## Contents

Ser	ries preface	.111
Acknowledgements		viii
Introduction by F. M. Birbalsingh		ix
1	George Lamming: Concepts of the Caribbean	nd phizuality lan
2	George Lamming: Africa and the Caribbean	15
3	Derek Walcott: The sea is history	22
4	Andrew Salkey: Bright as blisters	29
5	Jan Carew: The wild coast	42
6	Samuel Selvon: The open society or its enemies?	54
7	Roy A.K. Heath: Continuing colonialism	68
8	Austin Clarke: Caribbean-Canadians	86
9	Cyril Dabydeen: Here and there	106
10	Dionne Brand: No language is neutral	120
11	Jamaica Kincaid: From Antigua to America	138
12	Lorna Goodison: Heartease	152
13	David Dabydeen: Coolie odyssey	167
14	Caryl Phillips: The legacy of Othello, Part (1)	183
15	Caryl Phillips: The legacy of Othello, Part (2)	191
Select bibliography		198
Index		201

## Index

African behaviour: in Caribbean Canada 86–101 *passim*, 107–18 society 16 passim, 120–36 passim African oral tradition 16 Caribbean emigration to x Africans: influence on Caribbean classless society, and immigrants 92 literature 15, 162 rivalry with Indians 11 as country of many solitudes 117 alienation experience ethnic writing in 109 Anand, Mulk Raj 50 immigrant exploitation in 90 anger: in writing 114-15, 139, 140, immigration system 115 184, 187 integration of immigrants 92, 113–14, 117 Anthony, Michael xii, 63 anti-colonial movement 49 literary landscape 109 anti-colonialism: and sexuality literature in 100 anti-semitism 89 Canadian-Asian Studies Antigua 138–50 passim Association 108 art: and emotional reaction 74 capitalist imperialism 8 Cardenal, Ernesto 124 psychic validation through 118 Asians: preferences for 10 Carew, Jan xii, xvii, xviii atmosphere: in literature biography 42 interview 42–53 Baldwin, James 150, 183 Caribbean: common historical Barbadian language: use of experience 4, 174, 175 concepts of 1 Barbados 86–101 passim Bible: influence on Austin Clarke's cultural identity in 70 divisions in 130 writing 98 external frontiers of 9 Bissoondath, Neil xii, 38, 65, 109 external solidarity to 64 Black American experience 131, 192 black people: and British 191 and Latin America connection 79–80 condition, in modern world xx, 191 third world, victimization of 49 literary expression 100 westernization of 183-4 political fragmentation in 4 boundaries: sense of 181 Spanish writing of 195–6 unity, prospects for 12 Brand, Dionne xii, xvii, xix, 101, 109, 115–16 see also language: Caribbean Carter, Martin 46, 47, 50, 75, 107

centre/outpost relationship ix Clarke, Austin xii, xvii, xix

biography 86 interview 86–101

Clarke, Cheryl 135

biography 120 interview 120–36

passim

Brathwaite, Edward 15, 171–3

Brodber, Erna xii, 16, 160, 164

Burnham, L. Forbes S. 11–12, 35

diaspora: experience, ironies of 191
history 193
minorities in larger cultures 131
tensions in 175
writers in 142–3
discrimination experience xiii
of black people in Toronto 91
displacement experience xiii
drama: and Roy Heath 76
dreams: power of 163

economic domination: as new imperialism 80–1 economy: as defining element in Caribbean culture 37 education: necessity of and sport 96 electoral democracy Eliot, T.S.: in exile xii–xiv Ellison, Ralph 183 emigration: from the Caribbean economic motive xi England 138, 139, 167-81 passim, 183–96 *passim* attitudes in 184 racism in 176, 177 society of alienation in 73 English language: creativity in environment: in West Indian writing 138–9 ethnic writing: in Canada 109 Eurocentric power-bloc 192 European: identity, insecurity of 192–3 power, in Caribbean and third world 193 exile xii–xiv, 143 and sense of loss 121-2, 130 experience: learnt 186 - 7lived 186–7 external frontiers: of Caribbean

'fairmaids' 73
feminism 133–5, 161–2
folklore: and oral tradition 77
role in society 73
Fortune, Barnabas Ramon 56
freedom: for writers 141
frustration: in writing 128
functionaries 7, 8

Gide, André 47 identity: Caribbean 33–4, 70 Giovanni, Nick 121 crisis of 179 Goodison, Lorna xii, xv, xvii, xix with emigration 63 biography 152 of Guyanan writers interview 152–64 imagery: recall of 109-10, 112, 113 governing élite: deformation of 5 images, religious 147 Gray, Cecil 56 immigrants: experience 179 Grenada: revolution 126–8 third generation, in Toronto 91 immigration problems 115 Guy, Rosa xi, 101 Guyana 42-51 passim, 68-82 imperial domination 80 and economic domination 80-1 passim, 106-18 passim, 167-81 imperial frontier: in Caribbean 2 passim and centres of resistance 3 emigration from 69 future for 80–1 improvisation by immigrants: and Indians in 65 effect on psyche 91 literary history 49 indentured labourers xvi, 3 Literature Prize 72 from India 9–10 independence: experience of 141 novel in 75 as obeah centre 145 Indian: life and culture 56–8 philosophy 77 race, as social control 11 racism in 176-7 Indians 9–10 writers from 42–53 entrepreneurial 11 experience 174 Guyanese: dialect 110 marginalization of, in experience 68, 76, 179 and self-examination 70 Caribbean xvi, 178 need for emigration 65 urban 76 problems of 56-7 highly-developed consciousness racial hostility to 168 rivalry with Africans 11 Harris, Claire 109 in Trinidad 64-5, 130 westernization of 65 Harris, Wilson xii, 31–2, 44, 46–8, Indo-Guyanese 11, 174 50, 173, 179–80 Indo-Trinidadians 11 Hearne, John 33, 160 insider-outsider tensions 170 'heartease' 156–7, 158 insularity: in Caribbean 196 Heath, Roy A.K. xvii, xviii, 49, 50, integration: cultural 117 174 biography 68 of immigrants, in UK and Canada 92, 113-14, 177 Guardian Fiction Prize 1978 68, 79 Guyana Literature Prize 1989 72 intellectual migration 179 interviews: and critical essays xx-xxi interview 68–82 Irele, Abiola 15 Hill, Errol 56 Itwaru, Arnold 109 history: dehumanizing and erasing 123-4 Jagan, Cheddi 12, 46, 80 as a deity or force 22–3 diaspora 193 Jamaica 33, 152–64 passim ex-slaves in 10 as record of achievement 24 of West Indies 1–2, 194 society 154 James, C.L.R. xi, 196 Hodge, Merle 143 and rejection of African past Howells, William Dean xiv human experience: love/hate 16 - 17

James, Henry: in exile xiv

relationship 148

Johnson, Linton Kwesi 187 Joyce, James: in exile xiii-xiv Kincaid, Jamaica xii, xvii, xix, 36 biography 138 interview 138-51 King, Sydney 46 labour: African, social control of culture of 3–4, 178 history of 5 wage rates, and indentured 10 Lamming, George xii, xv, xvii, 36, 45, 48, 58, 61, 87, 92, 130, 181, 184 biography of 1 and colonialism 141, 142 interview 1–21 and oral tradition 76, 77 language: Caribbean 110, 112, 132, 196 idea of 23 in literature 99, 149, 173 stretching 172 see also Creole; English Latin America: -Caribbean connection 79-80 imagination, and exile 50 magical realism 32 storytelling 32 Laurence, Margaret 100 Lee, Don 121 lesbian sexuality: in writing 135 Lessing, Doris 76, 149 life, ordinary: coping in 161 quality of 156 spiritual journey through 157 literature, Caribbean: African influence on 15 development of 161 idea of, in literal sense 24 and politics, in Guyana 50 recent neglect by publishers variety of 26 London: Caribbean immigrant community x Lorde, Audre 135 Lovelace, Earl xii, 155 McAndrew, Wordsworth 106 magical realism 32

Mahabir, Noor Kumar 66 Mais, Roger: political writing 32–3 Mansfield, Katherine: in exile xiv marginalization: of Indians xvi Marshall, Paula xi, 101 Marson, Una xi memories: in literature xiii of Caribbean 185 Merton, Thomas 15, 158 metropolitan centres 9 'middle passage': surviving 87 militancy: in writing 114, 123, 128, Mistry, Rohinton 109 Mittelholzer, Edgar xii, 29–31, 77, 106, 139 and Guyana 43-4 influence of 74

Naipaul, V.S. xii, xiv, 34–5, 45, 50, 63, 64, 74, 116, 139, 140–1, 174, 179–80, 187–8
criticism of Caribbean people xv–xvi and East Indian experience 79 and oral tradition 77
Négritude 180
neo-colonialism 97
New Amsterdam, Guyana 167, 168 writers from 43, 106
Ngugi, wa Thiong'o 15
Nichol, B.P. 107
Norbriega, Cecile 106

obeah: role of 145
O'Brien, Edna 149
observation: for writing 147, 154
Omotoso, Kole 15
oppression xiii
oral tradition 76–7
African 16
and use of radio 38

Patterson, Orlando 194
Penko, Joseph 56
Philip, Marlene Nourbese 101, 109
Phillips, Caryl xii-xiii, xvii, xx,
33-4, 38, 73, 92, 130
biography 183
interviews 183-9, 191-6
'picaroon' behaviour xv

plantation slavery 3 plantation society 2–3 centres of resistance 3 labour for 10 156 poet: vocation of poet's voice: authority of 24–5 poetry: personal philosophy in 153 writing, erotic aspect of 172 politics, West Indian 63 and literature 80, 126, 141, 143 in Guyana 50 one-party system 80 progress of 36-7 power: child, lack of 145 parent 144 psychological development 140 psychology 149 139 of Antiguans of Jamaicans 154 publishers: recent neglect of West Indian writing 36–8

Quayle, Ada 194 quantum imagination 180

race: manipulation, as electoral device 11-12 relations 66, 114 and imperial economic domination 81 racism: English 176, 177 in Guyana 176–7 and Jewish holocaust 193 in Washington, DC 45 radio: as source for literary encouragement 38 Rastafarian movement: rapid development of 15-16, 20 reality: borders of 145-6 rebellion: end of 142 recall: sense of 68 Redcam, Tom xi re-defining centre of resistance 2 religion: comparative 158 as custodian of society 8 influence on writing 88-9 politics in 8–9 religious: images 147 literary consciousness worship, and West Indian character 89

re-migration x, 95, 185
Rich, Adrienne 135
Richardson, Maurice 59
Roach, Eric xi
Rhys, Jean 155, 194
Riley, Joan 195
Roberts, W. Adolphe xi
Rodway, J.A. 42

the and the transfer of the contract of

St Kitts 183–96 passim 26 - 7St Lucia: street theatre in Salkey, Andrew xv, xvii, 44–5, 93, 160 biography 29 interview 29-38 Sanchez, Sonia 121 self: confidence in 176 self-defensive posture: in West Indies 164 self-destruction: in women 159 Senior, Olive 160, 164 sexism: and role of women sexuality: and anti-colonialism 90 and colonial experience 171–2 see also lesbian sexuality Seymour, A.J. 106–7 short story 76, 93 essence of 117 skin colour: living with slaves: imitation of colonial masters 24 solidarity: external, with Caribbean 64 sovereignty: fundamental basis of 8 Spanish writing: of Caribbean 195–6 157 - 8spiritual journey: through life Stockman, Herbert 48 style of writing: new 107 Sufis 158 sugar plantation: and imperial power 2-3

theatre: street, in St Lucia 26–7
time: idea of 23
Toronto, Canada: effect of, in
winter 124–5
as multicultural city 109
West Indian immigrant
exploitation 90
Trinidad 54–66 passim, 120–36
passim, 141
complacency in 63

creative writers of 63
Indians in 65
women in 143
Trinidadian dialect; use of 60, 62
truth: in writing 146, 148

UK: and class 92
integration of immigrants 92
University of the West Indies: as
unifying force 64
urban experience 174
in Guyana 76
US 138–50 passim
Caribbean emigration to x
influence and power 126, 128,
141–2, 144–5
system 129

Vassanji, Moyez 109 victimization xiii

Walcott, Derek xii, xvii, 107, 194 biography 22 interview 22–8 The Sea is History xvii, 22–8, 198–200 Walrond, Eric xi West Indian: character 57, 99 inarticulacy of 164 insecurity of 66 and joking 61 and religious worship 89 experience 50–1 society, communalism of 153 Williams, Eric 36 women, West Indian: experience 149 and feminism 133–5 and power 134 role of 94–5, 132, 138, 142 and self-destruction 159-60 as victims 160–1, 185–6 who see 123 workers' control: in place of work 8 writers: African 194 territorial 188 and variety of resources for 175 writing: resistance to 156

yard society 73 Yisu Das, Ben 42–3

Wynter, Sylvia 48, 160