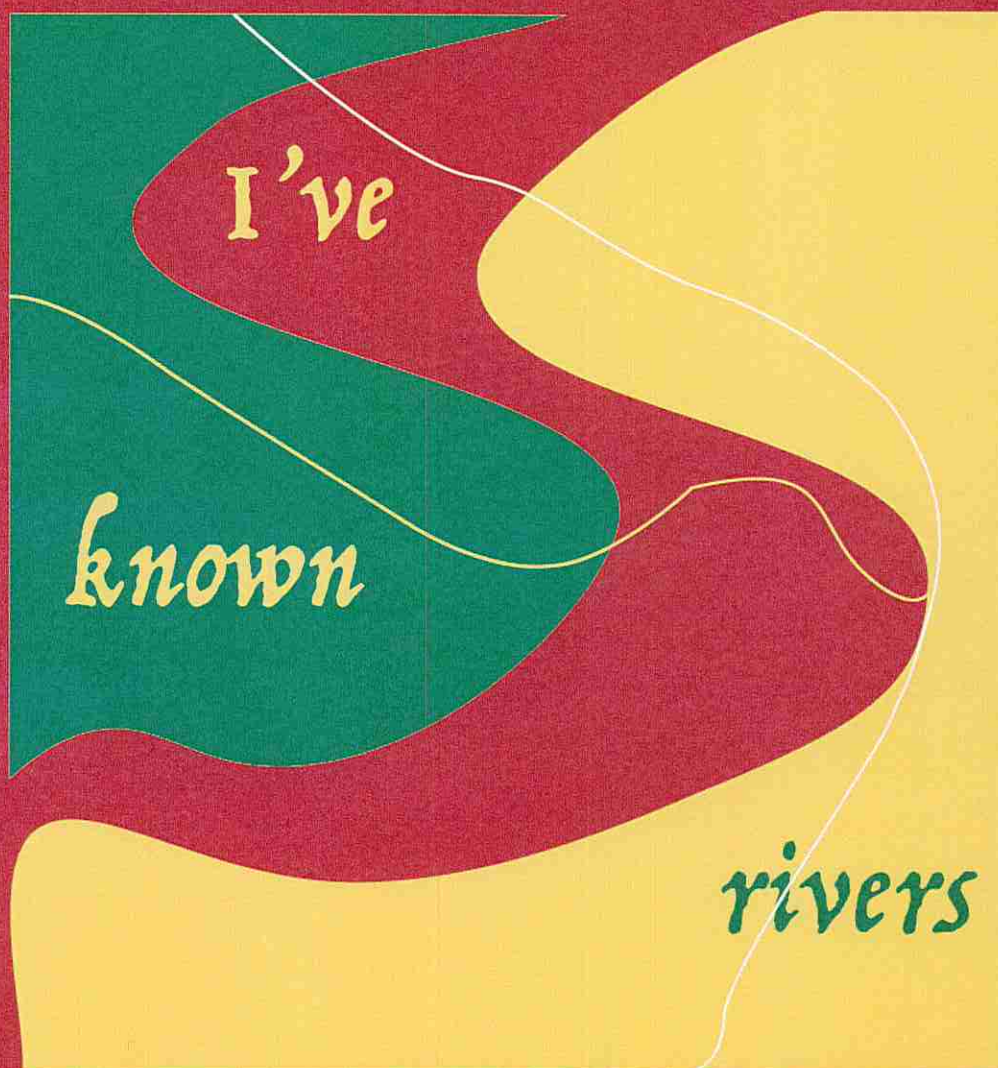




12TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE



THE ECOLOGIES OF BLACK LIFE AND RESISTANCE

OCT. 29 - NOV. 2, 2025

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

WELCOME TO ASWAD 2025

12th Biennial Conference

and

25th Anniversary Program

**‘I’ve known rivers’: The
Ecologies of Black Life
and Resistance**

October 29-November 2, 2025

Location:

Marriot St. Louis Grand Hotel

Program Events Highlights

Wednesday, October 29

2:30 – 4:00 pm

Tour - Contemporary Art Museum and Pulitzer Arts Foundation (30 slots – Free)

Meet at the Contemporary Art Museum, 3750 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108

4:00 – 6:30 pm

Executive Board Meeting, Hawthorne Room

Thursday, October 30

7:00 – 7:45 am

Yoga Session, Landmark 5 - 6 (Online sign-up required - \$10)

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Keynote Speaker, Rep. Cori Bush, Landmark 4 -7

6:15 – 8:30 pm

Opening Reception, Statler Ballroom, featuring Washington University Student Jazz Trio

Friday, October 31

7:00 – 7:45 am

Yoga Session, Landmark 5 - 6 (Online sign-up required - \$10)

8:30 – 4:50 pm

ASWAD Film Day, Gateway A

5:00 to 6:30 pm

ASWAD Business Meeting (open to all members), Landmark 4-7

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Leadership Networking Reception (Online sign-up required)

Offsite: Northwest Coffee, 4251 Laclede Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108

Saturday, November 1

7:00 – 7:45 am

Meditation Session -- Landmark 5 - 6 (Online sign-up required - \$10)

2:00 – 5:00 pm

Tour - Great Rivers Greenway Tour of Mill Creek Valley neighborhood (Destination site of the Great Migration) (40 slots total - Free)

Departs from the Marriott St. Louis Grand Lobby @ 2:00 pm

8:00 - 12:00 am

Closing Reception – ASWAD 25th Anniversary Celebration, *Landmark Ballroom 4 – 7*

Featuring:

- 8:00 pm – Afro-Colombian Artists – *Asondeke Group*
- 9:00 pm – *Red and Black Brass Band*
- 10:00 pm – DJ Good Peoples

Sunday, November 2

9:00 – 10:15 am

Tour - Black History on the Mississippi River Riverboat, boarding 8:45 am

Cost: \$40 (224 slots total)

Departs from St. Louis' riverfront cobblestone levee: 50 S. Leonor K. Sullivan Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63102 (20-minute walk from Marriott St. Louis Grand)

Panel Highlights

Saturday, November 1

10:20 - 11:50 am

Currulao and Bunde Approaches to other Protagonists of Colombian Music, Landmark 4
Roundtable – Musical Presentation

Chair: Manuel Viveros, New York University

2:00 - 3:30 pm

Reparations in Greater St. Louis, Landmark 5 – 6

Discussion of the history of slavery in St. Louis, the current state of African-American life in the city and county, and the movement for reparations.

Chair: Geoff Ward, Washington University in St. Louis, Director of the Wash U Slavery Project

Discussants:

Margaret Burnham, University Distinguished Professor of Law and Founder and Director of the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project at Northeastern University

Lynne Jackson, Founder and President of the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation. She is the great-great-granddaughter of Dred and Harriet Scott.

Kayla Reed, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Action St. Louis and former Chairperson of the City of St. Louis Mayoral Reparations Commission

Winnie Sullivan, Co-chair of the Racial Equity Review and the Racial History Committee of St. Francis Xavier College Church

Pamela Westbrooks-Hodge, Co-Founder and President of the Justice for Celia Newsom Legacy Foundation

2:00 - 3:30 pm

Black Studies and the Shifting Winds of our Nation: Strategies for Advancing the Discipline.

In recent years and the foreseeable future, the political climate of our country is shifting against supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, and centering Black history and culture in K-12 and even university curricula. This is illustrated by book banning movements and state government mandates to suppress or exclude Black Studies in states such as Florida, Texas, Georgia, and others. Such movements are also compounded by the larger trends of students moving away from the humanities towards business and STEM fields, leading to decreases in enrollments and majors for humanities and humanistic social science fields and disciplines, including Black Studies departments and programs. Essentially, Black Studies is at a critical crossroads with significant implications for its future.

Chair: Yolanda Covington Ward, University of Massachusetts – Amherst

Presenters:

Robert Trent Vinson, University of Virginia

Shanti Parikh, Washington University in St. Louis

Shawn Leigh Alexander, University of Kansas

Cherise Smith, University of Texas - Austin

Christopher Tinson, St. Louis University

Riché J. Daniel Barnes, University of Florida

Mentorship Highlights

Friday, October 31

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Leading and Advocating in Black Studies: A Workshop for Current and Future Black Studies Chairs and Program Directors, Westmoreland-Kingsbury

The workshop will focus on outlining some of the shared challenges we face, identifying specific issues germane to your own units, and highlighting strategies for advocating for Black Studies departments and units both within your universities and in larger communities.

Chair: Yolanda Covington-Ward, University of Massachusetts - Amherst

7:00 pm (after the ASWAD Business Meeting)

Leadership Networking Reception

Northwest Coffee Roasting (Black-owned), 4251 Laclede Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108

Join us for an evening of conversation and community at this gathering of colleagues in leadership roles across programs, departments, centers, and other institutional contexts. Enjoy food, drinks, and dialogue while building relationships, exchanging insights, and strengthening networks that support faculty, Black Studies programs, and advance the study of Africa and the African diaspora. Complimentary refreshments will be provided while supplies last, with additional items available for purchase. Please RSVP at the link to reserve your spot:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXnyMoOoZuXbZFeqvqlnEQJtG08pOVicOkUFLVDQVMNou9w/viewform?usp=header>.

Saturday, November 1

3:50 - 5:20 pm

Mentoring in a Time of Crisis

This panel will address what it means to mentor and be mentored during a moment of crisis—a moment of brutal anti-Black assault in higher education, in the U.S. and across the globe. This convening recognizes this moment as both a continuation of a much longer history of global anti-Blackness, and a more recently accelerated phase of attack, facilitated in part by the rise of authoritarian, nationalist, and white supremacist governments, particularly in the U.S. and Europe. This panel will convene a group of scholars who can share their experience about how to navigate hostile university landscapes in this moment, create support structures for students and faculty of African descent, identify resources in environments premised on austerity, and broader inspirations for how to thrive, care, and create in the midst of this kind of social violence.

Chair: Aisha Finch, Emory University

Discussants:

Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University

Claire Oberon Garcia, Colorado College

Marlon Bailey, Washington University in St. Louis

Tiffany Willoughby-Herard, University of California - Irvine

ASWAD WELCOMES

REP. CORI BUSH

Keynote Address, Thursday, Oct. 30, 5:00 – 6:00 pm, Landmark 4 – 7



Rep. Cori Bush is the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from Missouri. She served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2021 to 2025. She is a nurse, pastor and Black Lives Matter Activist. Rep. Bush's progressive policies from advocating to defund the police, pro-choice for women and call for a ceasefire in Gaza earned her a reputation as being a member of the "Squad" during her Congressional tenure. Her advocacy continues as she's secured over \$13 million in federal earmarks to fund projects like emergency food and shelter services and housing redevelopment in the St. Louis area. She has tirelessly worked to combat voter redistricting efforts in St. Louis and has just announced her new campaign to win back her seat in Congress.

ASWAD 2025 Film Day
Friday, October 31 – Gateway A

8:30 – 10:00 am – Film 1

FILM TITLE: *BLACKsmiths of Morocco*

Filmmaker: Henry Drewal

Country of Origin: USA/Morocco; 12:42 minutes

SYNOPSIS: Most Moroccan blacksmiths claim roots in Black Africa. For centuries, their enslaved or conscripted ancestors traveled the trans-Saharan caravan routes from West Africa to the fabled fortified city of Sijilmasa in present-day Morocco, and from there to many other places in northern Africa and beyond. Today blacksmiths forge all manners of tools and architectural works -- window grilles, doors, hinges, locks, knockers, and elaborate keys -- with consummate skill.

FILM TITLE: *TAMBU*

Filmmaker: Laurie Lambert

Country of Origin: USA/Jamaica; 15 minutes

SYNOPSIS: The word “tambu” is used throughout the African Diaspora to describe various drumming traditions and styles. TambuFest is a day-long celebration of diasporic practices of drumming and dance in Jamaica, highlighting cultural groups from Kingston, Port Maria, Islington, Manchioneal, Charlestown, and St. Thomas. The festival was conceived of and produced by musician Junior “Gabu” Wedderburn, UPenn anthropologist Deborah A. Thomas, and Dr. Nicholas Ferguson, a medical doctor and drummer for several years. “Tambu” is a short film that combines footage from this festival, with archival photographs, to explore how these drumming and dance rituals remember Jamaican histories of slavery, indenture, and survival. Through music and movement, the performers honor and communicate with their ancestors, making these performances a way of sharing ancestral knowledge. The film foregrounds the intergenerational character of the festival—the ways that these drumming and dance practices are taught and passed down from elders to younger people while inviting the community to share in a collective energy. “Tambu” explores how Jamaican folk practitioners create spaces for healing through prayer, the sharing of food, drumming, song, and dance. Their folk practices nurture both the physical body and the spiritual being. “Tambu” explores how these rituals build community by bringing together African and Caribbean history, dance, music, language, and foodways.

FILM TITLE: *BLACK LIVES MATTER IN BRAZIL*

Filmmaker: Gladys Mitchell-Walthour

Country of Origin: USA/Brazil; 24:39 minutes

SYNOPSIS: This documentary includes footage of protests to combat police brutality and harassment of Afro-Brazilians and interviews with key leaders and scholars in the fight for human rights in Brazil. It also includes interviews with scholars and activists from Peru and Argentina as well as experts on Latin America located in the USA. Dr. Gladys Mitchell-Walthour discusses the history of Black resistance since the time of enslavement as well as the need for Afro-descendants to come together to strategize methods to combat racism as a collective. This documentary tells the story of the violence and marginalization Black people face throughout Latin America, the efforts they have taken to overcome them, including solidarity and displays moments of joy when connecting with each other.

10:20 – 11:50 am - Film 2

FILM TITLE: *BIGGER THAN AFRICA*

Filmmaker: Toyin Ibrahim Adekeye (Zstudio Motherland)

Country of Origin: United States; 87 minutes

SYNOPOSIS: When the Slave ships docked in America, Brazil and the Caribbean, hundreds of cultures, traditions, and religions landed with the Africans on board, one transcended slavery beyond imagination and remains alive till

this day in the New World: the Yoruba culture. This Documentary takes you on a journey through Brazil, The United States, Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago and back to where it all began in West Africa. This Yoruba Culture was said to have survived Slavery & arduous plantation life to become the most prominent African culture in the New World.

12:00 - 1:30 – Film 3

FILM TITLE: “TINA, WHEN WILL YOU MARRY?”

Filmmaker: Celestina Aleobua

Country of Origin: Canada/ Nigeria; 8:25 minutes

SYNOPSIS: It's present day, and we meet Tina, a 30-year-old first-generation Nigerian-Canadian filmmaker living in Toronto. At thirty years old, the pressure to get married is more intense than it's ever been, and she is adamant about carving her own path while silencing outside voices that try to dictate what her life should look like. Next, we meet Yemi, Eniola, and Tina, and explore their unconventional thoughts and experiences regarding marriage. This documentary touches on a much broader conversation about 'Tradition vs. Modernity', bridges the gap between the generations that advocate for either, and encourages a culture of accommodation and inclusivity.

FILM TITLE: *THE INCREDIBLE SENSATIONAL FIANCÉE OF SÈYÍ ÀJÀYÍ*

Filmmaker: Abbesi Akhamie

Country of Origin: USA/Nigeria; 16:20 minutes

SYNOPSIS: In the whimsical Pan-African society of Alkebulan, a brilliant scholar discovers her fiancé's secret engagement and takes spectacular revenge, earning the recognition she always deserved in an unexpected way.

FILM TITLE: *AL-SIT*

Filmmaker: Suzannah Mirghani

Country of Origin: Sudan; 20 minutes

SYNOPSIS: In a cotton-farming village in Sudan, 15-year-old Nafisa has a crush on Babiker, but her parents have arranged her marriage to Nadir, a young Sudanese businessman living abroad. Nafisa's grandmother Al-Sit, the powerful village matriarch, has her own plans for Nafisa's future. But can Nafisa choose for herself?

1:30 – 3:00 pm – Film 4

FILM TITLE: *Orisha Devotion in Berlin*

Filmmaker: Ricardo Bacallao

Country of Origin: Germany; 58 minutes

SYNOPSIS: This evocative documentary examines the spiritual practices of **Santería** and **Candomblé** in Berlin, showcasing rituals and performances from Germany's only Candomblé house. Through its lens, the film captures the enduring cultural and spiritual significance of these African-origin traditions, bringing their essence to life in a Berlin context.

FILM TITLE: *Dancing Gods: Celebrating Oṣṣṣṣ, Àrẹ́, and Èṣù-Èlẹ́gba in Pòbẹ́, Bénin. Republic*

Filmmaker: Henry Drewal

Country of Origin: USA/Benin; 11:18 minutes

SYNOPSIS: A description of the weekly ceremonies honoring three deities -- *Oṣṣṣṣ, Àrẹ́, and Èṣù-Èlẹ́gba* -- among the Yorùbá in Pòbẹ́, Bénin that include divination, a communal meal, and a trance performance/dance by three priests of the deities.

Plus discussion with the filmmakers.

3:20 – 4:50 pm - Film 5

FILM TITLE: *FIGHTING GIANTS*

Filmmaker: Oluwaseun Baboalola

Country of Origin: USA/Sierre Leone; 8:31 minutes

SYNOPSIS: Inspired by true events, Abi has arrived in Sierra Leone to help her mother, Mama Amy, search for her missing sister in Freetown. When it's time for Abi to carry the weight of the two, both women realize that they are not on this journey alone.

FILM TITLE: *LUDI*

Filmmaker: Edson Jean

Country of Origin: USA; 80 minutes

SYNOPSIS: Ludi, a hardworking and exhausted nurse, battles coworkers, clients and one impatient bus driver to learn her self-worth as she chases the American Dream in Miami's Little Haiti neighborhood.

ASWAD 2025 Conference Tours

Online sign-ups for all tours are available on the ASWAD website

Wednesday, October 29

2:30 – 4:00 pm

Contemporary Art Museum and Pulitzer Arts Foundation

Free private tour (30 slots total)

Meet at the Contemporary Art Museum, 3750 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108

Saturday, November 1

2:00 – 5:00 pm

Great Rivers Greenway Tour of Mill Creek Valley neighborhood (Destination site of the Great Migration)

Free private tour guided by Elizabeth Simons (Great Rivers Greenway) (40 slots total)

Departs from the Marriott St. Louis Grand lobby

Sunday, November 2

9:00 – 10:15 am, boarding at 8:45 am

Black History on the Mississippi River Riverboat Tour

Private tour with Amanda Clark (Missouri History Museum) and Aaron Williams (4TheVille)

Cost: \$40 (224 slots total)

Departs from St. Louis' riverfront cobblestone levee: 50 S. Leonor K. Sullivan Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63102 (20-minute walk from Marriott St. Louis Grand)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

001. Yoga Session - Part 1

Workshop

7:00 to 7:45 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

002. African-Caribbean Connections

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

J. Dillon Brown, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

African Presences in C.L.R. James's *The Black Jacobins* **Xavier Lee**, *University of California, Davis*

A Hundred Years of Emancipation Across Waters: Reflections from Antillean and Senegalese Évolués **A. Veronique Charles**, *Columbia University*

The Caribbean Presence in African Literature **J. Dillon Brown**, *Washington University in St. Louis*

Plotting Peripheral Identity: (Geo)Political Entanglements in the Work of Marsye Condé and Kofi Awoonor **Akua Barful**, *University of California, Davis*

003. Afro-Brazilian Waterways and the Black Atlantic I -

Diaspora: Ancestrality and Emancipation in Waters

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Manoel Rendeiro Neto, Yale University

Participants:

Kalunga, or Decentering the Middle Passage **Yuko Miki**, *Fordham University*

Uprooting Enslavement: Agro-Forests of Marronage in Amazonian Waterscapes **Manoel Rendeiro Neto**, *Yale University*

Bodies of Water: Hydric Cartography, a Flow into EthnoWEgraphy **Paulo Ramos**, *Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo*

Mutiny on the Amanda: Barbadian, Jamaican, and Cuban Resistance to Coerced Labor and Forced Migration on the Amazon River **Owen MacDonald**, *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

Discussant:

Myles Ali, University of California, Merced

004. All Us Come Cross the Water: Intergenerational Relations and Diasporic Ecological Practices

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Samira Abdur-Rahman, The College of New Jersey

Participants:

Mapping Childhood Ecologies: Black Feminist Eco-ethics and the Politics of Crosswriting **Samira Abdur-Rahman**, *The College of New Jersey*

Practices of Ancestral Remembrance and Embodied Commemoration at El Museo Afro-Antillano de Panamá

Doig-Acuna Maya, Harvard University

Beenya: A Story of Resilience and Renaissance **Kyle R. Fox**, *The College of Coastal Georgia*

005. Flowing Resistance: Cultural and Territorial Strategies of Afro-Brazilian Freedom

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Abner Francisco Sôtenos, University of California, San Diego

Participants:

Iyalodês: The Power of the Legacy of Black Women in the Everyday Political Struggle in Brazil **Monique Paulla**, *Federal Fluminense University*

The Jongo/Caxambu: The Black Culture of Southeastern Brazil as a Tool for the Pursuit of Full Citizenship **Daniele Souza Coutinho**, *State University of Rio de Janeiro*

Zungus, the Media, and Public (In)Security: Black Spatialities and Experiences in the City of Rio de Janeiro During the Second Half of the 19th Century **Ivan Ignácio Pimentel**, *State University of Rio de Janeiro*

Afro-Diasporic Territoriality and Black Women's Leadership in Iemanjá Gift Rituals, Afoxé Filhos de Gandhi **Amaro Sergio Marques**, *Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro*

Discussant:

Abner Francisco Sôtenos, University of California, San Diego

006. African Sexualities and Textual Practice

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Jaira J. Harrington, University of Illinois Chicago

Participants:

"And She Fell into the Sea": (De)Formations of Land, Liquid and Sexuality in "Les Mamelles" by Birago Diop **Elara Sherman**, *Emory University*

Poetry and Infrastructure: Kojo Gyinaye Kyei & Hannah Schreckenbach's No Time to Die **Ama Bemba Adwetewa-Badu**

Rivers of Change: Offering Water as a Medium of African Queer Knowledge **Tohwan Roberts**

Self, Nature, and Freedom: Pan-Africanist and Ecocritical Approaches to Ayi Kwei Armah's Novel, *The Healers* **Babacar Mbaye**, *Kent State University*

007. Aesthetics and waterways

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Cheryl Sterling, Pennsylvania State University

Participants:

An Ecocritical Look at Flint's Water Crisis and Afro-Gothic Liquidity **Tashima Thomas**, *Southern Methodist University*

Black Water Ecologies: Guyanese Women's Artistic and Political Practices **Junika Hawker-Thompson**

'I lie down with the mermaid': reflecting on Caribbean artists and the nature of water **Elizabeth Moran**, *William & Mary*

"In the Wake of Drexciya": Yemanjá Aesthetics in the work of

Ayana V. Jackson *Cheryl Sterling, Pennsylvania State University*

008. Navigating the Currents: Ecologies of Land, Labor, and Liberation

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Ryan Jobson, The University of Chicago

Participants:

Before 13th: Kentucky Hemp and the Origin of Convict Leasing
Michael Ralph, Howard University

Fires Beneath the Water: Caribbean Tectonic Relationality
Alyssa A. L. James, University of Southern California

Echoes of Resistance: The Bèlè Drum and Decolonial Ecologies in Martinique *Camee Maddox-Wingfield, UMBC*

Radiation and the Question of Power: C.L.R. James and the Struggle for Chaguaramas in Trinidad *Ryan Jobson, The University of Chicago*

009. Black Sovereignty: Narrative Continuities Across the South Atlantic

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Miguel Valerio, University of Maryland, College Park

Participants:

“‘With Their King and Queen’: Performing Black Sovereignty in Colonial Latin America” *Miguel Valerio, University of Maryland, College Park*

Njinga Mbande: Gender and Fugitive Sovereignty in Seventeenth-Century Angola *Anna More, Universidade de Brasília*

Black Liberation Networks between Brazil and Angola in Contemporary Fiction” *Lantie Millar, University of Oregon*

Reading Genealogies of Sovereignty through a Mande Epic: A Methodological Intervention *Mariah Bender, Rice University*

010. The Fluid Lives of Objects: Diasporas of Black Sacred Material Culture, Part 1

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Matthew Rarey, Oberlin College

Participants:

The Devil’s ‘Advocate’: Black Women’s Domestic Devotions in the Early Spanish Atlantic *Nathalie Miraval, Yale University*

Tabot & Ketab: Trajectories and Dilemmas of Ethiopian-Eritrean sacred artefacts *Helina Gebremedhen, New York University*

Instruments of Empire?: Abakuá Ritual Objects and Spanish Imperial Desire at the End of the Nineteenth Century *Sophia Kitlinski, University of Kentucky*

“‘It is our sacred’: reflections about axé and other classifications of the Acervo Nosso Sagrado” *Luiz Gustavo Alves, University of Coimbra*

011. Music, Festival Culture, and Performance as Resistance
Paper Session

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Meagan Sylvester, Queens College - CUNY

Participants:

Caribbean Global Performative Music: Bamboula Journeys
Cherzira Davis Kahina

Igniting the Spirit in the Dark: Music, Dance and The World of the Night *Jordan Davidson, University of California, San Diego*

Music and Festival Culture: Connections, Interconnections and Disconnections across the diaspora *Meagan Sylvester, Queens College - CUNY; Cherzira Davis Kahina*

012. Genealogies of Critical Race Theory and Decolonial Thought

Roundtable

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

Chair:

Thembelani Mbatha, Washington University in St. Louis

Presenters:

Adrienne Davis, Washington University in St. Louis

Robert Chang, University of California, Irvine School of Law

Anthony Paul Farley, University of Albany

013. Technology and Communication Then and Now

Paper Session

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Leslie James, Queen Mary University of London

Participants:

1619: The Placement of Eyes on a Riverine Path. *Gerald Rizzo, AFRITERRA Cartographic Free Library*

Other Forms of Life: On Blackness, Interspecies Interaction, and Communicative Possibility in Digital Culture *Brandy Monk-Payton, Fordham University*

Pieces of Africa in Pockets of the World: Extractive Practices of Media and Technology Innovations *Faith Odele, Texas A&M University*

The British Contingency Plan for their West African colonies during the Second World War *Michael Larbi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

014. Black and Indigenous Ecologies: Race, Place, and the Politics of Water

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Lourdes Taylor, University of Chicago

Participants:

Obscuring Fugitivity: Swamplands and Eco-Esotericism *Corbin Covington, Northwestern University*

Landwork after Hurricane Helene Through the Lens of BIPOC Speculative Fiction *Allani Dayi, Northwestern University*

Ni de Aquí, Ni de Allá: Lingering with Black Women’s Lives and Losses along Texas Shores *Zaria El-Fil, University of Chicago*

A Praxis of the River: Ozama River’s Lominero Ecologies

Massiel Torres Ulloa

Discussant:

Misha S. McDaniel, University of Chicago

015. Hip Hop at 50: Perspectives from Latin America

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Roberto Zurbano Torres, La Unión de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba (UNEAC)

Participants:

O HipHop está fora do Armário, mas só de passagem! *Tiely*

Santos, Associação A Mulher e o Movimento Hip Hop

Patrimonialização da Cultura Hip-hop *Jaqueline Lima Santos*

Rap Brasileiro e Circulação Internacional *Daniela Santos*

We're an Example of Trajectories and Victories: Hip Hop,

Education and Literacies of Reexistence *Ayala Tude,*

América Press

Discussant:

Tanya Saunders, University of Maryland - Baltimore

016. African Diasporas documentaries

Film Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Sheila S. Walker, Afrodiaspora, Inc.

Participants:

Waterscapes of Resistance in the African Diaspora and Africa --

Documentary film *Sheila S. Walker, Afrodiaspora, Inc.*

Afro Feminisms in Cuba: Perspectives from Havana *Tanya*

Saunders

017. (Book launch) Hubert Harrison: Forbidden Genius of Black Radicalism

Roundtable

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Brian Kwoba, University of Memphis

Discussants:

Charisse Burden-Stelly, Wayne State University

Minkah Makalani, Johns Hopkins University

Carole Boyce-Davies, Cornell University

018. Ecological Perspective through Women Writers

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Kathleen Elizabeth Phillips Lewis, Spelman College

Participants:

Imagined Ecologies: The Body-Place Paradigm of the African Diaspora *Angelica Johnson, Emory University*

"Sisters in Race": AfroCubana Writers and the Journalistic Ecosystem of Minerva (1888-89) *Sarah Moody, The University of Alabama*

The Poetics of Paradox: Camouflage and the Political Writings of Suzanne Césaire in *Tropiques* Journal, 1941-1945 *Logan Phillips, Northwestern University*

The Talking River: Oshun, Yoruba Philosophy, and the

Narrative Currents of Afro-Centric Literature in Afro-Latin America *Carmen Luz Cosme Puntiel, Xavier University of Louisiana*

019. Ritual, Healing and Community-Making

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University

Participants:

Water, Wisdom, and Resistance: Ifá-Orisha Spiritual

Technologies and Afro-Atlantic Ecological Justice *Jeanette Charles-Marquez, Iyá Global*

"Ecological Rivers of African Diaspora Religion: Africa-Inspired Spirituality, Resistance, Life to Freedom" *Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University*

Healing the Past and Present Through Ritual: Memorialization of Enslavement Among the Balsa of Ghana. *Anbegwon Atuire, Colorado College*

Afro- Colombian Narrative from San Juan River - Relatos afrosanjuanenos, Mujeres lideres memoria y paz (Español) *Martha Luz Machado Caicedo*

020. Africa, Internationalisms, and Liberation

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Andrew Barnes, Arizona State University

Participants:

Rising Above the Toxic Rivers of Consciousness with a Clean Glass of Water *Jamal Martin, The University of New Mexico*

"The American Imagination Shaping Perceptions, and Policies: Cold War Interventions in Cuba, the Congo, and Southern Africa" *Umeme Sababu*

The Continuous Stream: Ghanaian Immigrants and the African American Imagination *Bishop Lawton, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

The Language of Black Internationalism and Solidarity: A Meditation on Art, Aesthetics, and Cultural Production in Liberation Struggles *Ekundayo Igeleke, Ohio State University*

021. Archives, Heritage, and Healing through Cultural Production

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

Chair:

Jaira J. Harrington, University of Illinois, Chicago

Participants:

Cómo desarmar un archivo esclavista / How to disassemble a slave archive (History lessons to de-racialize the eye). *Anyely Marin Cisneros*

The Keloids We Heal: Trauma, Spirituality, and Black Modernity in Literature *Sarah Soanirina Ohmer, Lehman College (CUNY)*

Translation as Delta: AfroCuban Poet Nicolás Guillén's 'Riverwork' in Afrodiasporic Translation *Aaron Coleman, University of Michigan*

Water and Archives: Methodological approaches to the study of

heritage creation along the Senegalese Littoral *Hakimah Abdul-Fattah, University of Pennsylvania*

022. Ecology of Black Life and Resistance

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Mesi Bakari Walton, Howard University

Participants:

Barlovento's Ecology of Black Life and Resistance in Venezuela *Mesi Bakari Walton, Howard University*

Curating Victory: Ecologies of Life and Resistance at Hickory Hill *Monica Esparza*

Murals, Water, and Ritual: Investigating practices of resistance *Maria P Chaves Daza, SUNY Oneonta*

The Reflecting Infinity Pool: Currents and Transformation of Connected Resistance *Ahmed Braxton*

023. Enslaved Insurrection

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Celucien Joseph, San Jacinto College

Participants:

A World Between Two Lives: Spiritual Coordinates of Slave Fugitivity in Barbados *Amir Curry, Emory University*

Predicting the Future: Black and Indigenous Counternarratives in Oviedo's General History of the Indies (1526) *Monica Styles, Howard University*

Crucible on the Sound: The Chowan River as a Theater of Forced Labor and Resistance *Claire Fowler*

The struggle for freedom and genomic diversity in mid-19th century Liberated Africans from St. Helena *Gretchen Johnson, Howard University*

024. Black Political Philosophy and Ecological Justice

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Myra Houser, Ouachita Baptist University

Participants:

On Howard Thurman's Africana Phenomenology of Life *Darian Spearman, Gonzaga University*

Nat Turner: Ecological Resistance *Dianne Glave, University of Arkansas*

Spectator Plants: Harry Johnston, Harvey Firestone, Willi Schulze, and the Ecological Making of Liberia's Archive *Caree Banton*

Race-ing Against the Anthropocene: Racial Capitalism, Climate Crisis, and New Afrikan Abolition Ecology *Anthony Ratcliff, California State University, Los Angeles*

025. "By the Rivers of Babylon": Resistance, Riverine Rituals, and Waymaking in Afro-Atlantic Religions

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Ras Michael Brown, Georgia State University

Participants:

Mermaids and Fish People: Rituals of Becoming in Revival Zion's "River Nation" *Khytie Brown, The University of Texas at Austin*

Crossing Kalunga Again: Kongo Rituals of Transformation and the Rivers of the South Carolina Lowcountry *Ras Michael Brown, Georgia State University*

Baptized in Blackness: Our Lady of Aparecida and the Paraíba River as Reclamation and Resistance *Amey Victoria Adkins-Jones, Boston College*

Blue Fyah Epistemology: Rastafari Women's Transoceanic Livivity *Shamara Alhassan, University of California, Los Angeles*

026. New Directions in the Study of Global Africa

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Desirée McMillion, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Participants:

The Underrepresentation of Black Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Fields in the Twenty-First Century *Joanna Adewunmi, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Mississippi Goddam: Black Freedom & Bondage Along "the Big Muddy" in Antebellum Illinois *Stephanie Birch, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

Contemporary Cuba, Sports, Internationalism, and Global African Liberation *Omar Hernandez, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

South Side African and African American Community Opposition to the Obama Presidential Center *Olúwatóbíloba Adewunmi, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

027. The Ohio River: Free People of Color, J.P. Ball's Anti-Slavery Panorama, and Zones of Fugitivity

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Andrea Frohne, Ohio University

Participants:

J.P. Ball's Splendid, Mammoth Pictorial Tour of the United States: The World's Only African American, Abolitionist Panorama (1855) *Theresa Leininger-Miller, University of Cincinnati*

Historically Free People of Color Moving In and Out of Payne's Crossing, Ohio *Andrea Frohne, Ohio University*

A River Runs through It: Black Appalachia as Zone of Fugitivity *Kenton Butcher, Bucknell University*

028. The Promises and Perils of Black Internationalism

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Joan Flores-Villalobos, University of Southern California

Participants:

"No Cause or Interest Dearer to My Heart:" Black Women and the Fight to Save British Guianese AME Churches *Briana Adline Royster, University of Alabama*

Friends of Abyssinia: West Indian Immigrant Mutual Aid Societies and the Impact of the Second Italo-Ethiopian War
Tyesha Maddox, Fordham University

Afro-Utopia and Dreams Deferred: Black Internationalism and the Cult of the Haitian Revolution as History
Westenley Alcenat, Fordham University

Constructing the Native in Global Context: Legislating Race in Early South Africa
Thuto Thipe, University of Chicago

029. Black Studies in/from Brazil: Lessons for the African

Diaspora

Roundtable

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Christen Smith, Yale University

Discussants:

Kim D Butler, Rutgers University

Osmundo Araújo Pinho, Universidade Federal do Recôncavo da Bahia

Christen Smith, Yale University

Luciana Brito, Universidade Federal do Recôncavo da Bahia

Bryce Henson, Texas A&M University

Watufani Poe, Tulane University

030. 100 Years to Part the Sea: Reshaping the Life and Legacy of Marcus Garvey in the 21st Century

Roundtable

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

Chair:

Natanya Duncan, Queens College (CUNY)

Discussants:

Minkah Makalani, Johns Hopkins University

Adam Ewing, Virginia Commonwealth University

Robert Trent Vinson, University of Virginia

031. Africa, Food Production, and Modern Labor

Paper Session

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Alison Okuda, Worcester State University

Participants:

From Mississippi Clay to Africa: Diasporic Waters & Farming Legacies
Tasleem Firdausee, Western Michigan University

Historicizing Ghanaian Foodways and Community in New England
Alison Okuda, Worcester State University

New civilising missions - an interrogation of modern slavery abolitionist interventions in Ghana's Lake Volta communities
Samuel Okyere

Economía política del placer y productores negros de cacao en América Latina
Lina Lucumi-Mosquera, University of Leicester; *Meyby Ugueto-Ponce, Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas*; *Krisna Ruelle-Orihuela, University College Dublin*; *Ana Felicien, Universidad Federal do Para*

032. The Ecologies of Black Queer Worldmaking

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Marlon Bailey, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

Counter-Spatial Imaginaries: Black Feminist Urban Arts Placemaking as Queer Worldmaking Practice
Mako Ward

"(Trans)Altars: Embodied Performances of Black Queer Religiosity"
Elena Guzman, Indiana University Bloomington

Now This is What I Paid For!": African American Tourism in Brazil's "Black Mecca"
Christina Carney, University of Missouri

Inxeba: Making Black Queer Space in "traditional" South Africa.
Xavier Livermon, UC Santa Cruz

Discussant:

Kwame Out, Georgetown University

033. Black Environmental Worldmaking: The Right to Breathe and the HERC Fight for Ecological Justice

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Rose Brewer, University of Minnesota

Participants:

Shut Down the Minneapolis Trash Burner
Stephani Booker

The Zero Burn Coalition and the Fight for Zero Waste
Jessica Garraway, Zero Burn Coalition

Connecting University and Community in Strategizing for Environmental Justice.
Ruby DeBellis, Tunheim

Organizing for Environmental Justice Worldmaking in Frontline Communities
Ar'Tesha Saballos, MN Environmental Justice Table

Discussant:

Yuichiro Onishi, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

034. Dreamscaping: J. Cole's Dreamville and the Ecologies of Black Masculinity in Hip-Hop

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Brandon Manning, Texas Christian University

Participants:

"Put My City on the Map": The Restorative Project of J. Cole's Dreamville
Victoria Washington, Texas Christian University

"This album is in no way intended to glorify addiction": Hip-Hop Therapy Through J. Cole's KOD
Da-Shiva Francois, Texas Christian University

Complicated Terrains: Black Masculinity, J. Cole, and Building a Methodology of Softness
Brandon Manning, Texas Christian University

"I'm Back Outside": Emerging from Spaces of Recovery to re-Join Community
Victoria Washington, Texas Christian University

035. Land, Labor, and Life: Ecological Resistance in the Black Atlantic

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Shauna Rigaud, University of Maryland

Participants:

Blackness as Interior *RJ Millhouse, Arizona State University*
"These Fields and Hills Beyond Recall": Landlessness and
Reparations in Barbados *Shauna Rigaud, University of
Maryland*

"Hope and Pray and Get to Higher Ground": The tourism
industry's response to natural disaster *Ayondela McDole
Stephenson, Whitman College*

Historical Technologies of the Workhouse: Storytelling,
Movements, and Policy Pathways for Systemic Change
Tauheeda Yasin, George Mason University

**036. Mid-20th Century Black Resistance Struggles - Blackness in
Latin America and the Caribbean, pt. 1**

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

John Mundell, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

"El Año del Desarrollo": Aftermaths of Revolution in
Dominican Labor Organizing *Génesis Lara, University of
California, Irvine*

Weaponizing the Master's Tools? Sex Scams, Dubious
Consent, and Newspaper Coverage of Black Domestic
Workers in Post-War Brazil *Cassie Osei, Bucknell
University*

O Clube Marítimo Africano: Maritime Networks and Black
Internationalism in Lisbon *C. Darius Gordon, Johns Hopkins
University*

Mãe Olga de Alaketu: A Pan-African priestess in the era of
decolonization and dictatorship *Jamie Andreson, Simmons
University*

037. The Social Lives of West African Waters

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

John Thomas III, College of Charleston

Participants:

Narrating Inattention: Domesticated Hydroscares in Literatures
of Urban Nigeria *Comfort Azubuko-Udah, University of
Toronto*

"Contested Gendered Environmental Citizenship and Everyday
Resistance to State-led River Development Schemes in
Gambia, 1949-1988 *Abdoulie Jabang, Texas Christian
University*

From the Delta to the Volta: an Intimate Cartography of the
Sahel *Madina Thiam, Johns Hopkins University*

River Subin and Kumase: Building an Imperial Capital in West
Africa *Tony Yeboah, Tulane University*

**038. Materialities of Earthwork Cultural Landscapes in the
Black Atlantic: Technologies, Architectures, and Cosmologies**

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Neil Norman, William & Mary

Participants:

Investigating Africa's Largest Structures: Construction and
Cosmologies of African Earthworks, and Comparison with

Diasporic Landscapes *Tomos Evans, Washington University
in St. Louis*

Reinterpreting Amazonian Earthworks: Emergence of the Black
Amazon *Cheryl White, Anton de Kom University of
Suriname*

Bound to Land, Bonded through Clay: Connecting South
Carolina Lowcountry Enslaved African Pottery and
Embankments *Andrew Agha, Coastal Carolina University*

Race in the Antebellum Landscape: Reframing the Great
Dismal Swamp as a Critical Black Geography *Rachel Burke,
Harvard University*

Discussant:

Tristram Kidder, Washington University in St. Louis

039. Keynote: Representative Cori Bush

Plenary

5:00 to 6:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4-7

040. Opening Reception

Reception

6:15 to 8:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Statler Ballroom

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

041. Yoga Session - Part 2

Workshop

7:00 to 7:45 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

042. Film 1: Documentaries

Roundtable

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Presenters:

Henry Drewal, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Laurie Lambert, Fordham University

Gladys Mitchell-Walthour, North Carolina Central University

**043. The Atlantic as a River: Ethiopianism and the Black
Struggle for Freedom**

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Andrew Barnes, Arizona State University

Participants:

William Henry Sheppard's Ethiopianist Movement *Kimberly
Hill, University of Texas at Dallas*

Pan-Africanism's Backwater: Ethiopianism in Colonial East
Africa *Ethan Sanders, Regis University*

Ethiopianism as a Bridge across the Atlantic *Andrew Barnes,
Arizona State University*

044. Seepage: Viscous Readings of African Diasporic Archives

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chairs:

Robin McDowell, Bates College

Amsale Alemu, Howard University

Participants:

- "Wet and Unfit for Cultivation:" Racial Fantasy and The Swamp Acts of 1850 *Robin McDowell, Bates College*
 Insurgent Contaminants: Corroding U.S. Military Infrastructure in Eritrea *Amsale Alemu, Howard University*
 Wha happenin dey? Lessons from Nelson Island *Zaira Simone-Thomson, Wesleyan University*
 Revolutionary Skillshare: ADFC and Rethinking Community-centered Education *Chenise Calhoun, Tulane University*

Discussant:

Jovonna Jones, Boston College

045. Writing in/is Progress: Black Women's Biographical Studies from Start to Finish

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Tara Green, University of Houston

Participants:

- Listening to Black Women's Lives: The Archive of Philippa Schuyler's World Travels in her Music *Rachel Afi Quinn, University of Houston*
 Helen Dickens and Black Women's Health Work *Ameenah Shakir, University of Houston*
 She Asked Me Why I'm Here: Writing the Biography of Alice Dunbar-Nelson or Researching the Life of a Black Queer Respectable Activist, *Tara Green, University of Houston*
 Grace P. Campbell and the Roots of Abolition Democracy: A Forgotten Vanguard of Black Radical Liberation *Lydia Lindsey, North Carolina Central University*

046. Dancing Waters: African-Caribbean-Diasporic Technologies of Healing and Survival

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Adanna Jones, Bowdoin College

Participants:

- Once You Carry Your Own Water, You Remember Every Drop *Thomas Talawa Presto, Oberlin College & Conservatory*
 Healing Waters: Integration of the God-Self Through the Water Dances of the Lwa and Orisha *Colette Eloi, University of California, Riverside*
 This Year, We Stormin' Di Band! *Adanna Jones*
 Tributaries *Dasha Chapman*

047. Black Radical Politics, Spirituality and Environment

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Charisse Burden-Stelly, Wayne State University

Participants:

- An Ecology of Free Blackness *Evelyne Laurent-Perrault*
 Black Genius: Captive Spirituality in The Republic of New Afrika *Iman AbdoulKarim*
 Harry Haywood's Black Internationalist Thought *Charisse Burden-Stelly, Wayne State University*
 Why Manning Marable Retrieves Blackwater and its Normative

Significance for Africana Studies *Xavier Pickett, Cornell University*

048. Local Struggles, Hemispheric Connections: Popular Politics in the Greater Caribbean, 1860s-1940s

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Reena Goldthree, Princeton University

Participants:

- Candelaria and Community Politics in the Dominican Deep South *Anne Eller, Yale University*
 Reading the 1930 Women's Liberty March in U.S. Occupied Haiti *Shelby Sinclair, University of Virginia*
 The Power of "Neighborliness": The 1934 Floods in British Guiana and their Aftermath *Nicole Burrowes, Rutgers University, New Brunswick*
 Between Leftists and Nativists: Women and Politics in 1940s Panama *Kaysha Corinealdi, Rutgers University - New Brunswick*

049. Mapping Language and Migration in Nairobi

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Lucy Meigs, Washington University Medical School

Participants:

- Swahili in Asia *Yang Chul Joon, Independent Scholar*
 Swahili and Black Aspirations in the United States: *Pasya Kashindi, Washington University in St. Louis; Daniel Kipchirchir Cheluget, Washington University in St. Louis; Mungai Mutonya*
 Swahili in Reframing Covid-19 and Mental Health Experiences in Nairobi *Lucy Meigs, Washington University Medical School*

050. Film 2: Bigger than Africa

Roundtable

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Session Organizer:

Toyin Ibrahim Adekeye, Zstudio Motherland

051. Wading in the Waters of Black Diaspora Memory, Embodied Archives, Performative Resistance

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Renée Alexander Craft, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Participants:

- Patacones, Paintbrushes, and Power: Performing Transnational Blackness at the Crossroads of the Americas *Renée Alexander Craft, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
 Burning Flesh: Performances of Immolation in Neocolonial Havana, Cuba *Lisa Calvente, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
 Carrying: An Autoethnographic Exploration into Inter-generational Archive *Kayla Corbin, University of North*

Carolina at Chapel Hill

"Fight Like Hell": Witnessing Performances of Black
(un)Mothering in the Carceral State *Megan Foster*,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

052. Afro-Brazilian Waterways and the Black Atlantic II - The Environment: Plant Histories, Healing and Spirituality
Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Eduarda Lira de Araújo, Harvard University

Participants:

Herbal Baths and Spirituality in the Carrapatos Quilombo:
Afro-Brazilian Healing Traditions *Anna Caroline Vertelo*,
Harvard University

An "Insubordinate Occupation:" People and Plants Who
Sabotaged Slavery and Forged Freedom in Brazil *Eduarda*
Lira de Araújo, *Harvard University*

Orupéri and Aramári: Magical Plants and the Politics of
Attraction and Assault in the Guianas *Vikram Tamboli*,
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

Baptized in Kalunga: Reconfigured Relationships between
Captive Kongo People and the Kongo Kingdom *Ras Michael*
Brown, *Georgia State University*

Discussant:

Marc Hertzman, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

053. Black Sexual Ecologies of the Americas

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Joshua Reason, San Francisco State University

Participants:

Making Black Queer Worlds: Black LGBTQ+ Parties in Brazil
and the United States *Wanfani Poe*, *Tulane University*

Revolutionary Mothering and Black Queer Ecological Care
Suzanne Nimoh, *University of Texas at Austin*

"Yo me lo consumo!": Water, Consumption, and Relation in
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic *Bonnie Samantha*
Maldonado, *University of Pennsylvania*

Fluid Embodiments: On Senga Nengudi's Water Compositions
Rosel Serrano

054. The Diasporic Midwest: Author Meets the Readers

Roundtable

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Bryce Henson

Presenter:

Erik McDuffie

Discussants:

Jean Allman

Courtney Pierre Joseph, Lake Forest College

Ashley Howard, University of Iowa

055. Defending Rumba in Havana: The Sacred and the Black Corporeal Undercommons, by Maya Berry, A Roundtable Discussion
Roundtable

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Eunice Sahle, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Presenters:

Aisha Finch, Emory University

Jasmine E. Johnson, University of Pennsylvania

Rachel E. Harding, University of Colorado Denver

Discussant:

Maya Berry

056. The Fluid Lives of Objects: Diasporas of Black Sacred Material Culture, Part 2

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Matthew Rarey, Oberlin College

Participants:

Objecting (to) the Fetish: Debating African Art History in
Lisbon, 1731 *Matthew Rarey*, *Oberlin College*

Fifteen Colonial Thefts: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on
Colonial Plunder and Restitution (Part 1) *Sela Adjei*,
University of Media, Arts and Communication (Ghana)

Fifteen Colonial Thefts: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on
Colonial Plunder and Restitution (Part 2) *Yann LeGall*,
Technical University in Berlin

'Syncretism' as History: Afro-Brazilian Shrines in British
Ethnographic Museums *Luisa Karman*, *SOAS University of*
London

057. Mandingueiro Literacies: Insurgencies, Disruptions, and Protagonism of the Black Population in Education, Language, Literature

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Ana Lúcia Silva Souza, *Universidade Federal da Bahia*

Participants:

Linguistic Justice and Multilingualism: Raciolinguistics, CRT,
and Language in multilingual classrooms *Miriam Jorge*,
University of Missouri

Das encruzadas como projeto político para o campo da
Linguagem: mandingas e rasuras epistêmicas *Kassandra*
Muniz, *Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto*

Performances e escritas de mulheres negras como criações de
insurgência *Florentina Souza*, *Universidade Federal da*
Bahia

Reexistência através de Colaborações Acadêmicas: Construindo
Significados das Literacias de Mandinga, Justiça, Linguística
e Literatura Feminina nas Vidas de Acadêmicas Afro-
Brasileiras *Ana Lucia Silva Souza*, *Universidade Federal da*
Bahia

058. Film 3: "Tina, When Will you Marry", "The Incredible Sensational Fiancée of Seyi Ajayi" and "Al-Sit"

Roundtable

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Washington University in St. Louis

Discussants:

Celestina Aleobua
Abbesi Akhamie
Suzannah Mirghani

059. Race and Identity Making Past and Present

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Jessica Samuel, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

American Madness: Colonial Myths & the Logics of
Disposability **Jessica Samuel**, Washington University in St.
Louis

Theorizing 'Rights-of-Way': Race, Railroads, and Traversable
Property in Antebellum Ferguson and St. Louis **Rashad**
Arman Timmons, University of California, Santa Barbara

(Under) Counting Blackness Across the Globe: The Civil
Rights Crisis of Census Racial Erasure **Tanya Hernández**,
Fordham University

Identity Construction at OAU Summit and its Implications on
the African Union today **Clara Asare-Nyarko**, University of
Cape Coast

**060. Aquatic Reckonings: Afrofuturist and Black Speculative
Reimaginings of the Ocean**

Roundtable

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Tanya L Shields, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Presenters:

Michele Berger, Case Western Reserve University
Belinda Deneen Wallace, University of New Mexico
Kimberly Nichele Brown, St. Louis University
Chize Ogbogu, Case Western Reserve University

061. Spiritualities and Bodily Practice

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Scott Barton, Notre Dame

Participants:

Afrodiasporic Spirituality as Female Empowerment in Yelaine
Rodríguez's Fashion Art **Elena Valdez**, Christopher Newport
University

The Mnemonics of Bodily Practice and Animal Sacrifice in
Brazilian Candomblé **Scott Barton**, Notre Dame University

Watery Images, Airy Sounds and the Ephemeral in Pinache
Chigumadzi's These Bones Will Rise Again **Sade Gordon**

Black self-awareness and ecological integration in Alice
Walker's Now Is The Time to Open Your Heart (2004)
Claudio Roberto Vieira Braga, Universidade de Brasília

062. The Blac/k Indian Ocean

Roundtable

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

K.J. Hickerson, University of Chicago

Presenters:

Beeta Baghoolizadeh, Princeton University
Nikhita Obeegadoo, University of Chicago
Alden Young, Yale University

**063. Conceptualizing African Diaspora Cultures through
Experiential Learning**

Roundtable

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Shanti Parikh, Washington University in St. Louis

Presenters:

Marlon Bailey, Washington University in St. Louis
Thabiti Willis, Grinnell College
Melisa Rivière

064. Place, Space, and Black Life

Paper Session

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Michael Barnett, University of the West Indies, Mona

Participants:

Rastafari Ital Livity as a Blueprint for Black Liberation and
Ecological Harmony **Michael Barnett**, University of the West
Indies, Mona

Rivers, Borders, Colonialism, and an Island's Evolution
Michael Walters, New Jersey City University

The Block: The Language of Black Space **Charles Ross**

The Ecology of Land, Nation and Selfhood in Selected African
Mexican Poetry **Paulette Ramsay**, University of the West
Indies, Mona

**065. Decolonial Dominicanidades: Haiti's Early Black
Internationalism across Hispaniola**

Roundtable

12:00 to 1:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Sophia Monegro, Washington University in St. Louis

Presenters:

Matthew Alexander Randolph, Stanford University
Elizabeth Alvarez, Columbia University

066. Film 4: "Orisha Devotion in Berlin" and "Dancing Gods"

Roundtable

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Session Organizer:

Ricardo Bacallao

Presenter:

Henry Drewal, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**067. Flows of Freedom: Post-Abolition, Black Women, Afro-
Brazilian History and Culture**

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Ana Flávia Magalhães, Universidade de Brasília

Participants:

The De-Africanization of Street Carnival in Rio de Janeiro

through municipal law *Thiago Mattos-Batista, Harvard University*

Archive, Authorship, and Black History: the process as a device for writing and emancipation *Janira Sodr -Miranda, Universidade de Bras lia/Instituto Federal de Educa  o, Ci ncia e Tecnologia de Goi s*

In the courtroom of Juiz de Fora: a case study of race, gender, social status, and Black masculinities in the post emancipated city (1890-1910) *Estela Gon alves de Souza, Michigan State University*

Epistemic flows of black women and their abolitionist literacies in the Cerrado, the cradle of waters in Central Brazil *Ludmila Pereira de Almeida, Universidade Federal de Goi s*

068. Black Femme Ecologies—A Tidal Wave of Black Mutual Assistance

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Efia Dalili, BB-Penda, Inc

Participants:

“She told me to try guida”: Black Perinatal Wellness in Cuba
Efia Dalili, BB-Penda, Inc

Injera Epistemology: Lessons from Indigenous Women of Tigray, Za Gualay, *Micknai Arefaine*

Frankly, Sex Talks: Radical Reconfiguring of Self and Other
Senabou Ayana Penda Dalili, BB-Penda, Inc.

Returning to Our Mothers’ Waterways *Joyell Arvella, Writer in the Tub*

069. The Afterlives of Waterways: Changing Sites of Violence, Resistance, and Histories across the African Diaspora

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Jameelah Morris, Western University

Participants:

A Right to Legacy: Heirs Property, Memory, and Resistance in Coastal South Carolina *Kristin McFadden, Stanford University*

Black Women and Insurgent Ecology: Woods, Water, and Gendered Rebellion in the Great Dismal Swamp *Kathryn Benjamin Golden, University of Delaware*

Elegy for Sudan’s Martyrs: Toward a Poetic Discourse of the Nile as a Site of Resistance and Repression *Umntya Najaer, University of Colorado Boulder*

Mangroves of Memory: Black Aquatic Archives of Refuge and Futurity in the Colombian Caribbean *Jameelah Morris, Western University*

070. Liberia, the World, and Africa

Roundtable

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Erik McDuffie, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Presenters:

Yolanda Covington-Ward, University of Massachusetts - Amherst

Krystal A. Smalls, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Elijah Robert Zehyoue, Emory University

071. We Speak of Rivers, But Are We Chasing Waterfalls?

Roundtable

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

Chair:

Ellen Louis

Discussants:

Kristen Maye, Mount Holyoke College

Malcolm Thompson

072. Cuban Underground Hip Hop at 10 Years

Roundtable

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Sarah Soanirina Ohmer, Lehman College (CUNY)

Presenters:

Pablo D. Herrera Veitia, University of Toronto

Jaqueline Lima Santos, Universidade Estadual de Campinas

Roberto Zurbano Torres, La Uni n de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba (UNEAC)

Discussant:

Tanya Saunders, University of Maryland - Baltimore

073. Refusing the Nation, Theorizing Black Belonging - Blackness in Latin America and the Caribbean, pt. 2

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Genesis Lara, University of California, Davis

Participants:

Ang lique Kidjo’s Celia: Tribute Album as Black Diasporic Study *John Mundell, Washington University in St. Louis*

In the Blood: Black/Indigenous Refusals Against Mestizo Logics of Power *Ashley Agbasoga*

Beyond the Mulatta: Baianas as Theorists of Defiant Black Beauty *Vanessa Castaneda, Davidson College*

Bearing Witness: Gender Violence and the Emergence of the Belizean Nation-State *Nicole Ramsey, University of Texas at Austin*

Discussant:

Jamie Andreson, Simmons University

074. Hopkins and Butler: Black Women Body Sense

Panel

1:30 to 3:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Rudrani Sarma, Rutgers University

Participants:

“‘In the water... we see the future’: Imaging Black Futures in Pauline Hopkins’s *Of One Blood*” *Rudrani Sarma, Rutgers University*

“Infectious Laughter, Pauline Hopkins’s *Mammy*, and the Living Ghost” *amadi ozier, University of Wisconsin - Madison*

“‘The Long-Remembered Dolphin Form’: Octavia Butler and the Body’s Knowing” *Alexandria Smith, University of Virginia*

"Black Obscurant: Antehuman Praxis in Octavia E. Butler's
Wild Seed" *emerson zora hamsa, Auburn University*

075. Film 5: "Fighting Giants" and "Ludi"

Roundtable

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Presenters:

Oluwaseun Babalola

Edson Jean

**076. New Horizons in Black Geographies: Charting Unexplored
Terrains of Diaspora, Ecology, and Resistance**

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Alexandra Gessesse, University of California - Berkeley

Participants:

Engineered Climate Risk: Using Flood Exposure Risk in
Jamaica to Build a Case for Reparative Engineering *J'Anna-
Mare Lue, University of California - Berkeley*

Landscape as Archive: Ecology of Jim Crow Era Cemeteries in
the Rural Mid-South *Maria Pettis, University of California -
Berkeley*

Mapping Diaspora from Within: Black Spatial Approaches for
Studying East African Place-Making *Alexandra Gessesse,
University of California - Berkeley*

077. Life along the River Nile: Connector in African Antiquity

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Solange Ashby, University of California - Los Angeles

Participants:

With Land not being Distinguishable from Water: The
Ideological Significance of the Inundation in Taharqo's Year
6 Stela. *Charles Rhodes, UCLA*

Beyond Egypt - Considering Nilotic Peoples in East Africa
Methodological Inroads for Studying Antiquity with the Luo
Peoples as a Case Study *Malkia Okech, UCLA*

Re-examining relationships between ancient Tigray and Yemen:
an ethno archaeological approach *Iman Jamal Nagy, UCLA*
Sudan at War *Jenail Marshall, Purdue University*

**078. (Re)presenting Afro-Brazil: Contesting National Narratives
and Centering Transnational Circuits of Black Knowledge
Production**

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Cassie Osei, Bucknell University

Participants:

The Manuscript Cultures of Africans in 19th Century Brazil:
Stories of Conversion, Resistance, and Healing *Gana
Ndiaye, Yale University*

Abdias do Nascimento's Folklore *Juan Suarez Ontaneda, Bryn
Mawr College*

The Triangular Scholar: Anani Dzidzienyo's Contributions to
African, Black, and Latin American studies *Bright Gyamfi,*

Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Ham's Revenge: Theorizing Black Women's History in
Brazilian Archives *Cassie Osei, Bucknell University*

**079. Supersonic Insurgencies: Black Music, Movements and
Methods**

Roundtable

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Leslie Alexander, Rutgers University

Presenters:

Quito Swan, George Washington University

Robert Trent Vinson, University of Virginia

Amanda Joyce Hall, University of California - Santa Barbara

Kimberly Monroe, Trinity Washington University

**080. Introducing the Ruth Simms Hamilton African Diaspora
Series, Michigan State University Press**

Roundtable

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

Chairs:

Hilary Jones, University of Kentucky

Kimberly Eison Simmons, University of South Carolina

Presenters:

Kimberly Eison Simmons, University of South Carolina

Harry Odamtten, Santa Clara University

Edward Paulino, City University of New York

Hilary Jones, University of Kentucky

081. Of Kinship, Family, and Oceans

Paper Session

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Deanna Lyncook, Queen Mary University of London

Participants:

A comparative approach to the African cultural legacy of the
Black family experiences in slave-based Atlantic world
societies. *Isabel Cristina Ferreira dos Reis, Universidade
Federal do Recôncavo da Bahia*

Kinfolk on Both Sides of the Atlantic Ocean: Towards Inclusive
Liberation for the African Diaspora *Faith Odele, Texas A&M
University*

"I merely survive because of my pride" The experiences of
Caribbean children migrating to post-war Britain *Deanna
Lyncook, Queen Mary University of London*

**082. Ecologías del tambor afrovenezolano: Trascendiendo
discursos naturalistas y culturalistas sobre género, estética y
organización social**

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Mesi Bakari Walton, Howard University

Participants:

Sonoridad, recuerdo y organización social: tambores
afrovenezolanos culo e' puya y fluidez intergeneracional en
Curiepe *Meyby Ugueto-Ponce, Instituto Venezolano de
Investigaciones Científicas*

Mujeres, Agua y Música: Perspectivas desde el Tambor

AfroVenezolano *Vicky Mogollón Montagne, University of Chicago*

La Ecología de la Vida Negra y la Resistencia en Barlovento,
Venezuela *Mesi Bakari Walton, Howard University*

"Su niño, su sancocho", su tambor: Ensayo fotográfico del
velorio del Niño Jesús de Curiepe *Franklin Salvador Perozo Díaz, Universidad Central de Venezuela*

**083. Leading and Advocating in Black Studies: A Workshop for
Current and Future Black Studies Chairs and Program
Directors**

Panel

3:20 to 4:50 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

*Yolanda Covington-Ward, University of Massachusetts -
Amherst*

084. ASWAD Business Meeting

Business Meeting

5:00 to 6:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4-7

085. Leadership Networking Reception

Sign-up - Offsite Event

7:00 to 9:00 pm

Session Organizer:

Shanti Parikh, Washington University in St. Louis

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

086. Meditation Session

Workshop

7:00 to 7:45 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

**087. From the Massacre River to the Rio Grande: Anti-
Haitianism in Hemispheric Perspective**

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Bertin Louis, University of Kentucky

Participants:

President Jean-Pierre Boyer, Jean Price-Mars, and the roots of
Anti-Haitianism in the Dominican Republic: A Historical
Reassessment *Celucien Joseph, San Jacinto College*

Racializing the (Un)Patriotic: Reconfiguring the Boundaries of
the Dominican Nation *Amarilys Estrella, Rice University*

Anti-Haitianism, Statelessness, and Religious Practice in the
Bahamas *Bertin Louis, University of Kentucky*

(Permanently) In-Transit Migrants: Haitian Migrants and Racial
Borders across the Americas *Amanda Pinheiro, Georgetown
University*

088. Black Life and Environmental Destruction

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Sanyu Mulira, Georgia Institute of Technology

Participants:

Feeding a Colony: African Subsistence Agricultural Practices
and the Business of Empire in Panama *Traveon Rogers, UC
Berkeley*

The Fight for Social Justice in Martinique and Guadeloupe
Véronique Hélénor

Cyclical Dispossession: Mapping Extractive Geographies in the
Niger Delta from Slavery to Oil *Amina Adebisi Odofin*

**089. Sacred Africana, Aquatic: Exploring Abundance and
Scarcity Through Ritual in Burkina Faso, Cuba, and Haiti**

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Maya Berr, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Participants:

Staging Ochún: To Demand Compensation with a Smile *Maya
Berry, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill*

Mami Wata, Chief Meteorologist: A Comparative Africana
Approach to Rain and Groundwater in Rural Burkina Faso
Meredith Coleman-Tobias, Mount Holyoke College

Going anba dlo: A Scholar's Response to a Mother's Love and
Lament *Christina Désert, Emory University*

Discussant:

Rachel E. Harding, University of Colorado - Denver

090. Rivers and Enslaved Lifeworlds

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Dianne M. Stewart, Emory University

Participants:

Freedom at Bay: San Juan's Underdevelopment and the Depths
of Slavery in Puerto Rico, 1800-1850 *Gabriel Rivera Cotto,
Yale University*

Of Rivers, Swamps, and Seacoasts: Maritime Slavery,
Waterborne Resistance, and the Currents of Belonging in the
Waterways of Colonial Sierra Leone *Myles Ali, University of
California, Merced*

The Mississippi Riverboats *Sandra Adell, University of
Wisconsin-Madison*

091. Futures Real and Imagined

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Ayodeji Olugbuiro, Rice University

Participants:

Charting Ancestral Rivers: Speculative Returns and Afrocentric
Utopias in Afro-Brazilian Afrofuturist Cinema *Ayodeji
Olugbuiro, Rice University*

Extravagant Prom Send-offs as Spatial Carework: Black
Mothers' Transformation of Urban Space into sites of Joy
and Excess *Jennifer Williams, Loyola Marymount University*

From Mythical Norm to Mythically Unique: Water as a
Medium for Evolution *R. Nicole Smith, University of
Memphis*

Cultural Specificity in Africanfuturism: Resisting
Generalization in Tomi Adeyemi's Children of Blood and

Bone Rebecca Amonor, Washington University in St. Louis

092. Black to the Past: The Interdisciplinary Black Atlantic

Panel

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Edda Fields-Black, Carnegie Mellon University

Participants:

Histories of Slavery and Blackness in Tunis *Cristi Whiskey*,
University of California – Los Angeles

Shapes of the Spirit (Geist, gheest): Blackness and Early
Modern Theories of (Re)presentation *Dontay Givens II*, *New York University*

Between Black Life and Economic Exploitation: Towards A
Longue Durée History of Guinea's Rio Nunez *Christopher Abdul Hakim Martinez*, *University of California – Los Angeles*

Kindred Legacy *Norrell Edwards*, *Le Moyne College*

093. Death, Life, and Healing

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University

Participants:

Ferguson and Rio de Janeiro: Navigating and Marching in Acts
of Black Motherhood and Resistance *Luciane Rocha*,
Kennesaw State University

It's Life: Let's Talk about Death *Robin Brooks*, *University of Pittsburgh*

Narrating the "Great Lakes": Ecologies of death and a new
cartography of Blackness *Brenda Umutoniwase*, *Emory University*

"The Beach Belong to We": Discourses of Life and Death in
Colonial and 'Post'-colonial Barbados" *Dawn Harris*, *Stony Brook University (SUNY)*

094. Mobilizing Memory in the Present

Paper Session

8:30 to 10:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Leonora Souza Paula, Michigan State University

Participants:

Afro-Brazilian Spirituality and Black Placemaking in
Contemporary Literature *Leonora Souza Paula*, *Michigan State University*

"And there we wept": Rivers, Rebels, and Remembrance in a
Jamaican Context *Isis Semaj-Hall*

Nzaji ria Ngiji: Cosmopolitics of Remembrance at the
Memorial of Iyá Elvira T'Osun *Guilherme Oliveira Lemos*,
University of Virginia

Voices of the River: Tracing Cross River Ékpè and Cuban
Abakuá in Jonatás y Manuela (1994) *Kaezia Mills*,
University of the West Indies, Mona

095. Revolutionary Pan-Africanism and Black Internationalism in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Benjamin Talton, Howard University

Participants:

Is it Pan-Africanism if it's not Revolutionary? *Layla Brown*,
Northeastern University

Nkrumah's Zonal Analysis and the Pan-African Intelligentsia:
Contemporary Exigencies *D. Zizwe Poe*, *Lincoln University*

Azania: South Africa's Radical Alternative *Amanda Joyce Hall*,
University of California - Santa Barbara

From Sankarism to the AES: Revolutionary Pan-Africanism
and the Changing Global Order *Navid Farnia*, *Wayne State University*

Discussant:

Charisse Burden-Stelly, Wayne State University

096. Blackness and the Long Twentieth Century

Paper Session

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Latif Tarik, Elizabeth City State University

Participants:

'Black freedom fighters everywhere': Barbados and Black
Internationalism in the Trans-Atlantic Battle for Black Power
Melanie Holmes, *University of South Carolina*

Discursive Waves of Pan-African Revolutionary Violence in a
Sea of Whiteness: Malcolm X's Response to Black
Minoritization. *Jimmy Butts*, *Trinity University*

Movement and Manifestations of the Black Star Line *Jewell Ruth-Ella Humphrey*, *University of California – Los Angeles*

What is a Nation?: Arap Baci, Baci Kalfa, and Dadi in the
Culture Industry *Olumayowa Willoughby*, *Cornell University*

097. Saint Louis to Saint Louis: Tracing Senegalese Urban Ecologies Across Class, Gender, and Language

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Han Zhang, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

Structural Barriers to Women's Educational Advancement in
Senegal *Aisha Adedayo*, *Washington University in St. Louis*

The New Overture: Freedom of Expression for Twenty-First
Century Senegalese Creatives *Tyra Frazier*, *Washington University in St. Louis*

The Aesthetics of Occupation: The Relationships Defining the
Geography of Street Vendors in Dakar *Kaila Holland*,
Washington University in St. Louis

"We chose the street": Senegalese Graffiti Artists' Reclamation
of Urban Geography for Decolonial Pasts, Presents, and
Futures *Maya Phelps*, *Washington University in St. Louis*

Discussant:

Wilmetta Toliver-Diallo, Washington University in St. Louis

098. Gendered Waterways of the Afro-Iberian Atlantic World

Panel

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Mary Hicks, University of Chicago

Participants:

"Gendering Waterborne Labor: African Grumetes, Coastal Waterways, and the Transatlantic Slave Trade" **Mary Hicks**, University of Chicago

On Afropolitans and Creole Cosmopolitans **Michelle McKinley**, University of Oregon

The Many Lives, Deaths, and Myths of Black Caesar, a Pirate Lost to History **Tamara Walker**, Barnard College, Columbia University

"An Academy of Disobedients": Free People of Colour's Cartographies of Water and Land on Colombia's Magdalena River **Valeria Mantilla Morales**, Stony Brook University (SUNY)

099. Currulao and Bunde Approaches to other Protagonists of Colombian Music

Roundtable – Musical Presentation

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Manuel Viveros, New York University

100. Women's Environmental Activism

Paper Session

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Paul Joseph Lopez Oro, Bryn Mawr College

Participants:

Female Power, Transformation and Re-imagined Futures in Nnedi Okorafor's *Lagoon* **Rose Sackeyfio**, Winston Salem State University

Seeds of Change and Survival: Gender and Environmental Legacy of African Agricultural Practices in the Atlantic World **Gideon Asante**, Ohio University

"Sitting Dong on de River Stone": Black Women's Environmental Activism through Articulation, and Action **Kathleen Elizabeth Phillips Lewis**, Spelman College

Toxic Waters, Toxic Wombs: Black Feminist Eco-Ethics and Reproductive Justice on Colombia's Atrato River **Kaché Clayton**, University of Virginia

101. Framing Women's Life

Paper Session

10:20 to 11:50 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Sophia De La Cruz, University of Florida

Participants:

Afro-Descendant Women in the Archives during the Trujillato in the Dominican Republic **Sophia De La Cruz**, University of Florida

An Ecofeminist Exploration of Women and Flora in Annie Desroy's novel *Le Joug* (1934) **Shanna Jean-Baptiste**

Black Women, Quilombo Geographies, and European Modernity in Early-Twentieth Century São Paulo **Kat Cosby**, California State University Channel Islands

The Femininity of Art and Culture in Kongo Folklore **Awo Y. Sumah**, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

102. The Life and Legacy of Tomás Fernández Robaina: Afro-

Cuban Scholar Activist

Roundtable

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chairs:

Aisha Finch, Emory University

Fannie Rushing, Benedictine University

Presenters:

Barbara Danzie, Casa de las Américas

Benjamin F. Jones

Matthew Pettway, University of South Alabama

103. Practices of Creative Placemaking

Paper Session

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Amani Morrison, Georgetown University

Participants:

Black Queer Livingness in the Caribbean: alternative ecologies and praxis of repair and survival on Sint Maarten **Keston Perry**

Creative Placemaking, Black Restorative Ecologies, and Black Spatial Futures: Reflections on a Mellon Sawyer Seminar **Amani Morrison**, Georgetown University; **Lidya Woldeyesus**, Georgetown University

Cultural Resistance: A Mixtape **Aminah Pilgrim**, Berklee College of Music

Riding Towards Freedom: Understanding the Impact of Horsemanship in Urban Spaces **Mikayla Renwick**, Texas A&M University

Soil & Seed Curriculum: Early Childhood Education & Black Ecological Justice **Imani Irving Perez**, Hunter College (CUNY)

104. Performance and Culture Keeping

Paper Session

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Faith Odele, Texas A&M University

Participants:

Afrofuturism: The Black Body as an Immortal Canvas of Storytelling, Resistance, and Mysticism **Morgan Gregory Beautiful** (Poetry Performance) **Faith Odele**, Texas A&M University

Monuments and Racial Reckoning in the Caribbean and its Diasporas **Danielle Roper**, The University of Chicago

Culture Guardians: Caretaking Rivers of Memory on River-less Islands **Greg Carter**, Illinois State University

Submerged Saudade: Aspirating Fado's Shipwrecked Slaves **Sybil Cooksey**, New York University

105. New Theoretical Approaches to Black Community

Paper Session

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Jaira J. Harrington, University of Illinois - Chicago

Participants:

Compassionate Rivers of African Diaspora Community Cross

Global Roads of New World Commodities *Hassan Jones-Bey*

Escrivência and Améfricanidade: Theorizing Black Lives in the African Diaspora *Jaira J. Harrington, University of Illinois - Chicago*

Flowing Histories: Water and the Dynamics of Power, Memory, and Resistance in African Narratives *Confidence Ekwodere, University of Ibadan*

106. Disaster, Conservation, and Sovereignty

Paper Session

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Paul Joseph Lopez Oro, Bryn Mawr College

Participants:

Coastal Conservation as Black Terraqueous Dispossession
Adrian Cato, Emory University

Black Ocean Relationality: Diverse Connections Between Black Communities and Marine Environments *Jillian Lyles, Stanford University*

Ecotourism Development in the Nature Isle: Navigating the Politics of Eco-Cultural Sovereignty in Dominica *Kimberly D. Miller, Florida International University*

Hurricane Marronage: Reframing Histories of Natural Disasters in the Atlantic World *Phoebe Labat, Brown University*

107. Feminist Eco-ethics

Paper Session

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Sanyu Mulira, Georgia Institute of Technology

Participants:

Disaster Errantry in Maryse Condé's 'Waiting for the Waters to Rise' *Sanyu Mulira, Georgia Institute of Technology*

Hemispheric Wake Work: Afro-Indigenous Ancestral Praxis of Territoriality in Guatemala *Daisy Guzman, University of Massachusetts - Amherst*

On Ecology: A Black Feminist Approach *Philsan Omar Osman; Sibongile Mkhize, Open University of the Netherlands*

Demonic Grounds of Extraction: Women's Bodies, Land, and Resistance in the Niger Delta *Amina Adebisi Odofin, University of Ghent*

108. Africa, Agriculture and Environment before the 20th Century

Paper Session

12:00 to 2:00 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Ama Bemma Adwetewa-Badu, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

For Colored Rice: Amu, Oryza Glaberrima, and Gold Coast Risiculture in the African Atlantic *Ishmael Annang, Mount Holyoke College*

Industrial Cotton in the 19th c. Yorubá Atlantic *Aaron Wilford, Northwestern University*

The Niger River in European Imagination of Nature, 1788-1900

Kingsley Ezeuwa, Marquette University

The Scared Fatherland: Edward Wilmot Blyden's

Environmentalist Approach to Pan African Thought. *W*

Gabriel Selassie I, California State University - Northridge

109. Spaces of Refusal: Resistance Around the Edges of Slavery in Brazil, the Caribbean, and East Africa

Panel

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Laura Rosanne Adderley, Tulane University

Participants:

Forests, Waters, Waymaking Sand: Small Island Geographies and the Case of Newly Emancipated Africans who Made Themselves Maroons *Laura Rosanne Adderley, Tulane University*

Burning down the house: Newly enslaved and freed women's refusal of patriarchal domesticity on the Swahili Coast *Elisabeth McMahon, Tulane University*

Rival geographies of survival and resistance: Semi-rural communal lives led by freed Africans in Salvador da Bahia's peripheral neighborhoods *Asligul Berkday, Texas A&M International University*

Discussant:

Mariana Candido, Emory University

110. Expressions of Citizenship

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

John Thomas III, College of Charleston

Participants:

An Insurrection Against Whites! *Evelynne Laurent-Perrault, University of California - Santa Barbara*

Colonisation, Race et Appartenance: Les Étudiants du Sahel Central au Caire *Siga Maguiraga*

Policy Preferences of Afro-Peruvian Youth: Ethnic Inclusion at the Crossroads *John Thomas III, College of Charleston*

"The Love of Liberty Brought Us Here": Black Indigeneity and the Politics of Return *Chrislyn Laurie Laurore, University of Pennsylvania*

Troubled Waters: Domination, Freedom and 'Modern Slavery' *Julia O'Connell Davidson; Maeli Priscila Goncalves Farias, University of Bristol*

111. Violence and Remembrance on the Shore: Waterways and the Ecologies of Death and Memory

Roundtable

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Mary Amanda McNeil, Tufts University

Presenters:

Hannah Scruggs, National Museum of African American History & Culture

Marley Lix-Jones, Harvard University

Kyera Singleton, Tufts University

112. Afro-Brazilian Waterways and the Black Atlantic III - Internationalism: Decolonizing Transatlantic Labor and

Intellectuality

Panel

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Kia Caldwell, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

The Characteristics of the Brazilian Dictatorship: Narrative on the Anti-Racist Struggle, 1970-1988 **Marcelo Domingos**, IHGDF – Instituto Historico e Geografico do Distrito Federal

“Berimbau is not a flute”: Black Trotskyists in the Brazilian Dictatorship, 1974-1978. **Caio Barbosa**, University of Nevada - Reno

The Black Epistemological Turn: Centering Race, Racism, and the Black Experience in the Brazilian Social Sciences **Leonardo Ventura**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The Islamic Cultural Center of Bahia and the Return of the Malês **Waldemar Oliveira**, New York University

Discussant:

Paulina Alberto, Harvard University

113. Black Studies and the Shifting Winds of Our Nation: Strategies for Advancing the Discipline

Roundtable

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Yolanda Covington-Ward, University of Massachusetts - Amherst

Presenters:

Robert Trent Vinson, University of Virginia

Shanti Parikh, Washington University in St. Louis

Shawn Leigh Alexander, University of Kansas

Cherise Smith, University of Texas - Austin

Christopher Tinson, St. Louis University

Riché J. Daniel Barnes, University of Florida

114. Reparations in Greater St. Louis

Roundtable

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 5-6

Chair:

Geoff Ward, Washington University in St. Louis

Participant:

Reparations in Greater St. Louis **Geoff Ward**, Washington University in St. Louis

Discussants:

Margaret Burnham, Northeastern University

Lynne Jackson, Founder and President of the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation

Kayla Reed, Action St. Louis and former Chairperson of the City of St. Louis Mayoral Reparations Commission

Winnie Sullivan, Racial Equity Review and the Racial History Committee of St. Francis Xavier College Church

Pamela Westbrook-Hodge, Justice for Celia Foundation

115. Resisting Erasure and Reclaiming Identity in Ayiti: The History and Experiences of the African Diaspora in Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Panel

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Sophia Monegro, Washington University in St. Louis

Participants:

Mujeres Mariposas: Lessons from Afro-Descendant Women's Histories in the Time of the Butterflies **Sophia De La Cruz**, University of Florida

Dismantling “Otherness”: How Dominico-Haitianas Preserve their Identities **Medgine Michel**, University of Florida

Patriotism and the Racial Project: The Racialized Politics of Haitian Migration in the Dominican Republic **Diana Rodriguez**, University of Florida

Reconocidos: Haitian and Haitian-descendant Peoples' Experiences in the Dominican Republic **Diana Rodriguez**, **Medgine Michel**, and **Sophia De La Cruz**, University of Florida

116. Identity, Ecology and Citizenship

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Robert Graham, University of Maryland College Park

Participants:

Authentic African Identity Formation from the Diaspora: An Autoethnographic Study **Robert Graham**, University of Maryland College Park

Coral Theory of Diaspora: Island Ecology and Geology as Identity **Lia T. Bascomb**, Georgia State University

Eaux Troubles et Jardin Créole dans Pluie et Vent sur Têlumeé Miracle de Simone Schwarz-Bart **Marie Leticee**, University of Central Florida

Geographies of Tension in Mexico's Black Pacific: The Production of Citizenship in Environmental Practices **Grecia Perez**, University of California, Riverside

117. Ecological Resistance, Spirituality, and Community

Paper Session

2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Alyssa A. L. James, University of Southern California

Participants:

African Spiritual Geographies in Hoodoo: Mapping Sacred Landscapes **Justice Isaacs**, Santa Monica College

Black Benthic: Exploring Submerged Matters in the Santee-Cooper Basin **Kelsey Moore**, Georgetown University

Forest Islands of Our Ecological Diaspora **Imani Jacqueline Brown**, Queen Mary, University of London

The Tocantins River Quilombos' Resistance against Demolition of their Ancestral River for a Commercial Waterway **Tiffany Higgins**, Independent researcher & documentarian

118. Navigating Urban Ecologies in West Africa

Panel

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Gateway A

Chair:

Halimat Somotan, Princeton University

Participants:

Mobile Ecologies and Aerial Trotros in Kojo Laing's *Woman of Aeroplanes Delali Kumavie*, *Syracuse University*

Agitating the Neoliberal City: How E-waste Workers in Ghana Expose the Fictions of Cartesian Urbanism. *Kwame Otu, Georgetown University*

Troubled Waters: Rethinking Land and Lagoon in Lagos, 1885-1930 *Ademide Adelusi-Adeluyi, Howard University*

Concrete Ecologies and the Atmospherics of Freedom in Colonial Lagos *Chrystel Oloukoï, University of Washington*

Discussant:

Grace Adeniyi-Ogunyankin, Queen's University

119. Resistance On and Across Waters

Paper Session

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 1

Chair:

Dauda Bivan Amos, Kaduna State College of Education Gidan-Waya, Kafanchan

Participants:

Exploring Black Life, Existence, and Resistance through Langston Hughes' "I've Known Rivers" *Dauda Bivan Amos, Kaduna State College of Education Gidan-Waya, Kafanchan; Moses Aule, Kaduna State College of Education Gidan-Waya, Kafanchan*

Navigable Waters: The Confluence in the Thoughts of Lélia Gonzalez and Nego Bispo for Amerfrican Counter-Colonial Educational Practices *Izabela de Souza*

Resistance Philosophies and Afrodiasporic Links in the 1920s: Dutch Caribbean Maritime Travels Meets New York City *Florencia Cornet*

120. Walking the Path of Oya and Octavia: Envisioning Sacred Epistemological Ecologies from Butler's Parable of the Sower Roundtable

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 2

Chair:

Doñela C. Wright, San Francisco State University

Discussants:

Raven Moses, Thomas Jefferson University

Jennifer Williams, Loyola Marymount University

121. "This is where we met, 400 years ago": James Baldwin at the Limits of Diaspora

Roundtable

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 3

Chair:

Justin Joyce, Washington University in St. Louis

Presenters:

Laila Amine, University of Wisconsin - Madison

El Hadji Samba Amadou Diallo, Washington University in Saint Louis

William J. Maxwell, Washington University in St. Louis

Dagmawi Woubshet, University of Pennsylvania

Walton Muyumba, Indiana University

122. Mentoring in a Time of Crisis

Roundtable

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4

Chair:

Aisha Finch, Emory University

Discussants:

Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University

Claire Oberon Garcia, Colorado College

Marlon Bailey, Washington University in St. Louis

Tiffany Willoughby-Herard, University of California, Irvine

123. Migration, Africa, and Healing

Paper Session

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 7

Chair:

Yaw Asare

Participants:

"Every River Flows to its Mama": The Year of Return and the Formation of Transnational Identities *Yaw Asare*

Fluid Diasporas: Afro-Brazilian Healing Networks and Dual Diasporic Identities in Salvador and Lagos, 1835-1914.

Ridwan Muhammed, University of Kansas

Oceanic Ecologies and Unbelonging in Abdulrazak Gurnah's novel, "Paradise" *Joya Uraizee, Saint Louis University*

Water, Black Life, and the Nature of Freedom in the 19th Century Great Lakes Region *Gabrielle Ione Hickmon, University of Michigan*

124. Environmental Struggles in Africa and the Diaspora

Paper Session

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Pershing-Lindell

Chair:

Cory Greene

Participants:

Climatic Concern and Colonial Control: Deforestation and Afro-Caribbean Land Rights in St. Vincent's Transition from Slavery to Emancipation, 1763-1899 *Francesco Asano*

Contesting Climate Transitions through Afro-Religious Praxes in Salvador, Brazil *Chazelle Rhoden, Columbia University*

(De)colonization, Gender, and Access to Land in Kenya, 1963-2013 *Catherine Odari, Spelman College*

Pan-African Oil: Natural Resource Management in the U.S. Community Control Movement *Dominique Hazzard*

125. African Spiritualities across Waters

Paper Session

3:50 to 5:20 pm

Marriott St Louis Grand: Westmoreland-Kingsbury

Chair:

Ehime Ora, Author

Participants:

Navigating New Waters: Sub-Saharan Africans in Quebec (Canada) Negotiating Spirituality, Ecology, and Identity *Diahara Traore, Université de Montréal*

One in a Trilogy: The Enigmatic Power of Water in African Ecology *Alice Korkor Ebeheakey, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology*

Reclaiming Water: Navigating the Black Star Line Back to Yemoja *Auburn Ellis, Vine Street Studio Kansas City*

Spirits Come from Water: The Return of Us *Ehime Ora, Author*

126. ASWAD 25th Anniversary Celebration

Closing Reception

8:00 to 12:00 am

Marriott St Louis Grand: Landmark 4-7