

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

Final Program Summary

Time	May 19 Monday	May 20 Tuesday	May 21 Wednesday	May 22 Thursday	May 23 Friday
7: 00 – 8:45		Mentors’ Breakfast – Venue: Grenada Grand Beach			
9:00 – 10:45	9:00 am – 10:00 am Registration Venue: Bourne Atrium	Simultaneous Sessions (C) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2	Simultaneous Sessions (E) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2	<i>The Status of Dutch Caribbean Literature</i> Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	Simultaneous Sessions (G) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2
10: 45 – 11:15	10:00- 10:30 Coffee Break – Bourne Atrium	Coffee Break - Bourne Atrium			
11:15 – 1:00	10:30- 12:00 Opening Ceremony Venue: Bourne Lecture hall	Plenary 1 Writers’ Roundtable Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	Plenary 2 Scholars’ Roundtable Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	<i>Remembering the Grenada Revolution -</i> Bourne Lecture Hall	Featured Speaker: Ellen Ombre – Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall
1:00 – 2:30	12:00 - 1:00 Lunch	Lunch	Lunch Business meeting – Venue: Caribbean House	Lunch Viewing of SARAKA – Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	Lunch
2:30 – 4:15	1:00 – 2:30 Simultaneous sessions (A) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2	Simultaneous Sessions (D) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2	Simultaneous Sessions (F) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2	ON THE MAP Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	Simultaneous Sessions (H) Venues: Founders Annex 1, 2
Coffee Breaks - Bourne Atrium					
4:45 – 6:30	3:00 – 4:45 Simultaneous Sessions (B) Venues: Founders	Book Launch and signing Venue: Caribbean House	Featured Speaker: Evelyne Trouillot – Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	Featured Speaker Josefina Baez – Venue: Bourne Lecture Hall	

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

	Annex 1, 2				
Evening 7:00 – 9:00	Opening reception Venue: Caribbean House	Keynote/public Lecture - Merle Collins Venue: Bell Hall	A gathering and a Celebration of Caribbean Women writers Venue: Coconut Beach		Gouyave Fish Friday Venue: Gouyave, St. Patrick's

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

DAY 1, Monday May 19

Registration - 9:00 a.m. onwards – Bourne Atrium

10:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony - **Bourne Lecture Hall**

Opening Remarks - Antonia MacDonald-Smythe, Conference Chair.
Introduction of Conference Committee

About ACWWS Meredith Gadsby, President, ACWWS
Introduction and Introduction of ACWWS Executive Board

Welcome on behalf of SGU Dr. Denis Paul, Director of Institutional Advancement

Musical Interlude

ACWWS Presidential Address - Past Presidents and Current President of ACWWS

Declaring conference open - Merle Collins

Lunch : 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

PANELS BEGIN AFTER LUNCH

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Panel 1, Founders' Annex 1

Following Footsteps, Making Paths: Literary Legacies and Genealogies

Chair : Regine Michelle Jean-Charles, University of Virginia

- a. Kezia Ann Page (Colgate University)
"Fable as Genealogy in Erna Brodber's *The Rainmaker's Mistake*."
- b. Alisa K. Brathwaite (MIT)
"Re-theorizing Migration in the Work of Merle Hodge"
- c. Regine Michelle Jean Charles (University of Virginia)

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“Of Memories and Men: Edwidge Danticat’s *Brother, I’m Dying* and Jamaica Kincaid’s *My Brother*”

Panel 2, Founders’ Annex 2

Framing Danticat.

Chair: Geta LeSeur, University of Arizona

a. Natalie Leger-Palmer (Cornell University)

“The Tragic Feminine: Tragic Imaginings in *Krik? Krak!*”

b. Camille Banks (University of Wisconsin)

“Imprints from the Village”: A New Way Home in Edwidge Danticat’s *The Farming of Bones*.”

c. Geta LeSeur (University of Arizona)

“Testimonies of Terror in Danticat’s *The Farming of Bones*.”

Coffee Break : 2:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Panel 3, Founders’ Annex 1

Who Speaks for Whom? New Directions in Caribbean Language and Cultural Identity -

Chair: Kalenda Eaton, Armstrong Atlantic State University

a. Sarah Barbour (Wake Forest University)

“To Read is To Bear Witness in *Le livre d’Emma*.”

b. Victoria Bridges Moussaron (Yale University)

The Isolation of a Woman’s Voice: *Jane Eyre* (C. Brontë), *Wide Sargasso Sea* (J. Rhys), and

“Jean Rhys” (D. Walcott).”

c. Gerise Herndon (Nebraska Wesleyan University)

“Victims, Stooges, or Honored Ancestors? Women Raise the Dead.”

d. Kalenda Eaton (Armstrong Atlantic State University)

“Moving Pictures With Sound: Diaspora, Spirituality, and Language in Helen Oyeyemi’s *The Opposite House* and Erna Brodber’s *Louisiana*.”

Panel 4, Founders’ Annex 2

Rethinking the Familiar -

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

Chair: Opal Palmer Adisa, Past President, ACWWS; Writer

a. Michelene Adams (St. George's University)

"Jamaica Kincaid's *At the Bottom of the River*: Tapping the Political Subconscious."

b. Lee E.S. Bessette (California State University, San Bernardino)

"Re-Imagining the Caribbean: Nalo Hopkinson's Speculative Worlds and Fantastic Fiction."

c. Alison Donnell (University of Reading)

"Once More With Feeling: Writing Beyond the Tempest of Masculine Colonial Struggle in Elizabeth Nunez's *Prospero's Daughter*."

d. Opal Palmer Adisa (College of the Arts)

"Is So Meh She- Miss Lou (Louise Bennett) in Her Own Words."



7:00 p.m.

OPENING RECEPTION – Caribbean House

(Hosted by St. George's University)

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

DAY 2, Tuesday May 20

Mentor's breakfast – Grenada Grand beach - 7:00 : 8:45 a.m.

Registration - 9:00 a.m. onwards – Bourne Atrium

9:00 a.m. -10:45 a.m.

Panel 5, Founders' Annex 1

Caribbean Revisions and Intertextuality: Elizabeth Nunez's Fiction

Chair: Jennifer Sparrow, Medgar Evers College

- a. Sandra Pouchet-Paquet (University of Miami)
"The Isle is Full of Noises: Mythical Space and Place in Elizabeth Nunez's *Prospero's Daughter*."
- b. Hyacinth Simpson (Ryerson's University)
"Gardening in the Tropics": Gender and Sexuality in Elizabeth Nunez's *Prospero's Daughter*."
- c. Patricia Saunders (University of Miami)
"Between Blackness and Being: Uprooting Home and Nation in Elizabeth Nunez's *Beyond the Limbo Silence*."
- d. Jennifer Sparrow (Medgar Evers College)
"Beyond the Ending to Brave New Worlds: Intertextual Strategies in the Novels of Elizabeth Nunez."

Respondent: Elizabeth Nunez (Medgar Evers College)

Panel 6, Founders' Annex 2

"Translating Caribbean Belonging Through Gender and Space"

Chair: April Shemak, Sam Houston State University

- a. Tanya Shields (University of North Carolina)
"Hell and Grace: Translating Caribbean Citizenship in *The True-History of Paradise* and *Crossing the Mangrove*."
- b. Belinda Deneen Wallace (University of New Mexico)
" Bridging the Body to Another Place: Translating Revolutionary Lyricism in Dionne's Brand's *In Another Place, Not Here* . . ."
- c. Gia Harewood (University of Maryland)
"Violent Masculinity in *The Harder They Come* and *Shottas*."

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

d. Randi Gray Kristensen (George Washington University)
“Translations of Freedom: Marronage in Atlantic Discourses.”

e. April Shemak (Sam Houston State University)
“Translating Haitian Women’s Oppression in *Walking on Fire: Haitian Women’s Stories of Survival and Resistance*.”

Coffee Break: 10:45 – 11:15
Bourne Atrium

May 20, 11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Plenary 1: Bourne Lecture Hall

Writers Speak

Chair: Meredith Gadsby, President, ACWWS

Writers/Presenters:

Eulalia Bernard

Myriam Chancy

Ismene Krishnadath

Elizabeth Nunez

2:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Panel 7, Founders’ Annex 1

Caribbean Women Writers and Transnational Locations: Hybridity, Myth and Racialized Voices

Chair: Australia Tarver, ACWWS Executive,

a. **Peggy Watson** (Texas Christian University)
“Order and Chaos in Christina Garcia’s *Monkey Hunting*.”

b. **Charlotte Willis** [Fordham University]
“Myth and History in Michelle Cliff’s *Free Enterprise*.”

c. **Sharon Fairchild** (Texas Christian University)
“Creating a Self: Location, Family and Writing in Gisèle Pineau’s *Fleur de Barbarie*.”

d. **Australia Tarver** (Texas Christian University)
“Mixed Geographical Bodies and Hidden Histories in Charlotte Williams’ Memoir, *Sugar and Slate*.”

Panel 8, Founders’ Annex 2

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

Crossing Boundaries: Travel and Geography

Chair: Evelyn O’Callaghan, University of The West Indies, Cavehill, Barbados

a. Keith Cartwright (University of North Florida)

“A Mourner’s Travel Narrative of Adoption: Paule Marshall’s *Praisesong for The Widow* and *The Journey from Carolina to Carriacou and Back*.”

b. Myriam Chancy (Louisiana State University)

“How Long Away From Home?: Myths of Place and Community.”

c. Michelle Felix (Marquette University)

“*Praisesong for the Widow* and the Imperial Tradition of the Travel Narrative.”

d. Maria Christina Rodriguez (Universidad de Puerto Rico)

“Multiple Geographies: Making the Distant Familiar.”

4:45 p. m - 6:30 p.m.

Book Launch – **Caribbean House**

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Conference Keynote - Bell Lecture Hall

Merle Collins: *Caribbean Women Writing in the 21st Century: Visions to Recover, Creations to Re-Create.*

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

DAY 3, Wednesday, May 21

Registration - 9:00 a.m. onwards – Bourne Atrium

9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Panel 9, Founders' Annex 1

Courting Risk: Narratives of Resistance

Chair: Evelyn Hawthorne , Past President, ACWWS, Howard University

- a. Denise deCaires Narain (University of Sussex)
“Have Spunks and do Battle for Yourself’: Maids, Madams and a Politics of Resistance in Women’s Texts.”
- b. Michelle Smith-Bermiss (James Madison University)
“Bikini Mas Politics: Contesting Independence in Contemporary Carnival.”
- c. Omise’eke Natasha Tinsley (University of Minnesota)
“When She Was My Shipmate: Theorizing 21st Century Caribbean Feminism in Recent Neo-Slave Narratives.”
- d. Nicole Roberts (UWI, St. Augustine)
“The Crucible of Violence: Women Negotiating Identities in Hispanic Caribbean Narrative.”

Panel 10, Founders' Annex 2

Religion, Spirituality and the Magic Realist Tradition in Caribbean Women’s Writings

Chair: Rhonda Frederick, ACWWS Executive

- a. Linda Leek (Berea College)
“The Politics of Religion: Julia Alvarez’s Revolutionary Migrations.”
- b. Angelette Gourdine (Louisiana State University)
“Santeria, Afro-Cuban Religion, and Spirituality: Christina Garcia and Flor Fernandez-Barrios.”
- c. Maria de Jesus Cordero (Utah State University)
“The Liquid Landscapes of Women’s Stories and the Rebirth of the Nation in Zoé Valdés’ *Traficantes de Belleza*.”
- d. Adam Dworkis (University of Kansas)

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

“Fire and Sweet Water: African-Caribbean Gods as Archetypes in Jean Rhys’s *Wide Sargasso Sea* and Maryse Condé’s *I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem*.”

Coffee Break: 10:45 – 11:15

Bourne Atrium

11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Plenary 2, Bourne Lecture Hall

Scholars Speak: Towards an Affective Community

Chair: Antonia MacDonald-Smythe, Conference Chair, St. George’s University

Presenters

Alison Donnell

Evelyn O’Callaghan

Sandra Pouchet Paquet

Shalini Puri

Lunch Meeting of ACWWS

Caribbean House

1:00p.m. - 2:20 p.m.

2:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Panel 11, Founders’ Annex 1

Literature and Socio-politics

Chair: Michelene Adams, St. George’s University

a. Angelique Nixon (University of Florida)

“The Politics of Consciousness: Erna Brodber’s Blackspace-- Building Community and Educo-Tourism.”

b. Alexis Pauline Gumbs (Duke University)

“Revolutionary Generation: Towards a Poetics of Self-Determination, Anguilla 1967-1971.”

c. Julie Moody Freeman (DePaul University)

“A Doin Good , but a wan du betta’: Towards a Revolutionary Belizean Poetics of Survival.”

d. Stephanie Scurto (University of Kansas)

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

“The Language of Labour—The Labour of Language: Edwidge Danticat’s Work in *The Farming of Bones*.”

Panel 12, Founders’ Annex 1

Voicelessness and Agency

Chair: Juliet Emmanuel, ACWWS Executive Board.

a. Yvonne McDonald (University of Wisconsin)

“River Woman: the Challenge of a 21st Century Writer.”

b. Edyta Oczkowicz (Salem College)

“Unhomely Death: Xuela’s Performance of hybridity in Jamaica Kincaid’s *The Autobiography of My Mother*.”

c. Marie Léticée (University of Central Florida)

“Maryse Condé: A Writer’s Journey Toward the True Color of Her Voice.”

d. Carolyn Cooper (University of the West Indies, Mona)

“ No, Woman, No Cry: Rita Marley’s Feminist Fable.

4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

ACWWS Feature- **Bourne Lecture Hall**

ACWWS Featured Speaker

Haitian Writer: Evelyne Trouillot

“Memories and Traumatism.”

7:00 p.m. – 10 p.m.

A Gathering and a Celebration of Caribbean Women Writers -

Coconut Beach

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

DAY 4, Thursday, May 22

Registration - 9:00 a.m. onwards – Bourne Atrium

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Panel 13, Bourne Lecture Hall

The Status of Dutch-Caribbean Studies

Chair: Hilde Neus, Independent scholar

- a. Marilyn Simons (Writer/ Independent Scholar)
“The Need for Surinamese / Caribbean Children’s literature.”
- b. Hilde Neus (Suriname Museum)
“‘Renovelling’ the Past: Suriname Women Writers and History.”
- c. Alida Neslo (Director/ Independent Scholar)
“Theatre in Suriname : From Our ‘Roaring Sixties’ and Beyond...”
- d. Ismene Krishnadath (Writer/ President, Schrijversgroep '77)
“ Reflection of Indo-Ethnicity in Contemporary Dutch Caribbean Prose Fiction.”

Coffee Break: 10:45 – 11:15

Bourne Atrium

11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Panel 14, Bourne Lecture Hall

Remembering the Grenadian Revolution

Chair: Shalini Puri, University of Pittsburg

- a. Dessima William (Brandeis University)
“The Storm That Never Ended: How the Grenada Revolution Stays Alive.”
- b. Helen Scott (University of Vermont)
“The Legacy of the Grenada Revolution in Literature.”
- c. Shalini Puri (University of Pittsburg)
“Hurricane Histories: Landscapes and Languages of Revolutionary Memory.”

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

d. Merle Collins (University of Maryland)

“Say It In Performance: The Story That is Still Difficult to Speak.”

LUNCH ACTIVITY:

Viewing of SARA KA

Bourne Lecture Hall

1:00p.m. - 2:20 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Annalee Davis (Independent Scholar)

ON THE MAP - Bourne Lecture Hall

Coffee Break: 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.

Bourne Atrium

4:45 p.m. – 6:00; p.m.

- Bourne Lecture Hall

ACWWS Featured Speaker

Santo Dominican Actress, Writer and Theatre Director, Josefina Baez:
"Del alma al sol, del sol al alma: Intervenciones Personales de una Artista Dominican-York, en Estos Tiempos Glociales". (Soul to Sun, Back and Forth and All in Between: Interventions of the Self by a Dominican-York Artist)

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

DAY 5, Friday May 23

Registration - 9:00 a.m. onwards – Bourne Atrium

9:00 a.m. -10:45 a.m.

Panel 15, Founders' Annex 1

Sexuality and The Body A -

Chair: Donette Francis, Binghamton University

- a. Paula Morgan (UWI, St. Augustine)
“Of Far Horizons and Safe Harbours: Women’s Bodies and Transnational Concourse.”
- b. Monique Blerald (Université des Antilles et de la Guyane)
“Corps Femenin, Creation Plurielle et Guyane Multiculturelle.”
- c. Njeri Githirie (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities)
“Captain Bligh, Queen Victoria and the Cannibalism of Post-War Britain: Rewriting Imperial Conquest in Andrea Levy’s *Small Island*.”
- d. Jean Antoine-Dunne (UWI, St. Augustine)
“Spirit, Sexuality & Self-Discovery in Works by Jennifer Rahim & Erna Brodber.”

Panel 16, Founders' Annex 2

Sexuality and the Body B - Chair: Curdella Forbes, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica

- a. Rosamond King (Long Island University-Brooklyn)
“Written Out? The Presence and Absence of Women-Loving-Women in Caribbean Texts.”
- b. Geraldine Elizabeth Skeete (UWI, St. Augustine)
“All (Not) in the Heterosexual Family: Queer Relationships and Progenies in Anglophone Caribbean Literature.”
- c. Curdella Forbes (UWI, Mona)
“Yearning for Utopia: Earth, Body, Deviance and Festive-Carnival Failure in *Cereus Blooms at Night*.”

Coffee Break: 10:45 – 11:15

Bourne Atrium

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

11:15 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Bourne Lecture Hall

ACWWS Featured Speaker:

Surinamese Novelist: Ellen Ombre

“Departure and Arrival, Alienation and Familiarity.”

Lunch 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. -4:15 p.m.

Panel 17, Founders’ Annex 1

Decoding the text

Chair: Vicki Silvera, ACWWS Executive

a. Martha Kelehan (Binghamton University)

“The Reading and Reception of Marie Chauvet’s Amour, Colere et Folie: A Contemporary Rare Book.”

b. Kara Rabbitt (University of New Jersey)

“Revisioning History into Story: Suzanne Cesaire Cross-Examines Lafcadio Hearn on the Significance of the 1848 Martinique Slave Revolts.”

c. Sherry Ann Singh (UWI, St. Augustine)

“An Examination of Lakshmi Persaud’s Treatment of Hindu Religious Texts in Four Novels.”

d. Giselle Anatol (University of Kansas)

“Righting/ (Re) Writing the Tempest: Literacy in Elizabeth Nunez’s Prospero’s Daughter.”

Panel 18, Founders’ Annex 2

Trauma and Healing -

Chair: Hyacinth Simpson, ACWWS Executive

a. Rodlyn Douglas

“Secrets, Silences and Ritual Damnation: Witnesses from Caribbean Literature Expose Girlhood Pain.”

b. Virginia Gonsalves-Domond

Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions: Caribbean women Writings in the 21st Century.

“Caribbean Children’s Literature: Psychic Themes of Identity, Introspection and Existentialism.”

c. Patricia Donatien-Yssa (Université des Antilles et de la Guyane)

“The Traumatic Dimension of Caribbean History in Kincaid's *The Autobiography of My Mother*.”