

THE AFRICAN HERITAGE OF LATINX AND CARIBBEAN LITERATURE

The African Heritage of Latinx and Caribbean Literature unearths a buried African archive within the most prominent writers of Latin American descent in the last fifty years. It challenges dominant narratives in World Literature and transatlantic studies that ignore Africa's impact on broader Latin American culture. Sarah M. Quesada argues that these canonical works evoke textual memorials of African memory. She shows how the African Atlantic haunts modern Latinx and Caribbean writing and examines the disavowal or distortion of the African subject in the constructions of national, racial, sexual, and spiritual Latin American identity. Quesada shows how themes such as the nineteenth-century "scramble for Africa," the Cold War-era decolonizing wars, Black internationalism, and the neoliberal turn are embedded in key narratives. Drawing on multilingual archives about West and Central Africa, she examines how the legacies of colonial French, Iberian, British, and US imperialisms in Africa have impacted the relationships between African and mainly Latinx identities. This is the first book-length project to address the African colonial and imperial inheritance of Latinx literature.

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SARAH M. QUESADA

Duke University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-316-51435-1 – The African Heritage of Latinx and Caribbean Literature
Sarah Quesada
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316514351
DOI: 10.1017/9781009086806

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First published 2022

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ Books Limited, Padstow Cornwall

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-316-51435-1 Hardback

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Acknowledgments

As I look back on the decade-long labor that led to this book, I hope my writing honors the fields this work aims to bridge as well as the many lives it aims to memorialize. To that end, I am indebted to my editor, Ray Ryan, and remain in awe of his vision as I cannot think of a better series for my book. Likewise, I am grateful to Debjani Ganguly and Francesca Orsini, the co-editors of this extraordinary series, for championing this book from the beginning and expressing such enthusiasm for it. This book would not be what it is today if it had not been for the dedicated and insightful feedback of the anonymous readers. To Michelle Niemann, I have never met a better listener or a more careful reader. I owe my gratitude also to Edgar Mendez, Raghavi Govindane, and Helen Kitto, and the rest of the team at Cambridge University Press for keeping this project on track despite the challenges of an all-consuming pandemic.

This project grew out of formidable discussions within many intellectual communities across the globe that I was lucky to be a part of. At Stanford University, José David Saldívar, with his global scholarship and human kindness, has been pushing my project forward for more than ten years, exemplifying the kind of scholar one should aim to become. I treasure my conversations with Roland Greene, as they also left me feeling an empowerment that I look back on fondly. Elisabeth Boyi was a mentor and kindred spirit from the moment I stepped foot in her office. If this project takes African studies seriously it has been thanks to her guidance and that of Richard Roberts, whose course and encouragement to conduct fieldwork in Africa was a turning point in my career. Yvonne Yarbrow-Bejarano introduced me to Achy Obejas's brilliant novel *Ruins*, planting the seed that would blossom into the chapter found here. I also thank Lisa Surwillo, who suggested visiting the UNESCO Slave Route, and Héctor Hoyos, who encouraged my particular comparativism. Jess Auerbach, Caroline Egan, Victoria Saramago, and Fatoumata Seck were wonderful commentators, reading drafts or discussing ideas, sometimes well into an

Acknowledgments

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evening or early in the morning. I was also fortunate to engage in meaningful conversation with Sepp Gumbrecht, Ramón Saldivar, Paula Moya, Dan Edelstein, Marília Librandi, and Ximena Briceño. And of course, I am also grateful to my mentors at the University of Georgia for early support. To Lorgia García Peña, who later joined my dissertation committee, I will always be grateful for her encouragement, both personal and professional.

In Benin and Senegal, I still remember as if it were yesterday the generosity of the people that made my fieldwork successful. While in Cotonou, I was privileged to have the guidance of Paulin Hountondji, who was also very kind to find the best interlocutors for me. In Abomey and Ouidah, Zphirin Daavo served as my guide and translator. I also want to thank Adrien Huannou, Adélaïde Fassinou, the students at the Université d'Abomey-Calavi, and my other informants in Ouidah, Cotonou, and Porto Novo. In St-Louis, Senegal, I want to especially thank Boubacar Boris Diop for his intellect and his generosity, as well as Nijah Cunningham, Mme. Diop, Rachel Petrocelli, Erin Pettigrew, Eloi Coly, Boubacar Fall, Ibrahima Seck, Ibrahim Wane, and the graduate students at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar. I thank also the fellowship from the Center for African Studies at Stanford for funding this fieldwork.

The national archives in France—at Paris, Aix-en-Provence, Bordeaux, and Nantes—were stellar hosts during my research there during the summer of 2017, helping me interpret the hardest calligraphy and locate relevant materials. I was also supported by Marie-Christine and Jean-Christophe Brun in Nantes, who made sure my family felt at home while I spent long hours at the archive. In Paris, Charlotte Montin helped me translate some 18th century French when my eyes could not do it any longer. Many thanks to the Harry Ransom Center which provided access to Gabriel García Márquez's many documents during the pandemic.

My work in *The African Heritage of Latinx and Caribbean Literature* was also supported by the Andrew Mellon grant from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). I am grateful to the fellowship committee for supporting this project in its early stages. The Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in the Latina/Latino Studies Department provided me with the perfect platform to better shape the interdisciplinary focus of this book and discuss my work-in-progress. The seemingly unending library resources at UIUC also landed me in the possession of Cavazzi's documents as well as the British Parliament records, which established the foundation for my last chapter and strengthened my second. A particular thanks to my faculty mentor, Jonathan Xavier Inda.

Outside of the Latina/Latino Studies department, Dara Goldman and Susan Koshy were also extraordinary interlocutors.

I am very grateful to my former colleagues at the University of Notre Dame for leading and hosting discussions on chapters, providing feedback, or offering practical advice. I will never be able to adequately express my thanks to Kate Marshall and Mark Sanders for their wisdom and indefatigable support as faculty mentors. Special thanks to Marisel Moreno, Ricardo Ramírez, and Jason Ruiz for championing me. Tarryn Chun let me bounce many ideas off her and was a trusted confidant. To many of my colleagues in the English department but also in Gender Studies, Romance Languages, and American studies departments, thank you. The Institute for Latino Studies and its director, Luis Fraga, were steadfast supporters who provided resources for travel, hosted lectures that would benefit the book, and also afforded me with a second semester leave for writing. Many thanks also to my wonderful students for thinking out loud with me all these years and to my research assistant, Marie Shelton, for fetching permissions for images all over the world. My community in Chapin Park, South Bend, Indiana, provided me with the village that made this journey both supportive through tough times and joyful during the best of times.

I have presented parts of this book at many invited panels and talks, and thus benefitted greatly from these conversations. The second chapter of this book benefitted from discussions at the University of Chicago, where I was invited by Daniel Desormeaux; my sincere thanks to him and all participants for this generative discussion. This chapter also benefitted from invited panels at the Latin American Studies Association (by Carlos Decena and Elena Machado Sáez), and the American Comparative Literature Association (by Maia Gil'Adí). The last chapter of this book benefitted enormously from discussing it at various other venues: the Colloquium for “Research on Latina/o Culture and Theory” at CUNY with Vanessa Pérez Rosario, Bill Orchard, Cristina Pérez Jiménez, Natalie Havlin, and Inmaculada Lara-Bonilla; the Modern Languages Association “New Diasporas” roundtable, organized by Sheri-Marie Harrison and Yogita Goyal; the Decolonial Research Group at Stanford; and the Arts and the Humanities Research Council in the UK. Chapter 3 benefitted from discussion at the fantastic *Post45*, organized by Kate Marshall. I am indebted to all organizers and participants for their generative questions and remarks. Likewise, my conversations with Roberto Fernández Retamar at Casa de las Américas in Havana and with the activist group

Acknowledgments

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protesting *La sentencia* during the ASWAD convention in Santo Domingo were foundational for my first chapter.

Over the years, I have benefitted greatly from conversations with many colleagues, too, including Leticia Alvarado, Frances Aparicio, Magali Armillas-Tiseyra, Anke Birkenmaier, Sarah Brouillette, Debra A. Castillo, Maria Cotera, John Alba Cutler, Theresa Delgadillo, Naminata Diabate, Michael Dowdy, Kirsten Silva Gruesz, Monica Hanna, Rebeca Hey-Colón, Carmen Lamas, Antonio López, David Luis-Brown, Emily Maguire, Elizabeth Manley, Julie Minich, Urayoán Noel, Marion Christina Rohrleitner, Ralph Rodriguez, Ricky T. Rodríguez, Josie Saldaña-Portillo, Ilan Stavans, Lourdes Torres, Silvio Torres-Saillant, Lyonel Trouillot, and Roberto Zurbano. As co-chair of the Latino studies section for the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), I learned so much from Veronica Montes and Jennifer Harford Vargas.

Portions of Chapter 1 and 4 have appeared in different forms as “A Planetary Warning?: A Multilayered Caribbean Zombie in Junot Díaz’s ‘Monstro’” in *Junot Díaz and the Decolonial Imagination*, edited by Monica Hanna, Jennifer Harford Vargas, and José David Saldívar (Duke University Press, 2016, 291–318); and “The Congo in the Chicano Southwest: Atlantic Continuities in Tomás Rivera and Rudolfo Anaya” in *The Oxford Handbook of Latino Studies*, edited by Ilan Stavans (Oxford University Press, 2019, 104–124). I am grateful to the peer reviewers for their astute feedback that only strengthened later formulations of these ideas for the book.

I joined the Romance Studies department at Duke as this book was in its final stages and have found a formidable and caring intellectual community. Esther Gabara and Aarthi Vadde have been extraordinary cheerleaders, guiding this book into the finish line with all kinds of helpful and practical advice. Martin Eisner, Gustavo Furtado, Walter Mignolo, and Saskia Ziolkowski have welcomed us into their homes and have been such encouraging colleagues, as have been my other wonderful colleagues in Romance Studies and across the university and region.

Over the years, my close friends in Querétaro, the US and beyond, and my extended family have sustained me and have been championing me all the way, for which I cannot thank them enough. Thank you to Bekah Shyne for helping me select the image for the book’s cover. I am eternally grateful to my parents, Sergio and Margaret Quesada, who raised me to be proud of my Mexican and American upbringing, free from the constraints of categorization and resilient against the exclusions of others. They nurtured instead the freedom to ask the kinds of questions about identity

and belonging that this book is devoted to. Amanda and Sergio J., you also sustain me and care for me. Elsi Margaret was born when this project was a mere idea and Elio Kees, when it was a first draft. In fact, he was born just as my response to the reader reports were due, proving that life has a very particular sense of humor. . . We all survived as Kyle Williams carried us and the pandemic raged. He also read me (more times than I can recall), listened to me, offered suggestions, all while feeding us and cheering on my at times weary spirit. Les dedico pues este libro a mi familia, y es expresión de mi amor y mutuo sacrificio.