

Finding Afro-Mexico

In 2015, the Mexican state counted how many of its citizens identified as Afro-Mexican for the first time since independence. *Finding Afro-Mexico* reveals the transnational interdisciplinary histories that led to this celebrated reformulation of Mexican national identity. It traces the Mexican, African American, and Cuban writers, poets, anthropologists, artists, composers, historians, and archeologists who integrated Mexican history, culture, and society into the African Diaspora after the Revolution of 1910. Theodore W. Cohen persuasively shows how these intellectuals rejected the nineteenth-century racial paradigms that heralded black disappearance when they made blackness visible first in Mexican culture and then in post-revolutionary society. Drawing from more than twenty different archives across the Americas, this cultural and intellectual history of black visibility, invisibility, and community-formation questions the racial, cultural, and political dimensions of Mexican history and Afro-diasporic thought.

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Finding Afro-Mexico

Race and Nation after the Revolution

THEODORE W. COHEN

Lindenwood University



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For Michael and Cynthia Cohen and Joanna Varrone

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Abbreviations

III	Instituto Indigenista Interamericano (Inter-American Indigenist Institute)
INAH	Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (National Institute of Anthropology and History)
INBA	Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes (National Institute of Fine Arts)
INEGI	Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (National Institute of Statistics and Geography)
INI	Instituto Nacional Indigenista (National Indigenist Institute)
LEAR	Liga de Escritores y Artistas Revolucionarios (League of Revolutionary Writers and Artists)
MoMA	Museum of Modern Art
NAACP	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
OSM	Orquesta Sinfónica de México (Mexican Symphony Orchestra)
PNR	Partido Nacional Revolucionario (National Revolutionary Party)
PRI	Partido Revolucionario Institucional (Institutional Revolutionary Party)
PRM	Partido de la Revolución Mexicana (Party of the Mexican Revolution)
SEP	Secretaría de Educación Pública (Secretariat of Public Education)
TGP	Taller de Gráfica Popular (Popular Graphic Art Workshop)