

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



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Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	page vi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	viii
Introduction: Textual Memorials of a Latin-African Literature	i
1 Fear: Junot Díaz’s Zombies and <i>Les contorsions extraordinaires</i> in “Monstro”	33
2 Commodification: Black Internationalism and the African Safari of Achy Obejas’s <i>Ruins</i>	76
3 Obliteration: Gabriel García Márquez and His Angolan Chronicles of a “Latin-African” Death Foretold	117
4 Archival Distortion: The Chicano Congo of Tomás Rivera and Rudolfo Anaya	160
Coda	205
<i>Notes</i>	221
<i>Bibliography</i>	252
<i>Index</i>	280

Illustrations

0.1	Gorée, Senegal's <i>Maison des esclaves</i> and "The Door of No Return." Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2012.	<i>page 25</i>
1.1	"Mémoire sur le Fort de Juda (Côte d'Áfrique)." Ministère des Colonies et de la marine et des colonies. 1763. Archives Nationales (DOM-TOM), Aix-en-Provence, France. Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2017.	51
1.2	"Port de Non-Retour." UNESCO, Ouidah, Republic of Benin. Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2012.	53
1.3	Ouidah's Slave Route memorial trail, Benin. Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2012.	58
1.4	Along Ouidah's route, guides stop at this shrub that commemorates the "Tree of Forgetfulness." Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2012.	60
2.1	The Slave Route heritage point at Badagry, Nigeria. Photo: Naija Rookie, 2012.	87
2.2	Masque Gorille Kwele, "Fleuve Congo." Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France.	94
2.3	Pablo Picasso's <i>Les Demoiselles d'Avignon</i> (1907, 96 × 92 inches). Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York.	95
2.4	Wifredo Lam's <i>La jungla / The Jungle</i> (1943, 94 ¼ inches × 90 ½ inches). Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York.	98
3.1	Memorial to Christopher Columbus at Plaza de la aduana, adjacent to Bahía de las ánimas. Photo: Alejandra Pozas Luna, 2019.	118
3.2	Close-up of "Nouveau plan de Carthagène, Colombie, avec les dernières attaques des forts par l'amiral Vernon." 1741. Archives Nationales, Paris, France. Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2017.	130

	<i>List of Illustrations</i>	vii
3.3	First edition of García Márquez’s “Operación Carlota.” Courtesy of the Harry Ransom Center, the University of Texas at Austin.	136
3.4	“Relación histórica del viaje a la América Meridional,” Madrid, 1748. Archivo Histórico del Guayas, Guayaquil (AHG), Ecuador.	154
3.5	Delta Airlines travel advertisement, “Colombia is Magical Realism.” Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2016.	159
4.1	“Peixe-dourado” in Giovanni Antonio Cavazzi’s <i>Descrição histórica dos três reinos do Congo, Matamba e Angola</i> .	194
4.2	“Pesce Donna” in Giovanni Antonio Cavazzi’s <i>Descrição histórica dos três reinos do Congo, Matamba e Angola</i> .	196
4.3	Transcribed Proverb of Benin. Courtesy of Director Zphirin Daavo and l’Agence Nationale pour la Promotion des Patrimoines et de développement du tourisme au Bénin. Cotonou, Benin.	200
5.1	Local store in St-Louis, Senegal. Photo: Sarah M. Quesada, 2012.	218

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ix

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xi

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