

Shifting the Geography of Reason:
Aesthetics, Language, and Science

Caribbean Philosophical Association
Third Annual Meeting

August 1 – 3, 2006

Caribbean Philosophical Association (CPA)
August 1 – 2006
Concordia University, Sir George Williams Campus
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd., W. , Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8, Canada

Executive Officers:

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Philosophy Department at Florida Atlantic University
The Institute for Caribbean Thought at the University of the West Indies (UWI) at Mona, Jamaica
Department of Africana Studies at Brown University

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2006

SALLE/ROOM H765

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

ON-SITE REGISTRATION

SALLE/ROOM SLB 628, 1400 de Maisonneuve O., 6th Floor

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

CPA BOARD MEETING

SALLE/ROOM H767

6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

**OPENING NIGHT DINNER AND
RECEPTION (cash bar)**

(6:45 PM)

Lewis R. Gordon, *President of the CPA*
Sathya Rao, *Secretary, CPA*
Françoise Naudillon, *Concordia University*

WELCOME

(8:00 PM – 9:30 PM)

Senaya

<http://www.temple.edu/isrst/Events/CPA.asp>

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2006

I. 8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

A. SALLE/ROOM H767

Ramabai Espinet, *University of Toronto/Seneca College*
Esiaba Irobi, *University of Ohio*
Arturo Dávila, *Laney College*

OPENING POEMS

8:45 AM – 8:55 AM

B. SALLE/ROOM H767

Lewis Gordon, *Temple University*
Clevis Headley, *Florida Atlantic University*
Marina Banchetti-Robino, *Florida Atlantic University*

OPENING REMARKS

II. 9:00 AM – 10:50 PM

A. SALLE/ROOM H767

Moderator: Clevis Headley,
Florida Atlantic University

AFRO-CANADIAN THOUGHT

David Austin, *Alfie Roberts Institute*

“Kindred Souls: The Montreal-based Caribbean Conference Committee and the Emergence of Caribbean New Left Politics and Intellectual Thought”

Johanna X. K. Garvey, *Fairfield University*

“Mapping Dislocations: Dionne Brand’s Writing of Diaspora in *A Map to the Door of No Return*”

Sarah Waisvisz, *McGill University*

“Fugitive Rhythms: Re-Imagining Diasporic Caribbean–Canadian Communities in Dionne Brand’s *What We All Long For*”

B. SALLE/ROOM H763

Moderator: Tom Meyer,
Temple University

RACE, SEX, AND HUMOR

Myron Beasley, *De Paul University*

“The Self Portraiture of Samuel Fosso: Transgressive Ritual Performance and the Black Male Body”

Katrina Bell-Jordan, *Northeastern Illinois University*

“Speaking Fluent ‘Joke’: Pushing the Racial Envelope through Comedic Performance on *Chappelle’s Show*”

Vincent Bouchard, *Université de Montréal*

“Oralité et résistances : processus de *créolisation* du medium cinématographique”

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| <p>C. SALLE/ROOM H760 <i>Moderator: Kenneth Knies, Stoney Brook University</i></p> <p>Marina Banchetti-Robino, <i>Florida Atlantic University</i></p> <p>Marilyn Nissim-Sabat, <i>Lewis University</i></p> <p>Jacqueline Martinez, <i>Arizona State University</i></p> | <p>PHENOMENOLOGIES OF SCIENCE I</p> <p>“The Birth of Science Out of the Spirit of Myth: Vico vs. Husserl on the Rationality of the Galilean Mathematization of Nature”</p> <p>“Sandra Harding’s View of Postcolonial Science: A Critique from the Point of View of Postcolonial Phenomenology”</p> <p>“Phenomenologies of Cultural Violence: Interrogating Philosophical and Scientific Prejudices”</p> |
| <p>III. 11:00 AM – 12: 20 PM</p> <p>A. SALLE/ROOM H767 <i>Moderator: Gertrude Gonzalez de Allen, Spelman College</i></p> <p>Kristin Waters, <i>Worcester State University</i></p> <p>Carol Conaway, <i>University of New Hampshire</i></p> <p>Sharifa Wright, <i>York University</i></p> | <p>AFRO-CARIBBEAN FEMINISM</p> <p>“Power and Resistance: Black Feminist Political Theory”</p> <p>“Mary Ann Shadd Cary: A Visionary of the Black Press”</p> <p>“Telling ‘Fugitive Truths’ from ‘Demonic Grounds’: Wynter’s Humanism as a Framework for Caribbean Feminist Thought”</p> |
| <p>B. SALLE/ROOM H763 <i>Moderator: Neil Roberts, University of Chicago and Johns Hopkins University</i></p> <p>David Austin, <i>Montreal</i></p> <p>Lawrence Bamikole, <i>University of the West Indies at Mona</i></p> <p>Jalani Niaah, <i>University of the West Indies at Mona</i></p> | <p>PHILOSOPHY OF RASTAFARI</p> <p>“The Unfinished Revolution: The Mytho-Poetics of Linton Kwesi Johnson’s Tings an’ Times”</p> <p>“From Entertainment to Revolutionary Theory: Bob Marley’s Music as a Tool for Social Change”</p> <p>“Trench Town/York Linkup: Planno, Yawney, and the Development of Rastafari Studies ina Government Yard, 1980–2006”</p> |
| <p>C. SALLE/ROOM H760 <i>Moderator: Marina Banchetti-Robino, Florida Atlantic University</i></p> <p>Kenneth Knies, <i>Stoney Brook University</i></p> <p>Michael Monahan, <i>Marquette University</i></p> <p>Esiaba Irobi, <i>University of Ohio</i></p> | <p>PHENOMENOLOGIES OF SCIENCE II</p> <p>“What Is an Epoch in Philosophy”</p> <p>“Scarcity, Violence, and Liberation”</p> <p>“The Theory of Ashe: ‘Possession’ and ‘Transcendence’ as ‘Aesthetic’ in the Dramaturgy of Wole Soyinka (<i>Nigeria</i>), August Wilson (<i>USA</i>), Ntozake Shange (<i>USA</i>), Dennis Scott (<i>Jamaica</i>), and Djanet Sears (<i>Canada</i>)”</p> |

12:20 PM – 1:55 PM **BREAK**

IV. 2:00 PM – 3:25 PM

A. ROOM H767

Moderator: Marilyn Nissim-Sabat,
Lewis University

Richard Pithouse, *University of Natal*

Carolyn Cusick, *Vanderbilt University*

Gena Chang-Campbell, *York University*

Dilan Mahendran, *University California at Berkeley*

FRANTZ FANON

“Fanon and the Light of Truth”

“Fanon and Testimony in Epistemology”

“‘Straddling Nothingness and Infinity’: Fanon and Martí on Identity and Consciousness”

“Ontology of the Damned—Black Being as a Challenge to and Possible Ground of Metaphysics: A Comparative Ontology of Frantz Fanon, Merleau-Ponty, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Ralph Ellison”

B. SALLE/OOM H763

Moderator: Jane Gordon,
Temple University

Stephen Wheelock, *University of Pittsburgh*

Senfo Tonkam, *University of Hamburg*

Ayontunde Bewaji,
University of the West Indies at Mona

AFRICANA POLITICAL THEORY

“Toward a Poetics of Racial Slavery, and the Body Politic: Maria Stewart and Radical Turns in early African-Atlantic Political Thought”

“De-Machiavelizing African Politics and Africanizing Political Ethics: the end of the Humanism of the Oppressed and the Momentum of Nzinga-Samorism”

“Aesthetics of Language in Leadership Politics in Nigeria and Jamaica”

C. SALLE/ROOM H760

Moderator: Tolulope Bewaji,
Temple University

George Ciccariello-Maher,
University of California at Berkeley

Joan Jasak, *Temple University*

Tim Fiskin, *University of California at Berkeley*

POSTSTRUCTURAL AFRICANA THOUGHT

“*Scientia Sexualis, Scientia Racialis*: The *Damn * and Foucauldian Biopower”

“Foucault in Africana Philosophy”

“Heresy and Hegemony: Rupture in Post-structuralist and Black Radical Thought”

V. 3:30 PM – 4:20 PM

A. SALLE/ROOM H767
*Moderator: Sibylle Fischer,
New York University*

THE FRANTZ FANON PRIZE:
WALTER MIGNOLO'S *THE IDEA OF LATIN AMERICA*

A Poetic Tribute:
Arturo Dávila, *Laney College*

Commentators:
Enrique Dussel, *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City*

Nelson Maldonado-Torres, *University of California at Berkeley*

Respondent:
Walter Mignolo, *Duke University*

Presentation of the Prize:
Lewis Gordon, *President of the Caribbean Philosophical Association*

VI. 4:30 PM – 5:45 PM

A. SALLE/ROOM H767
*Moderator: Chike Jeffers,
Northwestern University*

ON BLACK SOLIDARITY

Clevis Headley, *Florida Atlantic University*

“Investigating the Foundations of Black Solidarity”

Pat Goodin, *Howard University*

“Reason and the Politics of Africana Philosophy:
Reflections on Tommie Shelby’s *We Who Are Dark*”

B. SALLE/ROOM H763
*Moderator: Yvette Koch,
Providence, Rhode Island*

THEORIZING IMMIGRATION AND DIASPORA

Elvinet Wilson, *Arizona State University*

“Globalization, Immigration, Identity, and Postmodern
Decision-Making: Toward a Postcolonial/Caribbean
Perspective in Intercultural Communication”

Rosario Torres-Guevara, *Teacher’s College*

“Subjectivity of Illegality: The Immigration Experience in
Mexican Children”

Cynthia Dahome,
École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales

“Proposition de communication: Construire l’objet diaspora
ne terre républicaine”

C. SALLE/ROOM H760
*Moderator: Sibylle Fischer,
New York University*

CARIBBEAN POETICS

John Drabinski, *Hampshire College*

“Death and the Poetics of Loss: Reading Peck with
Glissant”

Guru Gunaratnam, *Independent Scholar*

“Cricket Sense: The Aesthetics of C.L.R. James”

5:45 PM – 6:00 PM Refreshment Break

- V. 6:00 PM – 7:20 PM
SALLE/ROOM H767
Moderator: Walter Mignolo,
Duke University
- Walter Altino, *Rio De Janero*
- Jorge Gracia, *SUNY-Buffalo*
- LATIN CARIBBEAN PHILOSOPHY**
- “O IIA AiyA e a relaço com a Política cultural do Estado”
- “Hispanic Identities: Cuban, Latino, Hispanic, American?”
- VI. 7:35 PM – 10: 00 PM
SALLE/ROOM H-110, Theater, Hall Building
 Kevin Pina, *Oakland, California/Haiti*
- Haiti: The Untold Story* (Film), with Director’s
 commentary

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2006

- VII. 8:30 AM – 9: 25 AM
- A. **SALLE/ROOM H760**
Moderator: Rosario Torres-Guevara,
Teacher’s College
- Presenter:* Enrique Dussel, *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City*
- B. 9:30 AM – 9:40 AM
SALLE/ROOM H767
- Arturo Dávila, *Laney College*
- Ramabai Espinet, *University of Toronto/Seneca College*
- ENRIQUE DUSSEL’S THESES ON POLITICS**
- MORNING POEM**
- VIII. 9:45 AM – 11:25 AM
- A. **SALLE/ROOM H767**
Moderator: Esiaba Irobi,
University of Ohio
- Tommy Lott, *San Jose State University*
- Nkiru Nzegwu, *Binghamton University*
- Tracey Nicholls, *Université de Montréal*
- THEORIZING HAITI**
- “Anna Julia Cooper’s dissertation on the Haitian
 Revolution”
- “Dodard and Modernism: A Radial Evaluation of Haitian
 Contemporary Art”
- “Changing the Subject: Discourse Norms in Haiti’s Civil
 Society

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| B. | SALLE/ROOM H763 <i>Moderator: Tom Meyer, Temple University</i> Natalija Mićunović, <i>University of Belgrade</i> George Ciccariello-Maher, <i>University of California at Berkeley</i> Stephen Haymes, <i>De Paul University</i> | THEORIZING FASCISM, SEMITISM, AND TRAUMA “Neonazism and the Mainstream Society” “Can the <i>Muselmann</i> Speak?: Historical Erasure and Agamben’s <i>Homo Sacer</i> ” “Trauma and Psychoanalytic Theory within Contemporary Educational Theory: An Africana Phenomenological Critique” |
| C. | SALLE/ROOM H760 <i>Moderator: Yvette Koch, Providence-Rhode Island</i> Gail Presbey, <i>University of Detroit-Mercy</i> Danielle Davis, <i>University of New South Wales</i> | AFRICAN AND AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS PHILOSOPHY “Kenyan Sages: Moral Philosophy, and the Traditionalist/Innovator Debate” “‘The Problem with Indigenaities and Identities?’: An Australian Perspective” |
| IX. | 11: 30 AM – 1: 00 PM | |
| A. | SALLE/ROOM H767 <i>Moderator: Nkiru Nzegwu, Binghamton University</i> Elias Bongmba, <i>Rice University</i> Rabson Wuriga, <i>Institute for Jewish Research</i> P. Mabogo More, <i>University of Kwazulu Natal</i> | AFRICAN EXISTENCE “HIV/AIDS and Virtues in Africa” “Defining You for You: Black Experience in the Case of the Lemba” “The Existentialist Themes in Black South African Literature” |
| B. | ROOM H763 <i>Moderator: Marina Banchetti-Robino, Florida Atlantic University</i> Françoise Naudillon, <i>Concordia University</i> Anne Malena, <i>University of Alberta</i> Sathya Rao, <i>University of Alberta</i> | LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION IN THE FRANCOPHONE CARIBBEAN “Patrick Chamoiseau et le creole, une traduction du monde” “La Criaçbe en Louisiane” (Glissant) “(Post)Colonial Laughters. The case of Francophone Cinema and Literature / <i>rires (post)coloniaux. Le cas du cinéma et de la littérature francophone</i> ” |

C. ROOM H760 POETICS OF IMAGINATION AND FAITH

*Moderator: Katharine Loevy,
Vanderbilt University*

Andre Willis, *Yale University*

James Bryant, *College of the Holy Cross*

“On Hume and Pope”

“The Call as Experience, Sign, and Methodology in the Phenomenological Imagination of Howard Thurman”

1:00 PM – 2: 15 PM BREAK

X. 2:15 PM – 4:20 PM

A. ROOM H767 CARIBBEAN PHILOSOPHY IN LITERATURE

*Moderator: Margo Natalie Crawford,
University of Indiana-Bloomington*

Brinda Mehta, *Mills College*

Anita Baksh, *University of Maryland*

Ramabai Espinet, *University of Toronto/Seneca College*

“The Transcultural Geography of Food in Gisele Pineau’s *Un Papillon dans la cité* and *L’Exil selon Julia*”

“The Use of Orality in Jan Shinebourne’s *The Last English Plantation* and Lakshmi Persaud’s *Butterfly in the Wind*”

“Douglas Poetics and Politics: A Discussion of the Epistemological, Cultural and Political Implications”

B. ROOM H763 CREOLIZING ROUSSEAU

*Moderator: Natalija Mićunović,
University of Belgrade*

Neil Roberts,
University of Chicago/Johns Hopkins University

Jane Gordon, *Temple University*

Charles Mills, *University of Illinois-Chicago*

“Creolizing Rousseau: An Essay on the Origin of Freedom’s Slavery in the Language of Caribbean Political Theory”

“Of Legitimation and General Will: Creolizing Rousseau through Fanon”

“The Racial-Sexual Contract: Theorizing Racial Patriarchy”

C. ROOM H760 GEOPOLITICALITY AND EMPIRE

*Moderator: Michael Monahan,
Marquette University*

Al Vara, *Temple University*

Donald Vernon Kingsbury,
University of California at Santa Cruz

Celso Vargas Elizondo,
Costa Rica Institute of Technology

“Geopoliticality of Caribbean Philosophy”

“Performances of Empire: Interstitial Citizenship and the Politics of Worthiness”

“Identity Construction in a Global Context”

XI. 4:30 PM – 6:15 PM

A. ROOM H767

Moderator: Gertrude Gonzalez de Allen,
Spelman College

Jenny Burman, *McGill University*

Barnor Hesse, *Northwestern University*

Katherine McKittrick, *Queen's University*

Rinaldo Walcott, *OISE/University of Toronto*

**EDOUARD GLISSANT: EMANCIPATORY
GEOGRAPHIES AND POETICS**

“Urban Space and Glissant’s Poetics of Relation”

“Entanglement, Relation, Diaspora”

“Subterranean Convergences”

“Homopoetics”

B. ROOM H763

Moderator: Rozena Maart,
Biko Institute

Clarence Shol9 Johnson,
Middle Tennessee State University

Thomas Meyer, *Temple University*

Anthony Monteiro, *Temple University*

W.E.B. DU BOIS

“Asante and Du Bois on Race(ism) and the Problem of
Double Consciousness”

"Du Bois, Fanon, and the Philosophy of Immanence"

“W.E.B Du Bois and the Radical reconfiguration of
Philosophy”

C. ROOM H760

Moderator: Tolulope Bewaji,
Temple University

Anthony Dandridge, *Temple University*

Margo Natalie Crawford,
Indiana University-Bloomington

Doug Ficek, *Temple University*

IDENTITY, LIBERATION, AND ONTOLOGY

“Self Identity, Liberation and Ethics: The possibilities of an
Afrocentric Victory via a Unified Ontology”

“Rescuing the Black Diaspora from the Black Family Tree:
Beyond Fragmentation and Wholeness”

“Reparations in Africana Philosophy of Liberation”

6:15 PM – 6:30 PM *Refreshment Break*

XII. 6:30 PM – 7:40 PM

ROOM H 767

*Moderator: Lewis Gordon,
Temple University & University of the West Indies at Mona*

Danielle Davis, University of New South Wales

Paget Henry, Brown University

Nelson Maldonado-Torres, University of California at Berkeley

THINKING FROM THE SOUTH TODAY

XIII. 7:45 PM – 9:00 PM

ROOM H767

*Moderator: Lewis Gordon,
President of the Caribbean Philosophical Association*

Alexis Nouss, Université de Montréal

Rozena Maart, Biko Institute–Guelph

Lewis Gordon

Arturo Dávila, Laney College

Ramabai Espinet, University of Toronto/Seneca College

Rozena Maart, Biko Institute–Guelph

**CLOSING PANEL ON CANADIAN and
SUBALTERN SHIFTS IN AND
CHALLENGES TO THE GEOGRAPHY OF
REASON**

CLOSING REMARKS

CLOSING POEMS

BOOK DISPLAY will be in Room H762 on Wednesday and Thursday from 10:30 AM till 5:30 PM
Coordinator: Doug Ficek, Temple University

SPECIAL THANKS

Françoise Naudillon

Sathya Rao

Joan Jasak

Beatrice Francis

Marilyn Lessard

FRANTZ FANON BOOK AWARD COMMITTEE

Marina Banchetti-Robino, *Chair, Philosophy Department, Florida Atlantic University*

Doug Ficek, *Philosophy Department, Temple University*

Sibylle Fischer, *New York University*

Jane Gordon, *Political Science, Temple University*

Clevis Headley, *Philosophy Department, Florida Atlantic University*

Paget Henry, *Africana Studies and Sociology, Brown University*

Nelson Maldonado-Torres, *Ethnic Studies, University of California at Berkeley*

Alejandro de Oto, *Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia-Argentina*

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