CARIBBEAN CULTURAL THOUGHT
FROM PLANTATION TO DIASPORA

Edited by
Yanique Hume and Aaron Kamugisha

IAN RANDLE PUBLISHERS
Kingston • Miami
(2013)
# Table of Contents

Acknowledgements / xi

Publisher’s Acknowledgements / xiii

Introduction: Caribbean Cultural Thought in Pursuit of Freedom
Yanique Hume and Aaron Kamugisha / xix

## Anti-Colonial Thought

The Equality of the Human Races: Positivist Anthropology (excerpt) / 1
Anténor Firmin

Our America
José Martí / 7

La Vocation d’élite (excerpt) / 13
Jean Price-Mars

Culture and Colonisation
Aimé Césaire / 28

The Malaise of a Civilization
Suzanne Césaire / 40

Racism and Culture
Frantz Fanon / 43

Hiccups
Léon Damas / 51

I Come from the Nigger Yard
Martin Carter / 54

## Caribbean Nationalisms

Africa for the Africans
Marcus Garvey / 59

Race and Creole Ethnicity in the Caribbean
Percy Hintzen / 62

Caliban: Notes Toward a Discussion of Culture in Our America
Roberto Fernández Retamar / 75

Not Just (Any)Body Can Be a Citizen: The Politics of Law, Sexuality
and Postcoloniality in Trinidad and Tobago and The Bahamas
M. Jacqui Alexander / 91

Song for Puerto Rico
Nicholás Guillén / 106
The Plantation

Plantation Society: Toward a General Theory of Caribbean Society
George Beckford / 109

Beckford and the Predicaments of Caribbean Culture
George Lamming / 121

The Dark Complete World of a Caribbean Store:
A Note on the World System
Richard Price / 127

Reluctant Matriarchs
Lucille Mathurin-Mair / 130

The Origins of Reconstituted Peasantries
Sidney Mintz / 135

Culture on the Edges: Creolization in the Plantation Context
Michel-Rolph Trouillot / 142

Cultural Identity and Social Change

On the Social Phenomenon of “Transculturation”
and Its Importance in Cuba
Fernando Ortiz / 157

Transatlantic African Survivals and
the Dynamism of Negro Culture
Jean Price-Mars / 161

The Social Framework
Elsa Goveia / 167

Caribbean Man in Space and Time
Kamau Brathwaite / 174

Retentions and Survivals
Sidney W. Mintz and Richard Price / 185

The “Creolisation” of Indian Women in Trinidad
Patricia Mohammed / 190

Reputation and Respectability:
A Suggestion for Caribbean Ethnology
Peter Wilson / 202

That Event, This Memory: Notes on the Anthropology
of African Diasporas in the New World
David Scott / 215

Creolization and Nation-Building in the Hispanic Caribbean
Antonio Benitez-Rojo / 232
In the Night
Jamaica Kincaid

Caribbean Religions and Spiritualities
Introduction to Creole Religions of the Caribbean:
An Introduction from Vodou and Santería to Obeah and Espiritismo
Margarite Fernández Olmos and Lizabeth Paravisini-Gebert

The Spirit of the Thing:
Religious Thought and Social/Historical Memory
Patrick Bellegarde-Smith

Healing the Nation:
Rastafari Exorcism of the Ideology of Racism in Jamaica
Barry Chevannes

Ritual in Diaspora:
Pedagogy and Practice Among Hindus and Muslims in Trinidad
Aisha Khan

Visitation: The Legacy of African-Derived Religions in Jamaica
Dianne M. Stewart

Diaspora
Thinking the Diaspora: Home-Thoughts from Abroad
Stuart Hall

The Diasporic Mo(ve)ment: Indentureship and Indo-Caribbean Identity
Sean Lokaisingh-Meighoo

Re-Engineering Blackspace
Erna Brodber

Out on Main Street
Shani Mootoo

Colonisation in Reverse
Louise Bennett

Inglan is a Bitch
Linton Kwesi Johnson

The Star-Apple Kingdom
Derek Walcott

Afterword:
Horizons of Caribbean Studies: An Afterword-Overture
Aisha Khan