

Afro-Latin American Studies

Alejandro de la Fuente and George Reid Andrews offer the first systematic, book-length survey of the humanities and social sciences scholarship on the exciting field of Afro-Latin American Studies. Organized by topic, these essays synthesize and present the current state of knowledge on a broad variety of topics, including Afro-Latin American music, religions, literature, art history, political thought, social movements, legal history, environmental history, and ideologies of racial inclusion. This volume connects the region's long history of slavery to the major political, social, cultural, and economic developments of the last two centuries. Written by leading scholars in each of those topics, the volume provides an introduction to the field of Afro-Latin American Studies that is not available from any other source and reflects the disciplinary and thematic richness of this emerging field.

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Afro-Latin America

Series Editors

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This series reflects the coming of age of the new, multidisciplinary field of Afro-Latin American Studies, which centers on the histories, cultures, and experiences of people of African descent in Latin America. The series aims to showcase scholarship produced by different disciplines, including history, political science, sociology, ethnomusicology, anthropology, religious studies, art, law, and cultural studies. It covers the full temporal span of the African Diaspora in Latin America, from the early colonial period to the present and includes continental Latin America, the Caribbean, and other key areas in the region where Africans and their descendants have made a significant impact.

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Afro-Latin American Studies

An Introduction

Edited by **ALEJANDRO DE LA FUENTE** *Harvard University*

GEORGE REID ANDREWS

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The publication of this book marks a quarter-century of our professional collaboration and deep friendship, which began with Alejandro's arrival in the United States from Cuba in 1992. The volume had its origins in a dinner conversation in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2015. The two of us were reflecting on the astonishing growth that the field of Afro-Latin American studies has experienced over the last twenty to thirty years, and about the need for a systematic survey of those advances in all the many subfields that address Latin America's Black past, present, and future. This volume is our reply to that need and our contribution to the further consolidation and expansion of this field.

In May of 2015 we convened an "exploratory seminar" on Afro-Latin American Studies with the generous support of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University. Over a period of two days, a stellar group of scholars presented their ideas on what such a volume might cover. In addition to those colleagues who contributed essays to the volume, we thank Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, Jaime Arocha, Aisha Belisode Jesús, Sidney Chalhoub, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Michael Hanchard, Marial Iglesias Utset, Márcia Lima, Bárbaro Martínez-Ruiz, Judith Morrison, Rafael Guerreiro Osório, Rebecca Scott, and Edward Telles for lending us their expertise and helping us think through the agenda for the volume.

Over the next year and a half, contributors to the volume wrote initial drafts of their essays and extensively revised those drafts. The group then met in December 2016 in Cartagena, Colombia, to discuss final revisions, taking advantage of our participation in the symposium, "Después de Santiago 2000: El movimiento afrodescendiente y los



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