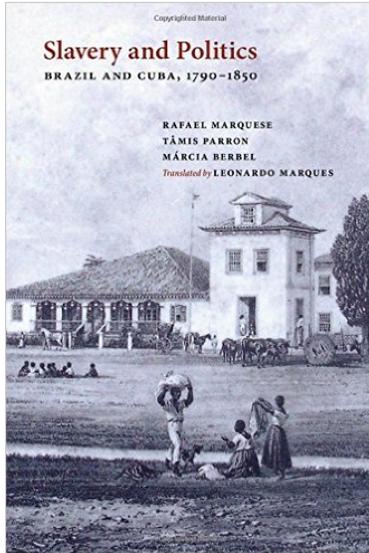


Relevant Books



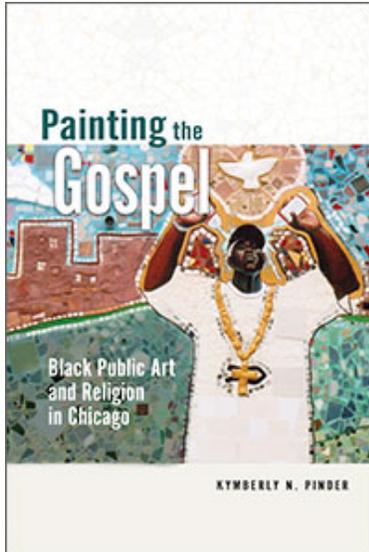
Marquese, Rafael, Tamis Parron, Marcia Berbel, eds., Leonardo Marques (*translator*). *Slavery and Politics: Brazil and Cuba, 1790-1850*. Pp.368. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2016, ISBN: 0826356486.

The politics of slavery and slave trade in nineteenth-century Cuba and Brazil is the subject of this study, first published in Brazil in 2010 and now available for the first time in English. Cubans and Brazilians were geographically separate from each other, but they faced common global challenges that unified the way they re-created their enslavement processes between 1790 and 1850 on a basis completely departed from centuries-old colonial enslavement. Here the authors examine the early arguments and strategies in favor of slavery and the slave trade and show how they were affected by the expansion of the global market for tropical goods, the American Revolution, the Haitian Revolution, the collapse of Iberian monarchies, British abolitionism, and the international pressure opposing transatlantic enslavement. Thus, this survey contributes to the comparative history of slavery, placing the subject in a global context rather than simply comparing the two societies as isolated units.



Agawu, Kofi. *The African Imagination in Music*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016, pp.388, ISBN: 0190263210.

This book offers an introduction to the major dimensions of African music and the values upon which it rests. The author guides readers through an exploration of the traditions, structural elements, instruments, and performative techniques that characterize the music (the work is also focus upon rhythm, melody, form, and harmony, and the essential parts of African music come into relief). The author also supplies insights into popular and art music to demonstrate the breadth of the African musical imagination, and the book foregrounds a hitherto under-reported legacy of recordings and insists on the necessity of experiencing music as sound in order to appreciate and understand it fully.



Pinder, Kymberly N. *Painting the Gospel: Black Public Art and Religion in Chicago*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2016, pp. 244 [60 color photographs, 8 black & white photographs, 6 map], ISBN: 978-0-252-08143-9.

This work offers a contribution to conversations about African American art, theology, politics, and identity in Chicago, Illinois. Hence, the author escorts readers on an eye-opening odyssey to the murals, stained glass, and sculptures dotting the city's African American churches and neighborhoods, explores ideas like Blackness in public, art for Black communities, and the relationship of Afrocentric art to Black Liberation Theology. And last, the book focuses attention on art excluded from scholarship due to racial or religious particularity, and throughout the book the author reflects on the myriad ways private Black identities assert public and political goals through imagery. The book also

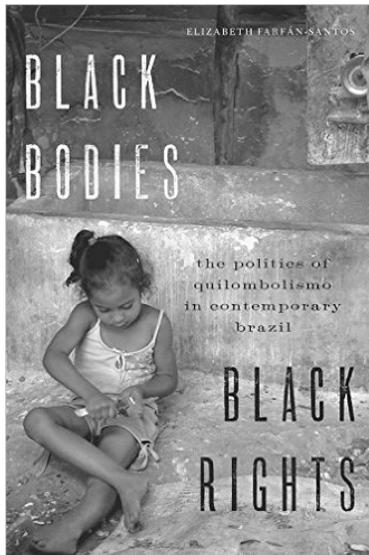
includes maps and tour itineraries that allow readers to make conceptual, historical, and geographical connections among the works. The author is Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of New Mexico.



Soyinka, Wole and Samir Amin, Bereket Habte Selassie, Micere Githae Mugo, Thandika Mkandawire, (introduction by Issa Shivji) eds. *Reimagining Pan-Africanism: Distinguished Mwalimu Nyerere Lecture Series 2009-2013*. Mkuki na Nyota Publishers, Tanzania, 2016, pp.274, ISBN: 9789987082674.

The establishment in 2008 of the Mwalimu Nyerere Chair on Pan-Africanism with Professor Issa Shivji as its first Chairman, and the annual Distinguished Nyerere Lectures Series inaugurating annual intellectual festivals was, in Professor Shivji's introduction to this volume of collected lectures, "the resurrection of radical Pan-Africanism at the University of Dar es salaam." The impact of the festivals and the lectures went well beyond the university community, as substantial number of the participants at these lectures and debates were citizen intellectuals, not part of the university community. The calibre of the distinguished lecturers

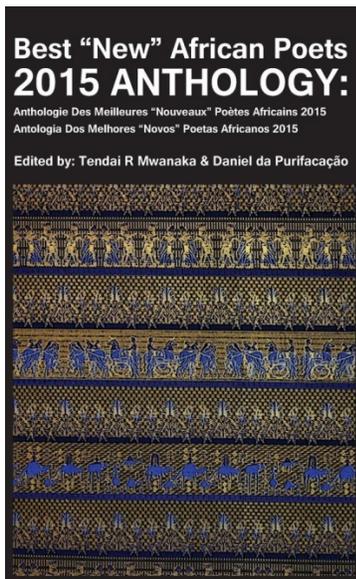
speaks for itself; there could be no better representation of progressive African intellectuals honoring the legacy of Mwalimu Nyerere, than Professors Wole Soyinka, Samir Amin, Bereket Habte Selassie, Micere Githae Mugo and Thandika Mkandawire whose lectures are published in this book.



Farfán-Santos, Elizabeth. *Black Bodies, Black Rights: The Politics of Quilombolismo in Contemporary Brazil*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 2016, pp. 210, ISBN: 147730942X.

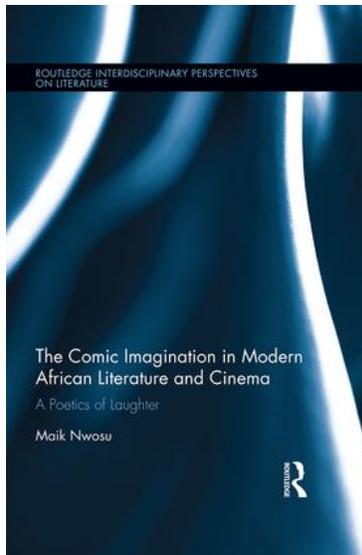
Drawing on a year of field research in a quilombola community, this book explores how quilombo recognition has significantly affected the everyday lives of those who experience the often-complicated political process. Questions of identity, race, and entitlement play out against a community's struggle to prove its historical authenticity—and to gain the land and rights they need to survive. This work demonstrates the lived experience of a new, particular form of blackness in Brazil, and it also shows how Blackness is being mobilized and reimagined to gain social rights and political recognition, and thus represents an important contribution to the rapidly growing interdisciplinary field of Afro-Latino studies. The backdrop in the sage is that under a provision

in the Brazilian constitution, rural Black communities identified as the modern descendants of quilombos—runaway enslaved communities—are promised land rights as a form of reparations for the historic exclusion of Black people from land ownership. The quilombo provision has been hailed as a success for the rights of Black people; however, rights for quilombolas are highly controversial and, in many cases, have led to violent land conflicts. Although thousands of rural Black communities have been legally recognized, only a handful have received the rights they were promised. Conflict over quilombola rights is widespread and carries important consequences for race relations and political representations of blackness in twenty-first century Brazil.



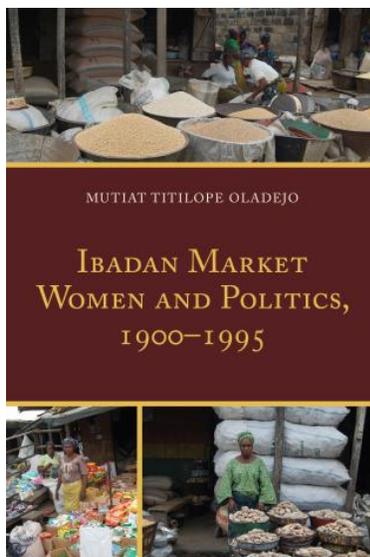
Mwanaka, Tendai Rinos and Daniel da Purificação, eds. *Best New African Poets 2015 Anthology*. Langa RPCIG, Cameroon, 2016, pp.386, ISBN: 9789956763481.

This volume consist of 214 poems and 79 poets, from over 23 African countries and the Diasporas, the contains poems that deal with a panoply of issues, feelings, thoughts, ideas, beliefs..., on identity, Africanness (Blackness, Whiteness, Arabic, Asian...), culture, heritage, place, politics, (mis)governance, corruption, exile, loss, memory, spirituality, sex, gender, love, the individual and many others. It travels from Cape to Cairo, Monrovia to Nairobi, rooms in the Moroccan Sahara desert, pastoral idyllic Savannas, the rainy equatorial rainforests and then into the Diasporas as each poet speaks his/her own story of the Africa that she/he knows, dreams and envisions with protective pride and resolute dedication.



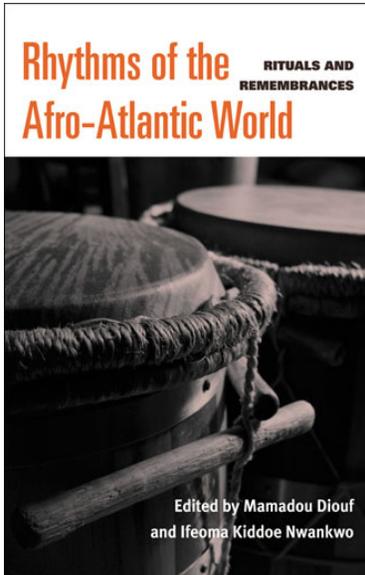
Nwosu, Maik. *The Cosmic Imagination in Modern African Literature and Cinema: A Poetics of Laughter*. NY: Routledge, 2016, pp.148, ISBN: 9781138942660.

This book is a study that expands interdisciplinary discourse on African literature and cinema by exploring Africa's under-visited carnivalesque poetics of laughter. Focusing on modern African literature as well as contemporary African cinema, particularly the direct-to-video Nigerian film industry known as Nollywood, hence, the book examines the often-neglected aesthetics of the African comic imagination. The author is an associate professor of English at the University of Denver, Colorado, and an award-winning novelist, poet, and journalist.



Oladejo, Mutiat Titilope. *Ibadan Market Women and Politics, 1900-1995*. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2015, pp.198, ISBN: 978-1-4985-1855-0.

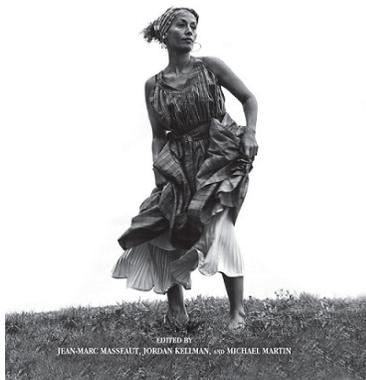
This study examines the historical development of the roles of Ibadan market women in politics between 1900 and 1995 with a view to establishing their contributions a thorough historical analysis based on the Ibadan Divisional and Provincial papers, and newspapers of the nationalists' era (1945-1960) *Nigerian Tribune* and *Southern Nigerian Defender* from the National Archives Ibadan. And simultaneously, Ibadan market women were also involved in party politics of the National Council for Nigeria and Cameroons; Action Group; and traditional power politics in Nigeria. The author is an assistant lecturer in the History Department at the University of Ibadan.



Diouf, Mamadou and Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo. *Rhythms of the Afro-Atlantic World: Rituals and Remembrances*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2010, pp. 298, ISBN: 9780472070961.

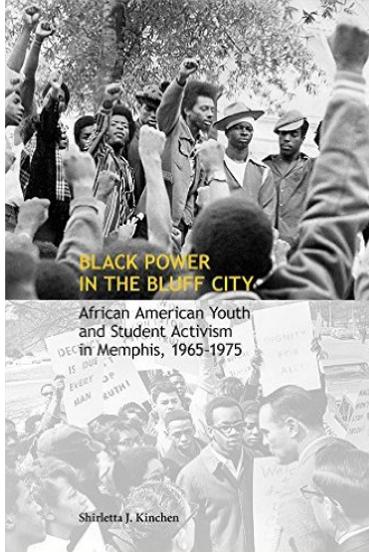
This collection of essays connects nations from across the Atlantic—Senegal, Kenya, Trinidad, Cuba, Brazil, and the United States, among others—highlighting contemporary popular, folkloric, and religious music and dance. Hence the work is a collection focusing on the circulation of cultural forms across the Atlantic world, tracing the paths trod by a range of music and dance forms within, across, or beyond the variety of locales that constitute the Atlantic world. Mamadou Diouf is the Leitner Family Professor of African Studies, director of the Institute of African Studies, and professor of History at Columbia University, and Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo is Associate Professor of English at Vanderbilt University.

Creolization
in the French Americas



Masseaut, Jean-Marc Masseaut, Jordan Kellman, and Michael Martin, eds. *Creolization in the French Americas*. Lafayette: University of Louisiana at Lafayette Press, 2016, pp.314. ISBN: 9781935754688.

This book aims to uncover and explore the roots, development, and cultural dynamism of Creole society and culture in the colonial and post-colonial francophone world. The essays and creative works gathered draw from distinct but related literatures emerging in the Francophone, Anglophone, African, and Caribbean scholarship on creolization. The collection embodies the conviction that complex phenomena like the emergence and evolution of Creole identity require perspectives that only a diversity of disciplines and points of view can offer, and that those disciplines and perspectives can come together and progress toward knowledge and understanding.



Kinchen, Shirletta J. *Black Power in the Bluff City: African American Youth and Student Activism in Memphis, 1965–1975*. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 2015, pp.312, ISBN:978-1621901877.

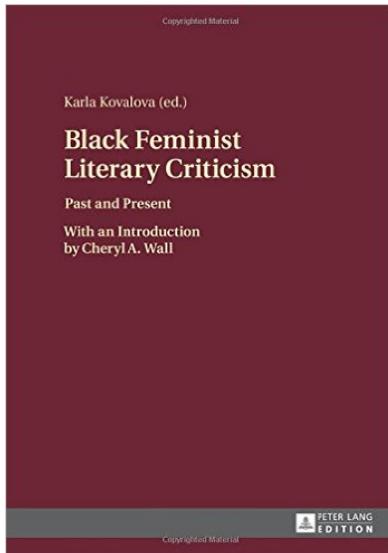
While Black Power activism on the coasts and in the Midwest has attracted considerable scholarly attention, much less has been written about the movement’s impact outside these hotbeds. This work helps redress that imbalance by examining how young Memphis activists, like Coby Smith and Charles Cabbage, dissatisfied by the pace of progress in a city emerging from the Jim Crow era, embraced Black Power ideology to confront such challenges as gross disparities in housing, education, and employment as well as police brutality and harassment. Two closely related Black Power organizations, the Black Organizing Project and the Invaders, became central to the local Black youth movement in the late 1960s. Thus the author traces these groups’ participation in the 1968 sanitation workers’ strike—including the controversy over whether their activities precipitated events that culminated in Martin Luther King’s assassination—and their subsequent involvement in War on Poverty programs. The book also shows how Black Power ideology drove activism at the historically African American LeMoyne-Owen College, scene of a 1968 administration-building takeover, and at the predominately white Memphis State University, where Black students transformed the campus by creating parallel institutions that helped strengthen Black student camaraderie and consciousness in the face of marginalization. Drawing on interviews with activists, FBI files, newspaper accounts from the period, and many other sources, the author shows not only how an emerging generation helped define the Black freedom struggle in Memphis but also how they applied the tenets of Black Power to shape the broader community.

**YOUR AVERAGE
NIGGA
PERFORMING
RACE
LITERACY
AND MASCULINITY**
VERSHAWN ASHANTI YOUNG



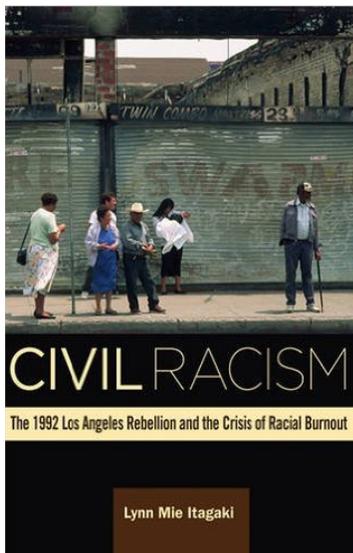
Young, Vershawn Ashanti. *Your Average Nigga: Performing Race, Literacy, and Masculinity*. Detroit, MI: Wayne State University Press, 2007, pp. 192, ISBN: 9780814335765.

In this work, the author disputes the belief that speaking Standard English and giving up Black English Vernacular helps Black students succeed academically, and argues that this assumption not only exaggerates the differences between two compatible varieties of English but forces Black males to choose between an education and their masculinity, by choosing to act either white or black. Hence, the shares his own experiences as he exposes the factors that make Black racial identity irreconcilable with literacy for Black people, especially Black males. Drawing on a range of interdisciplinary scholarship in performance theory and African American literary and cultural studies, and shows that the linguistic conflict that exists between Black and white language styles harms Black students from the inner city the most. If these students choose to speak Standard English they risk alienating themselves from their families and communities, and if they choose to retain their customary speech and behavior they may isolate themselves from mainstream society. Therefore, the author argues that this conflict leaves Black people in the impossible position of either trying to be white or forever struggling to prove that they are black enough. For men, this also becomes an endless struggle to prove that they are masculine enough which the author calls this a constant effort to display proper masculine and racial identity with the burden of racial performance. And ultimately, the author argues that racial and verbal performances are a burden because they cannot reduce the causes or effects of racism, nor can they denaturalize supposedly fixed identity categories, as many theorists contend.



Kovalova, Karla, ed.; introduction by Cheryl A. Wall. *Black Feminist Literary Criticism*. Österreich, Austria: Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften, 2016, pp.179, ISBN: 3631667582.

This collection of essays explores past and current productions of Black feminist theorizing, attempting to trace the trajectories in Black feminist criticism that have emerged in American scholarship since the 1990s. Taking Black feminist literary criticism as the subject of inquiry, the book focuses on the field's recent theoretical contributions to literary productions and their impact on other fields. The author teaches in the English Department of the University of Ostrava, Ostrava (Czech Republic).

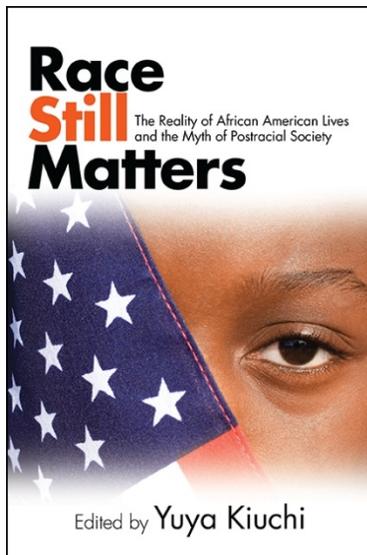


Itagaki, Lynn Mie. *Civil Racism: The 1992 Los Angeles Rebellion and the Crisis of Racial Burnout*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press, 2016, pp.312, ISBN: 0816699216.

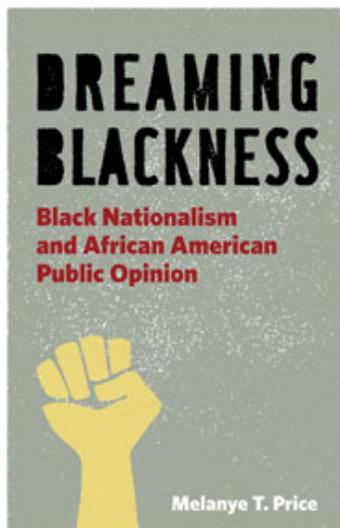
This book examines a range of cultural reactions to the “riots” anchored by calls for a racist civility, a central component of the aesthetics and politics of the post-civil rights era. Hence, the author argues that the rebellion interrupted the rhetoric of “civil racism,” which she defines as the preservation of civility at the expense of racial equality. As an expression of structural racism, the author writes, civil racism exhibits the active—though often unintentional—perpetuation of discrimination through one’s everyday engagement with the state and society. The author is particularly interested in how civility manifests in societal institutions such as the family, the school, and the neighborhood, and she investigates dramatic, filmic, and literary texts by African

American, Asian American, and Latina/o artists and writers that contest these demands for a racist civility. She specifically addresses what she sees as two “blind spots” in society and in scholarship. One is the invisibility of Asians and Latinas/os in media coverage and popular culture that, she posits, importantly shapes Black-White racial formations in dominant mainstream discourses about race. The second is the scholarly separation of two critical traditions that should be joined in analyses of racial injustice and the 1992 Los Angeles rebellion: comparative race studies and feminist theories.

Kiuchi, Yuya, ed. *Race Still Matters: The Reality of African American Lives and the Myth of Postracial Society*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2016, pp.84, ISBN: 978-1-4384-6273-8.

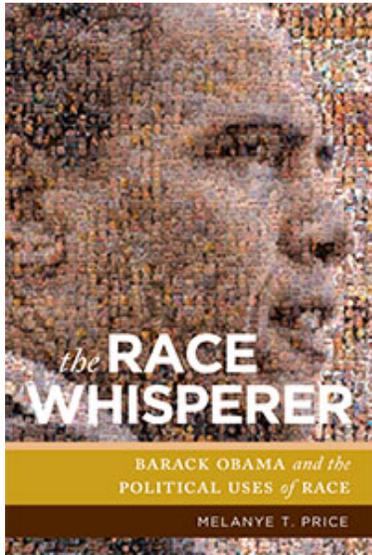


In this work is a series of *essays debunking the notion that contemporary America is a colorblind society, thus*, contributors drawn from a wide array of disciplines to use multidisciplinary methods to explore topics such as Black family experiences, hate crimes, race and popular culture, residual discrimination, economic and occupational opportunity gaps, healthcare disparities, education, law enforcement issues, youth culture, and the depiction of Black female athletes to argue that race still very much matters in the United States today. And thus, African Americans continue to face both explicit and latent discriminations in housing, healthcare, education, and every facet of their lives coupled with recent cases involving law enforcement officers shooting unarmed Black men. The author is an assistant professor of Human Development and Family Studies at Michigan State University.



Price, Melanye T. *Dreaming Blackness: Black Nationalism and African American Public Opinion*. New York: New York University Press, 2009, pp.240, ISBN: 0814767451.

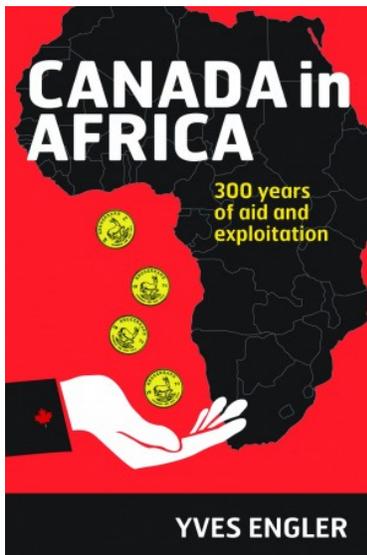
This book explores the current understandings of Black Nationalism among African Americans, thus, the author argues that Black Nationalism continues to enjoy moderate levels of support by most Black people but it has a more difficult time gaining a larger stronghold today because of an increasing diversity among Black people and a growing emphasis on individualism over collective struggle. However, the book shows that Black interests are a dynamic negotiation among various interested groups and suggests that those differences are not just important for the "Black agenda" but also for how African Americans think and dialogue about Black political questions daily. Using a mix of everyday talk and statistical data to explain contemporary Black opinions, the author highlights how Black Nationalism works in a "post-racial" society. Ultimately, a multilayered portrait of African American political opinions is offered to provide an understanding of race specific ideological views and their impact on African Americans, illustrating that Black Nationalism is an ideology that scholars and politicians should not dismiss.



Price, Melanye T. *The Race Whisperer: Barack Obama and the Political Uses of Race*. New York: New York University Press, 2016, pp.224, ISBN: 9781479819256.

This book analyzes the manner in which Barack Obama uses race strategically to engage with and win the loyalty of potential supporters; and uses examples from Obama's campaigns and presidency to demonstrate his ability to authentically tap into notions of blackness and whiteness to appeal to particular constituencies. The book also considers the impact of Obama's use of race on the ongoing quest for Black political empowerment. Unfortunately, racial advocacy for African Americans has been made more difficult because of the intense scrutiny of Obama's relationship with the Black community, Obama's unwillingness to be more publicly vocal in light of that scrutiny, and the Black community's reluctance to use traditional

protest and advocacy methods on a Black president. Ultimately, the book argues for a more complex reading of race in the age of Obama. The author is associate professor of Africana Studies and Political Science at Rutgers University, New Brunswick.



Engler, Yves. *Canada in Africa: 300 Years of Aid and Exploitation*. Black Point, Nova Scotia: Fernwood Publishing Company, 2015, pp.328, ISBN: 9781552667620.

This book reveals Canada's opposition to anticolonial struggles, its support for apartheid South Africa and Idi Amin's coup, and its role in ousting independence leaders Patrice Lumumba and Kwame Nkrumah. Based on an exhaustive look at the public record as well as on-the-ground research, it shows how the federal government pressed African countries to follow neoliberal economic prescriptions and sheds light on Canada's part in the violence that has engulfed Somalia, Rwanda and the Congo, as well as how Canada's indifference to climate change means a death sentence to ever-growing numbers of people in Africa.

Viola Desmond's Canada

A History of Blacks and Racial Segregation in the Promised Land



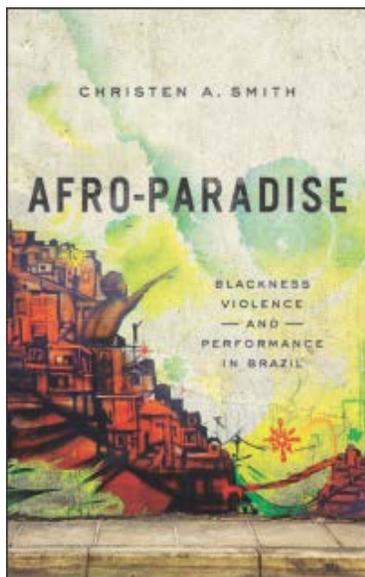
Graham Reynolds

*With Wanda Robson
Foreword by George Elliott Clarke*

Reynolds, Graham. *Viola Desmond's Canada: A History of Blacks and Racial Segregation in the Promised Land*. Black Point, Nova Scotia: Fernwood Publishing Company, 2016, pp. 218, ISBN: 9781552668375.

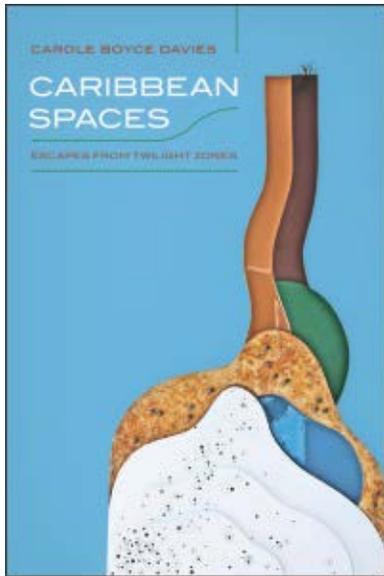
This volume provides a concise overview of the narrative of the Black experience in Canada as the author traces the narrative from enslavement under French and British rule in the eighteenth century to the practice of racial segregation and the fight for racial equality in the twentieth century. Included are personal recollections by Wanda Robson, Viola Desmond's youngest sister, together with important but previously unpublished documents and other primary sources in the history of Black people in Canada. Unknown to many, in 1946 Viola Desmond was wrongfully arrested for sitting in a whites-only section of a movie theatre in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia (in 2010, the Nova Scotia Government recognized this gross miscarriage of justice and posthumously granted her a free pardon).

This book tells Desmond's story and how racial segregation existed throughout many parts of Canada during most of the twentieth century.



Smith, Christen A. *Afro-Paradise: Blackness, Violence, and Performance in Brazil*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2016, pp.280, ISBN: 978-0-252-08144-6.

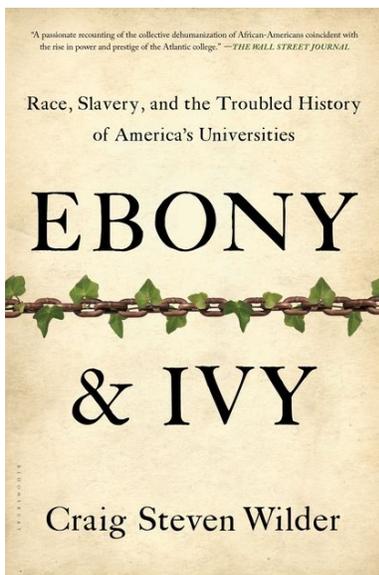
This work argues that the dialectic of glorified representations of Black people and subsequent state repression reinforces Brazil's racially hierarchal society. Interpreting the violence as both institutional and performative, the author follows a grassroots movement and social protest theater troupe in their campaigns against racial violence. As the author reveals, economies of Black pain and suffering form the backdrop for the staged, scripted, and choreographed Afro-paradise that dazzles visitors. Hence, work of grassroots organizers exposes this relationship, exploding illusions and asking unwelcome questions about the impact of state violence performed against the still-marginalized mass of Afro-Brazilians.



Davies, Carole Boyce. *Caribbean Spaces: Escapes from Twilight Zones*. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2013, pp.264, ISBN: 978-0-252-07953-5.

Drawing on both personal experience and critical theory, this book illuminates the complexity of Caribbean culture and traces its migratory patterns throughout the Americas. Both a memoir and a scholarly study, the book explores the multivalent meanings of Caribbean space and community in a cross-cultural and trans-disciplinary perspective. From her childhood in Trinidad and Tobago to life and work in communities and universities in Nigeria, Brazil, England, and the United States, the author portrays a set of personal and professional experiences. Hence, she reflects on these movements to understand the interrelated dynamics of race, gender, and sexuality embedded in Caribbean spaces, as well as many

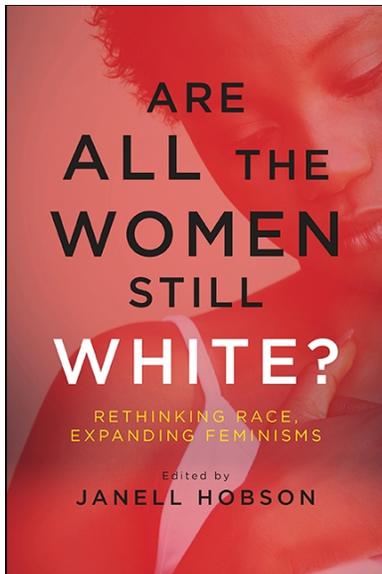
Caribbean people's traumatic and transformative stories of displacement, migration, exile, and sometimes returns from exile. Throughout, she demonstrates how a Caribbean perspective has linked her political vision to broader currents of the Black World including the Civil Rights Movement, the environmental catastrophes of Haiti, and the failure of the New Orleans levees during Hurricane Katrina, etc. Ultimately, the author reestablishes the connections between theory and practice, intellectual work and activism, and personal and private space.



Wilder, Craig Steven. *Ebony and Ivy: Race, Slavery, and the Troubled History of America's Universities*. New York, NY: Bloomsbury Press, 2014, pp. 432, ISBN: 1608194027.

This book outlines the truths about race, slavery, and the American academy. In short, it shows that leading universities in the U.S. (Brown, Harvard, Yale, and Princeton to Rutgers, Williams College, and the University of North Carolina ...) were dependent on human bondage and became breeding grounds for the racist ideas that sustained it. Historically, the earliest academies proclaimed their mission to Christianize the "savages" of North America and played a key role in white conquest. And later, the enslavement economy and higher education profited on free African labor as slavery funded colleges, built campuses, and paid the wages of professors. The demeaning labor of the enslaved at the campuses involved waited on faculty and

students; and ironically, academic leaders aggressively courting the support of slave owners and slave traders.



Hobson, Janell, ed. *Are All the Women Still White? Rethinking Race, Expanding Feminisms*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2016, pp.346, ISBN: 978-1-4384-6059-8.

This volume provides a contemporary response to *All the Women Are White, All the Blacks Are Men, But Some of Us Are Brave* (originally published in 1982, and thus, the first comprehensive collection of Black feminist scholarship, featuring essays by Alice Walker, the Combahee River Collective, and Barbara Smith, a syllabi collection, and original resources), and *This Bridge Called My Back* (originally released in 1981, the work is a testimony to women of color feminism as it emerged in the last quarter of the twentieth century via personal essays, criticism, interviews, testimonials, poetry, and visual art). Hence, this updated expands upon this transformation of consciousness through multiracial feminist perspectives. The

contributors reflect on transnational issues as diverse as intimate partner violence, the prison industrial complex, social media, inclusive pedagogies, transgender identities, and (post) digital futures.



Tesler, Michael. *Post-Racial or Most-Racial?: Race and Politics in the Obama Era*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2016, pp.272, ISBN: 022635301X.

This work shows how, in the years that followed the 2008 election—a presidential election more polarized by racial attitudes than any other in modern times—racial considerations have come increasingly to influence many aspects of political decision making. These range from people’s evaluations of prominent politicians and the parties to issues seemingly unrelated to race like assessments of public policy or objective economic conditions. Some people even displayed more positive feelings toward Obama’s dog, Bo, when they were told he belonged to Ted Kennedy. More broadly, the author argues that the rapidly intensifying influence of race in American politics is driving the polarizing partisan divide and the vitriolic

atmosphere that has come to characterize American politics. The topics in the book include: Obama as most-racial; racial attitudes and American politics in the age of Obama; the spillover of racialization hypothesis, the Obama presidency, racial attitudes, and the 2012 election; racial attitudes and evaluations of public figures in the Obama era; the spillover of racialization into public policy preferences; and racial attitudes and voting for congress in the Obama era.