

Natasha B. Barnes

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Education

September 1990-August 1995 Ph.D., English Language and Literature, University of Michigan
September 1988- July 1990 M.A., English Literature, Queen's University, Ontario, Canada
January 1984-August 1988 B.A. Hons.(summa cum laude), English Literature, York University, Ontario, Canada

Employment

Fall 2003 to present, Associate Professor of African American Studies and English, University of Illinois at Chicago
Fall 1996-2003, Assistant Professor of English, Department of English, Emory University
Fall 1995-1996, Assistant Professor of World Literature in English (tenure track), Department of English, University of Toronto

Major Academic Awards

Fellow, Cornell University Society for the Humanities Fellowship (joint fellowship awarded with James Allen, author of *Without Sanctuary: Lynching Photography in America*) 2005-6)
Fellow, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Carolina Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1998-2000
Declined, Rutgers University Center for Historical Analysis Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1998-1999

Other Awards

1999, Office of International Affairs, Emory University, "Comparative Study of Rape: Jamaica and South Africa" (\$2,000)
1998, Emory University Faculty Spanish Language and Culture Program, Salamanca, Spain
1988, Office of International Affairs Fund for Internationalization, Emory University, "Caribbean Studies Association/Emory University Travel Fund Initiative," for graduate student panel at the CSA conference. (\$2,500)
1994-1995, Mary Fair Chroushore Graduate Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan
1994, Center for Afroamerican and African Studies Research Grant, University of Michigan
1989-1992, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship.
1989, Ontario Graduate Scholarship.

Teaching/Research Experience

Caribbean literary and cultural studies.
Lynching violence in the US South
Caribbean literary and cultural studies
African American and black diaspora literary and cultural studies
Women's and gender studies
Race and ethnic processes in the United States.

Publications

Cultural Conundrums: Race, Gender, Nation and the Making of Caribbean Cultural Politics. University of Michigan Press, 2006.

Works in Progress

Without Sanctuary: The Story of the Exhibit. Manuscript that charts both the genesis of lynching photography collection that evolved into the James Allen/ John Littlefield "Without Sanctuary" collection and its public display in six American cities, New York, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Mississippi, Detroit and Chicago.

Truths about Reconciliation: Racial Violence and Remembrance in the New South. Project that follows multiracial grassroots lynching memorial organizations in the contemporary South to understand local meanings of racial atonement and redress.

Articles in Refereed Journals

"Body Talk: Notes on Women and Spectacle in Contemporary Carnival." *Small Axe* 7 (March 2000) pp.93-105.

"Reluctant Matriarch: Sylvia Wynter and the Problematics of Caribbean Feminism." *Small Axe* 5, (March 1999) pp.34-47.

"Black Atlantic: Black America." *Research in African Literatures* 27:4 (Winter 1996) pp.106-107.

"Face of the Nation: Nationalisms and Identities in Jamaican Beauty Pageants," *The Massachusetts Review* (Autumn-Winter, 1994) pp.471-492.

Chapters in Scholarly Books

(# for reprinted/ slightly modified articles)

"Dancehall Lyricism" in Timothy J Reiss, ed. *Music, Writing and Cultural Unity in the Caribbean.* (New Jersey: Africa New World Press, 2005) pp.295-312.

#"Face of the Nation: Nationalisms and Identities in Jamaican Beauty Pageants," in *The Gender and Consumer Culture Reader*, Jennifer Scanlon, ed. (New York: New York University Press, 2000) pp.335-371.

#"Beauty and the Inscription of Blackness," in *Daughters of Caliban*, Consuelo Lopez Springfield, ed. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1996) pp.103-127.

Reviews

"Talking it Over: Caribbean Feminist Criticism," Book review of *Out of the Kumbia: Caribbean Women and Literature*, eds, Carole Boyce Davies and Elaine Savory Fido in *Voices* 72 (1991) p.35.

Invited Academic Talks and Presentations

"Without Sanctuary: The Atlanta Exhibit," Exhibiting Controversy Conference, Museum Studies program, University of Michigan, March 2007.

"Reparations in the Age of Reconciliation," Reparations Across the Americas Conference, Institute of African American Research and Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, April 2006.

"Whither Atlanta: Race, Public History and the New South," Visual Culture Colloquium, History of Art, Cornell University, April 2006.

"On *Without Sanctuary*," Cornell Society for the Humanities and Africana Studies Symposium, "Strange Fruit: Lynching, Visuality and Empire," March 2006.

Without Sanctuary Roundtable discussion (with James Allen, Leon Litwack, David Blight, Otis Taylor and Mark Auslander, *Unsettling Memories: Culture and Trauma in the Deep South*, Jackson State University, June 2004.

"Music and Meaning in Caribbean Poetry," Special Topics session of MLA 2000. Invited by Professor Timothy Reiss, Chair, Department of Comparative Literature, New York University.

"Shock Out: Reading Dancehall Aesthetics," Material Processes Workshop, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, March 2000.

"Body Talk: Women and Spectacle in Carnival," Symposium on Carnival organized by the program in Africa New World Studies, Florida International University, October 1999.

Public Culture Initiatives

"History of Violence: America's Racial Lynching," Two- part educational lecture for inmates at Statesville Correctional Institute, Illinois, February 2007.

"Without Sanctuary: Its Meanings Now," Café Society Meeting of the Public Square of the Illinois Humanities Council. Chicago Historical Society, October 2005.

“Without Sanctuary: Lynching in American History and Culture,” 2 day seminar Newberry Library, Chicago Teachers as Scholars Program, July 2005.

“Lynching Narratives” Newberry Library Teachers’ Consortium, Chicago, December 2004.

“Reflections on the *Without Sanctuary* Exhibit,” Civic Engagement Workshop, National Park Service, Atlanta, October 2002.

Television show guest with James Allen and Randall Burkett on Atlanta’s weekly PBS news-television show, *The Bill Nigut Show* discussing the Atlanta *Without Sanctuary* exhibit, May 2002.

Radio talk show guest with Emory undergraduate students on popular talk radio show, *The Chris Aaron Show*, to discuss *Without Sanctuary* exhibit, May 2002.

Lynching teach-in to prepare staff and employees of the Martin Luther King Jr Historical Site, National Park Service for upcoming *Without Sanctuary* exhibit, January 2002.

Conference Presentations

“Power and Pedagogy in the Classroom” Chair and presenter in roundtable panel at the Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars Conference, Martinique, April 2002.

“Skin Trades: Brownings, Bleaching and Gendered Performativity in Jamaican Dance Hall,” Caribbean Studies Association, May 2000.

“Texts and Contexts: Teaching Caribbean Women Writers in North American Institutions,” Caribbean Women Writers Conference, April 2000.

“Everyday Acts and Outrageous Rebellions: Caribbean Cultural Studies and the Female Body,” Association of Caribbean Historians, April 1999.

“‘Nobody Can Wine Like Me:’ Women and Body Politics,” Caribbean Studies Association, May 1999.

“Oral Aesthetics: Trinidad’s Steelband and the Creation of Culture,” Caribbean Studies Association, May 1998.

“Sleeping with the Enemy: Black Messianic Nationalism and Male Terror in Sylvia Wynter’s *Hills of Hebron*,” Caribbean Women Writers Conference, May 1998.

“Producing the Citizen,” Respondent, Caribbean Studies Association, May 1997.

“Black America/Black Atlantic” Respondent to special topics panel on Paul Gilroy’s *Black Atlantic*. Modern Languages Association, December 1996.

“Why Transnationalism Won’t Fly Locally,” Response to special topics panel on transnationalism and hybridity. Modern Languages Association, December 1996.

“Gender and Caribbean Play: Cricket and Miss Jamaica,” Institute for the Humanities Brown Bag series, March 1995.

“Engendering Tradition: Women, Authenticity and Creolization in the *Chutney* Dance of Indo-Trinidad,” Marxist Literary Group Panel at Modern Languages Association, San Diego, December 1994.

“Nation and Miscegenation: Race and Multiraciality in Anglophone Caribbean Cultural Thought,” CAAS Informal Brownbag Series, October 1994.

“On the National Podium: Nationalisms and Identities in the ‘Miss Chinese Jamaica’ Beauty Pageant,” 11th National Conference of the Association for Asian American Studies, Ann Arbor, Michigan, April 1994.

“Men, Maids and Class Mobility in Twentieth-Century Caribbean Society,” University of the West Indies’ History Symposium, “Engendering Women: Current Directions in the Study of Women and Gender in Caribbean History,” Kingston, Jamaica, November 1993.

“Mistress Day Done: Black Maids and Black Madams in Post-Independence Caribbean Society,” Students of Color of Rackham (SCOR) Graduate Student Conference, University of Michigan, January 1993.

“Willi Chen’s *King of the Carnival and Other Stories* and the Chinese Trinidadian in a ‘Black’ Society,” 9th Annual Conference of the Association for Asian American Studies, San Jose, California, May 1992.

“C.L.R. James and Proletariat Literature,” 18th African Literature Association Conference, Brock University, Canada, March 1992.

“The early fiction of C.L.R. James,” 17th Annual Third World Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, February 1991.

“Divining Culture: Cover Designs and Production of Margaret Laurence’s *The Diviners*,” Association for Commonwealth Languages and Literatures, University of Kent, Canterbury, August 1989.

“Revisionist Fiction: Autobiography and V.S. Naipaul’s *Enigma of Arrival*,” 8th Annual Conference of West Indian Literature, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, April 1988.

Courses Developed

Lynching and Representation
Introduction to Caribbean Literature
Race, Gender and the Diasporic Woman Writer
Asia in the Caribbean
Modern Anglophone Caribbean Intellectual History (Graduate)
Anglophone Caribbean Feminisms (Graduate)

Public Service

January 2003 to present, founding member and member of the steering committee of STAR, Southern Truth and Reconciliation, based in Atlanta, Georgia. STAR is a consultative group of scholars and activists that advises local communities about strategies to redress the legacy of racial violence.

Recent STAR accomplishments include:

Launching splinter group, Coalition to Remember the 1906 Atlanta Race Riot, a grassroots organization to commemorate the Centennial of the 1906 riot in September 2006, Atlanta, Georgia.
Co- sponsorship weekend gathering of 20 lynching memorial groups at the William Winter Institute at the University of Mississippi for “

National Service

Secretary, Executive Committee, Modern Languages Association, 20th Century Comparative Literature Division
External Reader for *Feminist Studies*
External Reader for *Callaloo*
External Reader for *Ariel: A Review of International English Literature*
External Reader for *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*

Committee Service (University of Illinois at Chicago)

2003-4, Conference Organizing Committee, MELUS conference held at UIC, April 2004.
2004, Associate Head and Undergraduate Chair of African American Studies
2004-present, Member of Joint PhD Committee to investigate to possibility of a joint graduate program with Latin American and Latino/a Studies, Women and Gender Studies
2003-present, Advisory Committee, African American Studies
2003-2004, Undergraduate Committee, African American Studies

Academic Service (Emory University)

2000-2002, Emory University President's Advisory Committee for *Without Sanctuary* Lynching Photography Exhibit
2001-2002, Conference Planning Committee for “Lynching and Racial Violence in America: Histories and Legacies”
2000, Member of Subcommittee for Community Forums (President's Advisory Committee)
2000, Graduate Admissions Committee, English Department
1997-1998, Executive Committee, English Department
1998, Study Abroad Committee, African American Studies

Scholarly Academic Service (Emory University)

2000, *Black Vernaculars Series*: Conceived, organized and fund-raised a lecture series of African American cultural dynamics. Supported by Hightower Fund, Joint Activities Committee, African American Studies, Women Studies, Center for Teaching and the Curriculum, Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual Life, Multicultural Life, English Department.
“Lynching and its Iconography:” Roundtable panel including James Allen, Steven Newsome, Mark Bauerlein, Leroy Davis, Mark Sanders
“Perspectives on Racial Memory: Lynching and the Holocaust,” James Allen and Deborah Lipstadt
“Reclaiming and Restructuring Voice in the Harlem and Irish Renaissances,” Tracy Mishkin
“Ralph Ellison: A New Negro at the *Negro Quarterly*,” Lawrence Jackson, Howard University
“Strange Fruit: A One-Man Play,” E. Patrick Johnson, Northwestern University

Theses

- “Representing the Nation: Race, Gender, Culture and State Formation in Anglophone Caribbean Society,” dissertation toward Ph.D., Department of English Language and Literature, University of Michigan (supervised by Prof. Simon Gikandi) 1995.
- “Negotiating Resistance: A Study of Oppositional Writing in V.S. Naipaul's *The Mystic Masseur*,” thesis in partial completion of Master's degree in English Literature at Queen's University (supervised by Prof. John P. Matthews) Canada, 1989.
- “Uses of History in V.S. Naipaul's *Loss of El Dorado*,” thesis in partial completion of B.A. in English Literature, York University (supervised by Prof. Frank Birbalsingh) Canada, 1988.

References

- Prof. Simon Gikandi, Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, Princeton University. Email: sgikandi@princeton.edu
- Prof. Timothy Reiss, Professor of Comparative Literature, New York University. E-mail: timothy.reiss@nyu.edu
- Prof. Carole Boyce-Davies, Professor and Director, African-New World Studies, Florida International University, (305) 919-5521. Email: cboyced@fiu.edu
- Prof. Rhoda Reddock, Senior Lecturer and Head, Centre for Gender and Development Studies, University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad, (868) 662-2002, ext.2533.

Memberships

- Modern Languages Association
Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars Association
Caribbean Studies Association
Association of Caribbean Historians