

In a Sea of Heteroglossia

Pluri-Lingualism,
Pluri-Culturalism, and
Pluri-Identification in
the Caribbean

Edited by
Nicholas Faraclas
Ronald Severing
Christa Weijer
Elisabeth Echteld
Marsha Hinds-Layne
Elena Lawton de Torruella



In a Sea of Heteroglossia
Pluri-Lingualism, Pluri-Culturalism, and Pluri-Identification in the Caribbean

In a Sea of Heteroglossia

Pluri-Lingualism, Pluri-Culturalism, and Pluri-Identification in the Caribbean

Proceedings of the ECICC-conference
Dominica 2009

Volume 2

Edited by

Nicholas Faraclas
Ronald Severing
Christa Weijer
Elisabeth Echteld
Marsha Hinds-Layne
Elena Lawton de Torruella



Curaçao 2010

12TH ANNUAL EASTERN CARIBBEAN ISLAND CULTURES CONFERENCE
“THE ISLANDS IN BETWEEN” LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES OF
THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN, 4 TO 8 NOVEMBER 2009, ROSEAU, DOMINICA

In a Sea of Heteroglossia: Pluri-Lingualism, Pluri-Culturalism, and Pluri-Identification in the Caribbean
Proceedings of the ECICC-conference, Dominica 2009
Volume 2

Edited by Nicholas Faraclas, Ronald Severing, Christa Weijer, Elisabeth Echteld, Marsha Hinds-Layne
Elena Lawton de Torruella

ISBN 978-99904-2-300-6

© 2010 Fundashon pa Planifikashon di Idioma, FPI (Institute for Language Planning of Curaçao)

© 2010 Universiteit van de Nederlandse Antillen, UNA (University of the Netherlands Antilles)

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form, by print, photo print, microfilm, or any other means,
without written permission from the publisher.

Fundashon pa Planifikashon di Idioma, FPI (Institute for Language Planning)

Jan Noorduynweg 32b, Willemstad, Curaçao, www.fpi.an

Universiteit van de Nederlandse Antillen, UNA (University of the Netherlands Antilles)

Jan Noorduynweg 111, Willemstad, Curaçao, www.una.an

Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras, UPR, (University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras)

San Juan, 00925, Puerto Rico, www.uprrp.edu

Illustration on cover: *Entre Amiga*, Minerva Lauffer, www.minervalaufer.com

CONTENTS

I. PLURI-LINGUALISM: MULTIPLE LITERACIES

PLURI-LINGUALISM, LANGUAGE CONTACT AND LINGUISTICS

- 1 Semantic diversity in the Caribbean: Interrogating the “Creole” concept 13
Ilia Aixa Madrazo, Migdalia Medina, Mervyn Alleyne
- 2 African agency in the emergence of the Atlantic Creoles 37
Pier Angeli Le Compte, Lourdes González Cotto, Diana Ursulin,
Susana C. DeJesús, Cándida González-López, Brenda L.
Domínguez-Rosado, Micah Corum, Aida Vergne, Nicholas Faraclas
- 3 St. Croix: A pluri-Lingual and pluri-Cultural island 53
Susana DeJesús
- 4 Arawak vs. Lokono. What’s in a name? 75
Marie-France Patte
- 5 Conscious choice and constructed identities: A study of written 87
codeswitching between Crucian and Standard English in St Croix
Sally J. Delgado
- 6 The scientific significance and social responsibilities 111
of linguistic fieldwork in the Northeastern Caribbean: The case of St. Croix
Brenda L. Domínguez-Rosado

PLURI-LINGUALISM, LANGUAGE CONTACT AND EDUCATION

- 7 Nursery school teachers’ attitudes toward Guyanese Creole 123
Coreen Jacobs-Chester
- 8 The ABCs of teacher language proficiency 135
Stacy Denny
- 9 Towards real cultural dialogue in Caribbean education 153
Marie-Annick Gournet

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 10 | The search for innovative approaches to help native speakers of Guyanese Creole master Standard English
Coreen Jacobs-Chester | 165 |
| 11 | A new opportunity for development in the region: An Eastern Caribbean Postgraduate Studies Center
Regla Diago-Pinillos | 175 |

II. PLURI-CULTURALISM: MULTIPLE HISTORICITIES

PLURI-CULTURALISM AND HISTORY

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 12 | Connections between the Eastern Caribbean and the Central American Caribbean Coast: The history and demographics of the Garifuna and other African and Afro-Indigenous descended peoples
Santiago J. Ruiz | 181 |
| 13 | Queens of the Virgins: Ancestral visions in contemporary Virgin Islands folklore and drama
ChenziRa D. Kahina | 191 |
| 14 | African religious survivals in death rituals
Gentian Miller | 201 |
| 15 | The Spiritual Baptist Faith: Syncretic religion and cultural tradition in the Eastern Caribbean region
Patricia Stephens | 209 |
| 16 | A voyage in the West Indies: John Augustine Waller's "familiar view of the West India Islands"
Jo Anne Harris | 217 |
| 17 | Water Gut as an Industrial Park of Christiansted, former Danish West Indies 1756-1813
Elizabeth Rezende | 227 |

PLURI-CULTURALISM, LITERATURE, MUSIC AND EXPRESSION

- 18 The poetic legacy of Daniel Thaly 237
Mark Andrews
- 19 Reconciling differences: Michael Anthony's *Green Days by the River* 245
Wendell Villanueva
- 20 Rhythmic importation, linguistic adaptation and integration in Aruban music: An analysis of the place and development of Calypso and Soca in Aruban society 253
Gregory T. E. Richardson
- 21 Assessing the links between identity and soca music in the Trinidad and Tobago music industry 265
Meagan A. Sylvester
- 22 The restoration of Bamboula: A St. Croix experience 273
ChenziRa D. Kahina
- 23 Purpose before money: Planning language festivals in the Caribbean 285
Marsha Hinds-Layne

III. PLURI-IDENTIFICATION: MULTIPLE SOLIDARITIES

PLURI-IDENTIFICATION, WOMEN, SPIRITUALITY, AND LITERATURE

- 24 Screaming silence: Testimony and trauma in Shani Mootoo's *Cereus Blooms at Night* 303
Cherie Meacham
- 25 Jamaica Kincaid: Image, manipulation and perception 311
Cynthia Pittmann
- 26 Obeah and cultural paradox in Annie John 319
Kristin Cobos
- 27 There's always the other side: Agency and authority in Creole initiation 325
Keith Cartwright

28	Does a thread of magical realism pervade Roderick Walcott's <i>Malfinis</i> ? Samantha S. P. Mitchell	333
29	Bolom symbolism in Derek Walcott, Dionne Brand, and Robert Antoni Nereida Prado	341
PLURI-IDENTIFICATION, LITERATURE, LANGUAGE, AND EXPRESSION		
30	Poetics of intimate voices: Exploring identity politics in US Virgin Islands' poetry Dannabang Kuwabong	351
31	Survival, resistance and resurgence: Reclaiming our own 'utterances' Melinda Maxwell-Gibb	369
32	(Re)Visiting Dominica's past, (Ad)Venturing into her future: Interrogating identity formation in Marie-Elena John's <i>Unburnable</i> Tyrone Ali	377
33	Language variation as 'verbal resourcefulness and aesthetic completeness': The sociolinguistics of Derek Walcott Martha Isaac	391
34	The power of the word – The evaluative functions of prefabricated language Korah Belgrave	403
	ABOUT THE EDITORS	413
	ABOUT THE AUTHORS	414

Acknowledgements

The contributions to this volume are updated versions of papers presented at the Eastern Caribbean Islands Cultures Conference (ECICC) (also known as the 'Islands in Between' Conference) which was held on the island of Dominica in 2009. The ECICC 2009 call for papers invited researchers to present results of their work on the languages, literatures, and cultures of the Eastern Caribbean, with the aim of eventually publishing a volume of conference presentations. The participants, along with some invited contributors, responded enthusiastically to the call and the results are presented here in this volume of the proceedings of the conference. This book, *In a Sea of Heteroglossia: Pluri-Lingualism, Pluri-Culturalism, and Pluri-Identification in the Caribbean*, presents an exciting and diverse array of new points of view on language and culture in the Eastern Caribbean. The editors wish to thank all of the contributors to this volume for their cooperation.

This annual conference provides an excellent opportunity to Caribbean researchers to share their knowledge and the results of their work. Despite the high degree of diversity and pluralism that typifies the Caribbean, there are striking similarities as well in the ways that the languages, cultures and literatures of the region have been transformed in the process of dynamic contact and dialogic/dialectic interchange. This book forms part of a two volume set, with one volume focusing on the ABC-islands (Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao) and this volume focusing on the other parts of the Caribbean. These volumes are designed to promote a common understanding of the challenges faced by specialists in the languages, literatures, and cultures of the Caribbean as well as of the innovative ways that they have found to face those challenges.

The conference was co-organized and co-sponsored by the University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras (UPR), the University of the West Indies at Cave Hill (UWI), and the University of the West Indies Open Campus, Dominica together with the local Organizing Committee, which was expertly chaired by Dr. Francis Severin, with the able assistance of Mr. Felix A. Wilson. This publication received generous support from the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Nederlandse Antillen en Aruba.

This is also the appropriate place to acknowledge the contributions of Mervyn Alleyne of UPR, of Peter Roberts of UWI, as well as of UPR students Micah Corum, Ilia Aixa Madrazo and Diana Ursulin for helping to organize the conference, and of Barry Green for helping with editing.

The Editors

I

PLURI-LINGUALISM: MULTIPLE LITERACIES

PLURI-LINGUALISM, LANGUAGE CONTACT AND LINGUISTICS

