhood: Re-envisioning the Legacy and Philosophical Relevance of Negritude*. Columbus, OH: The Ohio State University Press, [2014] 2016, pp. 168, ISBN: 978-0-8142-1250-9.

This contribution examines the philosophy of Negritude through an innovative analysis of Léopold Sédar Senghor's oeuvre and argues that Senghor's work expresses an Afri-centered conception of the human while simultaneously offering a critique of the Western universalization of "man" as Senghor's corrective, descriptive, and prescriptive theory of humanness is developed through a conception of race as a cultural manifestation of being. The book also contends that Senghor's conception of race entails an innovative Afri-centered epistemology and ontology. Hence, for Senghor, races are the effects

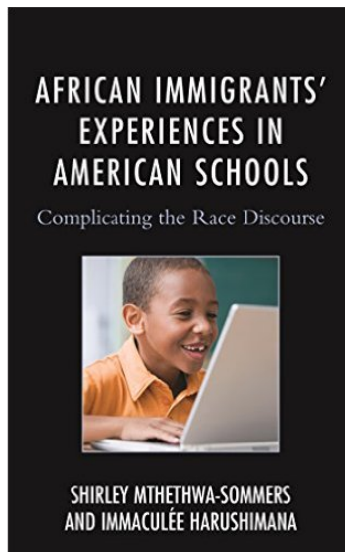
of particular groups' relations to the world and the so-called "Negroes," for example, are determined by their epistemology based on their fluid understanding of the ontological manifestations of being, and that Negritude is a postcolonial philosophy that stands on its own. The author is an assistant professor of French and African and African-American Studies at The Ohio State University.



Corrigan, Lisa M. *Prison Power: How Prison Influenced the Movement for Black Liberation*. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2016, pp.208, ISBN: 1496809076.

This work argues that in the Black liberation movement, imprisonment emerged as a key rhetorical, theoretical, and media resource as imprisoned activists developed tactics and ideology to counter white supremacy. Hence, the author show how imprisonment—a site for both political and personal transformation—shaped movement leaders by influencing their political analysis and organizational strategies wherein prison became *the* critical space for the transformation from civil rights to Black Power, especially as southern civil rights activists faced setbacks. Examining the iconic prison autobiographies of H. Rap

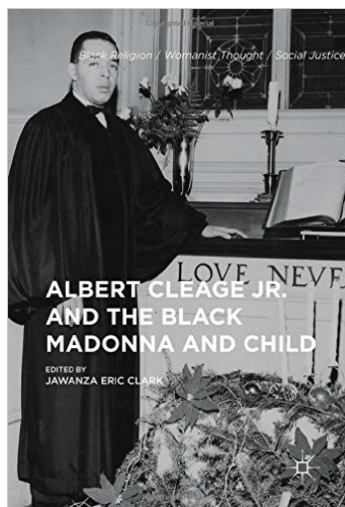
Brown, Mumia Abu-Jamal, and Assata Shakur, the author also conducts rhetorical analyses of these extremely popular though understudied accounts of the Black Power movement to introduce the notion of the "Black Power vernacular" as a term for the prison memoirists' rhetorical innovations, to explain how the movement adapted to an increasingly hostile environment in both the Johnson and Nixon administrations while demonstrating how Black Power activism shifted its tactics to regenerate, even after the FBI sought to disrupt, discredit, and destroy the movement.



Mthethwa-Sommers, Shirley and Immaculée Harushimana, eds. *African Immigrants' Experiences in American Schools: Complicating the Race Discourse*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2016, pp.146, ASIN: B01LYOYG3P.

This book is aimed at filling the gap in the literature about African-born students in American schools as it explores in depth salient African-rooted factors that come into play in the social and academic integration of African immigrant students, such as gender, spirituality, colonization, religious affiliation, etc. Thus, the authors examine American-rooted factors that complicate the adaptation of these students in the U.S. educational school system, such as institutional racism, Afrophobia, Islamophobia, cultural discontinuities, curricular mismatches, and western media misportrayals as they proffer pedagogical tools and frameworks that

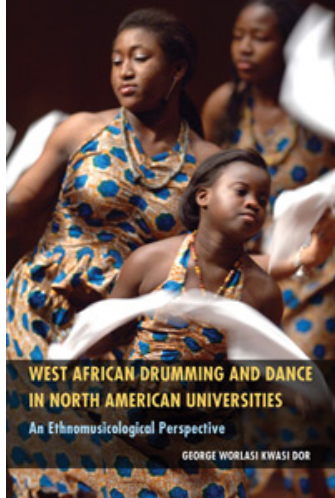
may help minimize these deleterious factors.



Clark, Jawanza Eric, ed. *Albert Cleage Jr. and the Black Madonna and Child*. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp.303, ISBN: 978-1-137-54688-3.

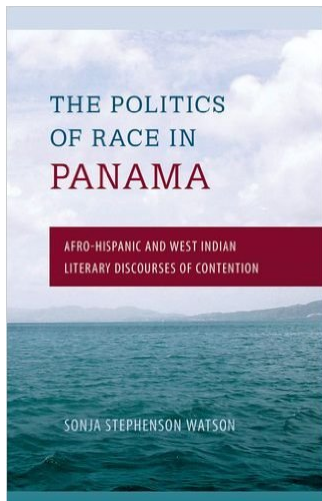
In this collection, Black religious scholars and pastors whose expertise range from theology, ethics, and the psychology of religion, to preaching, religious aesthetics, and religious education, discuss the legacy of Albert B. Cleage Jr. and the idea of the Black Madonna and child. Easter Sunday, 2017 will mark the fifty year anniversary of Albert B. Cleage Jr.'s unveiling of a mural of the Black Madonna and child in his church in Detroit, Michigan. This unveiling symbolized a radical theological departure and disruption. The mural helped symbolically launch Black Christian Nationalism and influenced the Black Power movement in the United States. But

fifty years later, the questions of: what has been the lasting impact of this act of theological innovation, what is the legacy of Cleage's emphasis on the literal blackness of Jesus; how has the idea of a Black Madonna and child informed notions of Black womanhood, motherhood, LGBTQ communities, and how has Cleage's theology influenced Christian education, African pastoral theology, and the Black Arts Movement? Hence, the contributors discuss answers to these and many more questions.



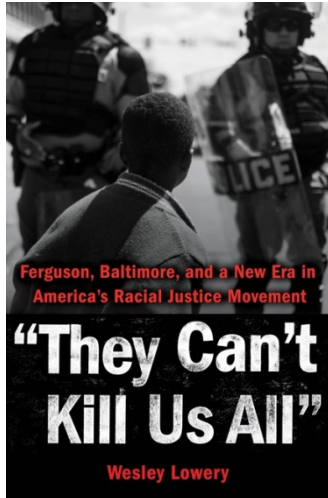
Dor, George Worlasi Kwasi. *West African Drumming and Dance in North American Universities: An Ethnomusicological Perspective*. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2014, pp.304 (b & w photographs, appendices, glossary, bibliography, index), ISBN: 9781617039140.

In this ethnographic study of West African drumming and dance in North American universities, the author documents and acknowledges ethnomusicologists, ensemble directors, students, administrators, and academic institutions for their key roles in the histories of their respective ensembles. Hence, the author collates and shares perspectives including debates on pedagogical approaches that may be instructive as models for both current and future ensemble directors and reveals the multiple impacts that participation in an ensemble or class offers students. The author also examines the interplay among historically situated structures and systems, discourse, and practice, and explores the multiple meanings that individuals and various groups of people construct from this campus activity. The study should be of value to students, directors, and scholars as an ethnographic study and as a text for teaching relevant courses in African music, African studies, ethnomusicology/world music, African diaspora studies, and other related disciplines.



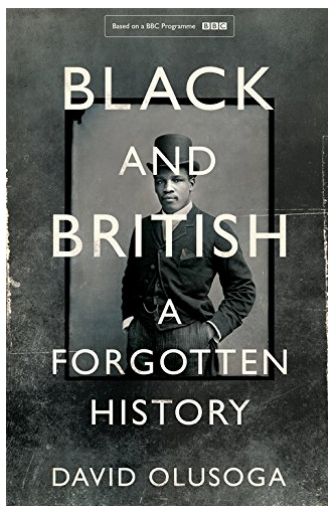
Watson, Sonja Stephenson. *The Politics of Race in Panama: Afro-Hispanic and West Indian Literary Discourses of Contention*. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2014, pp.200, ISBN: 0813049865.

This volume tells the story of two cultural groups: Afro-Hispanics, whose ancestors came to Panama as enslaved people from Africa, and people from the English-speaking countries of Jamaica and Barbados who arrived during the mid-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries to build the railroad and the Panama Canal. While Afro-Hispanics assimilated after centuries of *mestizaje* (race mixing), they now identify with their Spanish heritage, and hold to their British Caribbean roots and identify more closely with Africa and the Caribbean. By examining the writing of Afro-Panamanian authors, the author highlights how race is defined, contested, and inscribed in Panama to discuss the cultural, racial, and national tensions that prevent these two groups from forging a shared Afro-Panamanian identity, ultimately revealing why ethnically diverse Afro-descendant populations continue to struggle to create racial unity in nations across Latin America and the Caribbean. The author is director of the Women's & Gender Studies Program and associate professor of Spanish at the University of Texas at Arlington.



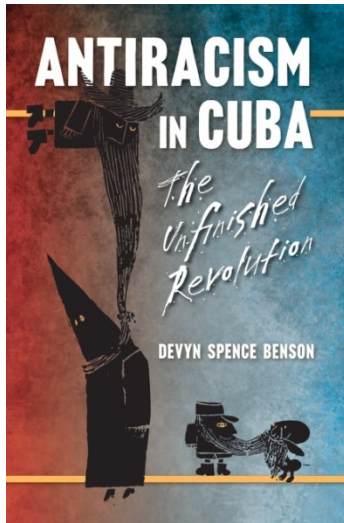
Lowery, Wesley. *They Can't Kill Us All: Ferguson, Baltimore, and a New Era in America's Racial Justice Movement*. New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company, 2016, pp.256, ISBN: 0316312479.

Conducting hundreds of interviews during the course of over one year reporting on the ground, the author of this traveled from Ferguson, Missouri, to Cleveland, Ohio; Charleston, South Carolina; and Baltimore, Maryland; and then back to Ferguson to uncover life inside the most heavily policed, if otherwise neglected, corners of America today. In an effort to grasp the magnitude of the repose to Michael Brown's death and understand the scale of the problem police violence represents, he speaks to Brown's family and the families of other victims other victims' families as well as local activists. By posing the question, "What does the loss of any one life mean to the rest of the nation?" the author examines the cumulative effect of decades of racially biased policing in segregated neighborhoods with failing schools, crumbling infrastructure and too few jobs. Hence, the book offers a historically informed look at the standoff between the police and those they are sworn to protect, showing that civil unrest is just one tool of resistance in the broader struggle for justice to show how protests against police killings are also about the Black community's long history on the receiving end of perceived and actual acts of injustice and discrimination.



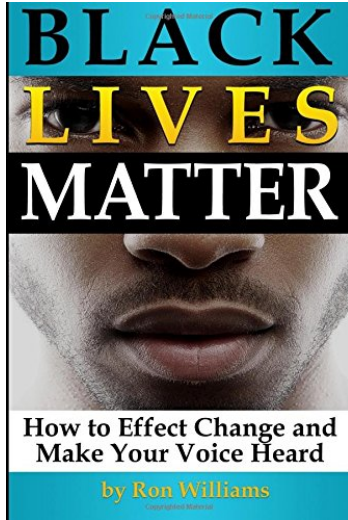
Olusoga, David. *Black and British: An Untold Story*. London: Pan MacMillan, 2016, pp.624, ISBN: 1447299736.

This work is a re-examination of a shared history, published to accompany the *BBC Two* series that offers an exploration of the extraordinarily long relationship between the British Isles and the people of Africa. Drawing on genetic and genealogical research, original records, expert testimony and contemporary interviews, the book reaches back to Roman Britain, the medieval imagination and Shakespeare's *Othello* to reveal that behind the South Sea Bubble was Britain's global slave-trading empire and that much of the great industrial boom of the nineteenth century was built on American slavery. It also shows that Black Britons fought at Trafalgar and in the trenches of the First World War as the author explores taboos and revealing hitherto unknown scandals to describe how black and white Britons have been intimately entwined for centuries.



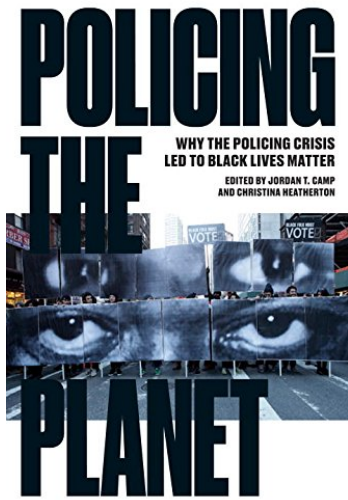
Benson, Devyn Spence. *Antiracism in Cuba: The Unfinished Revolution*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2016, pp.334, 1469626721

Analyzing the ideology and rhetoric around race in Cuba and south Florida during the early years of the Cuban revolution, the author of this work argues that ideas, stereotypes, and discriminatory practices relating to racial difference persisted in Cuba despite major efforts by the Cuban state to generate social equality. Drawing on Cuban and U.S. archival materials and face-to-face interviews, the book examines 1960s government programs and campaigns against discrimination, showing how such programs frequently negated their efforts by reproducing racist images and idioms in revolutionary propaganda, cartoons, and school materials. And building on nineteenth-century discourses that imagined Cuba as a raceless space, revolutionary leaders embraced a narrow definition of Blackness, often seeming to suggest that Afro-Cubans had to discard their Blackness to join the revolution, thus, this remains a false dichotomy for many Cubans of color which the book demonstrates. Hence, the exercise details that while some Afro-Cubans agreed with the revolution's sentiments about racial transcendence--"not blacks, not whites, only Cubans--others found ways to use state rhetoric to demand additional reforms, as others found a revolution that disavowed Blackness unsettling and paternalistic, and therefore, they fought to insert Black history and African culture into revolutionary nationalism. However, despite such efforts by Afro-Cubans and radical government-sponsored integration programs, the book show that racism has persisted throughout the revolution in subtle, but lasting ways. This work is based on more than 18 months of field research in Cuba where the author has traveled annually since 2003 to set a foundation to examine the steps and missteps in Fidel Castro's 1959 anti-discrimination campaign by giving particular attention to how Afro-Cubans experienced, participated in, and challenged the revolution's approach to antiracism. The author is an Assistant Professor of Africana and Latin American Studies at Davidson College in Davidson, NC where she teaches courses on Afro-Latin America, the history of the Caribbean, major thinkers in Africana Studies, the 1959 Cuban revolution, and a Latin American Studies capstone course.



Williams, Ron. *Black Lives Matter: How to Effect Change and Make Your Voice Heard*. Seattle, WA: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2015, pp.42, ISBN: 1533360316.

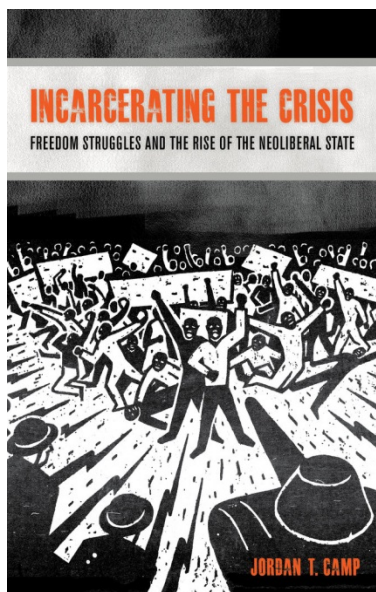
This book makes a case for channeling negative emotions that could otherwise build up to a destructive outburst into more positive and concrete steps to demand that a collective voice be heard in order to effect a truly lasting change and leave an enduring legacy, all without resorting to destructive or violent countermeasures. Thus, the author highlights numerous active, positive, nonviolent measures that can empower those who wish to make a real and lasting difference.



Camp, Jordan T. and Christina Heatherton, eds. *Policing the Planet: Why the Policing Crisis Led to Black Lives Matter*. New York: Verso, pp.320, 2016, ISBN: 1784783161.

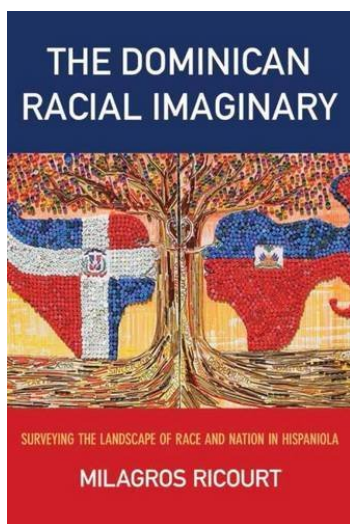
Combining firsthand accounts from activists with the research of scholars and reflections from artists, this work traces the global spread of the broken-windows policing strategy, first established in New York City under Police Commissioner William Bratton, and a doctrine that has broadened police power the world over to have a deadly effect. With contributions from #BlackLivesMatter cofounder Patrisse Cullors, Ferguson activist and Law Professor Justin Hansford, Director of New York-based Communities United for Police Reform Joo-Hyun Kang, poet Martín Espada, and journalist Anjali Kamat, as well as articles from leading scholars Ruth Wilson Gilmore, Robin D. G. Kelley, Naomi Murakawa, Vijay

Prashad, and more, the book describes ongoing struggles from New York to Baltimore to Los Angeles, London, San Juan, San Salvador, and beyond.



Camp, Jordan T. *Incarcerating the Crisis: Freedom Struggles and the Rise of the Neoliberal State*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, pp.268, 2016, ISBN: 0520281829.

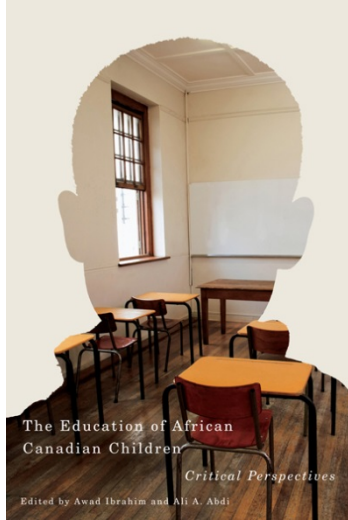
This book traces the rise of a neoliberal nation through a series of turning points in U.S. history including the Watts insurrection in 1965, the Detroit rebellion in 1967, the Attica uprising in 1971, the Los Angeles revolt in 1992, and events in post-Katrina New Orleans in 2005. *Incarcerating the Crisis* argues that these dramatic events coincided with the emergence of neoliberal capitalism and the state's attempts to crush radical social movements. Through an examination of the poetic visions of social movements—including those by James Baldwin, Marvin Gaye, June Jordan, José Ramírez, and Sunni Patterson—it also suggests that alternative outcomes have been and continue to be possible.



Ricourt, Milagros. *The Dominican Racial Imaginary: Surveying the Landscape of Race and Nation in Hispaniola*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2016, pp.240, ISBN: 0813584477.

This book begins with a simple question: why do so many Dominicans deny the African components of their DNA, culture, and history? Seeking answers, the author uncovers a complex and often contradictory Dominican racial imaginary, and thus, observing how Dominicans have traditionally identified in opposition to their neighbors on the island of Hispaniola—Haitians of African descent to find that the Dominican Republic's social elite has long propagated a national creation myth that conceives of the Dominican as a perfect hybrid of native islanders and Spanish settlers. Yet as the author pores through rare historical documents, interviews contemporary Dominicans, and recalls her own childhood memories of life on the island, she encounters persistent challenges to this myth. Through fieldwork at the Dominican-Haitian border, she gives a firsthand look at how Dominicans are resisting the official account of their national identity and instead embracing the African influence that has always been part of their cultural heritage. Thus, the book also delivers a message on how multicultural communities might cooperate to disrupt the enduring power of white supremacy. The author is a professor of Latin American and Puerto Rican studies at Lehman College via the City University of New York.





Ibrahim, Awad and Ali A. Abdi, eds. *The Education of African Canadian Children: Critical Perspectives*. Montreal, Quebec, Canada: McGill-Queens University Press, 2016, pp.248, ISBN: 0773548084.

The contributors to this volume provide an analysis of the educational experiences of African Canadian children and youth to critically respond to and comment on the historical, cultural, institutional, and informational contexts and problems of the learning lives of these children as the authors offer a history of African Canadians' encounters with the education system and the current challenges they are facing, as well as the opportunities for more inclusive and democratic educational practices that will better serve this population. Awad Ibrahim is professor of education at the University of Ottawa and Ali A. Abdi is a professor of education at

the University of British Columbia.



Stoever, Jennifer Lynn. *The Sonic Color Line: Race and the Cultural Politics of Listening*. NY: New York University Press, 2016, pp. 352, 14 halftones, ISBN: 9781479889341.

This work argues that American ideologies of white supremacy are just as dependent on what we hear — voices, musical taste, volume — as they are on skin color or hair texture. Reinforcing ideas about the relationship between race and sound with meticulous historical research, the author helps readers to better understand how sound and listening not only registers the racial politics of our world, but actively produces them. Through analysis of the historical traces of sounds of African American performers, the book reveals a host of racialized aural representations operating at the level of the unseen—the sonic color line—and exposes the racialized listening practices she figures as “the listening ear.” Using an multimedia

archive spanning 100 years of American history (1845-1945) and several artistic genres — narratives of the enslaved, opera, the novel, so-called “dialect stories,” folk and blues, early sound cinema, and radio drama, the book also explores how Black thinkers conceived the cultural politics of listening at work during slavery, Reconstruction, and Jim Crow by amplifying Harriet Jacobs, Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, Charles Chesnut, The Fisk Jubilee Singers, Ann Petry, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Lena Horne as agents and theorists of sound. The author is an Associate Professor of English at the State University of New York at Binghamton.