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Calabash: A Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters is an international literary journal dedicated to publishing works encompassing, but not limited to, the Anglophone, Francophone, Hispanophone and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. The Journal is especially dedicated to presenting the arts and letters of those communities that have long been under-represented within the creative discourse of the region, among them: Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles, Maroon societies, and the Asian and Amerindian societies of the region. Calabash has a strong visual arts component.

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Calabash: A Journal of Caribbean Arts and Letters

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CONTRIBUTORS NOTES

OPAL PALMER ADISA is a writer of poems, stories, introspections. She has published several works: *It Begins With Tears* (novel); *Leaf-of-Life, Tamarind and Mango Women*, and *Traveling Women* (poetry). Her forthcoming novel is entitled, *No Regrets*. She has been published internationally.

NICOLETTE BETHEL was born in The Bahamas and educated in Nassau, Canada and Britain. At present, she is a lecturer at The College of The Bahamas in the Schools of English Studies and Social Sciences. She holds a Ph.D. in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge, and is a researcher in the fields of Bahamian national identity and of Junkanoo. She is the editor of *Junkanoo: Festival of The Bahamas* (Macmillan Caribbean, 1991), as well as a playwright, poet and writer of fiction. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in various collections, among them *The Oxford and Cambridge May Anthologies*; *Review: Latin American Literature and Arts*; *The Amherst Review*; and *The Caribbean Writer*, as well as several other journals. Most recently, her play *Powercut* was made into an independent film (Plantation Pictures, 2001). She lives in Nassau.

CHRISTIAN CAMPBELL, a Trinidadian-Bahamian poet and critic, was born and raised in The Bahamas. His work has appeared in *The Caribbean Writer*, *Calabash*, *Atlanta Review*, *International Poetry Review* and other journals. He is currently reading English at Balliol College, University of Oxford on a Commonwealth Caribbean Rhodes Scholarship and completing his first collection of poetry.

LOUIS-PHILIPPE DALEMBERT'S published works include: *L'Autre face de la mer*; *Le Crayon du Bon Dieu n'a pas de gomme*; among others. His works have been translated in Italian, Danish, Serb and Portuguese. Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, he now lives in Paris, France.

LILA DÍAZ, (Santiago de Chile, 1975) is a poet and a visual artist. She studied design in Chile and currently is studying sculpture at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Her artistic work has always combined poetry with visual arts, as in the audiovisual poem "*Géneros*" (1996), shown in the Costa Rica Short Film Festival and the Santiago International Book Fair. In 1997 she was granted a Creative Writing Fellowship for the Pablo Neruda Poetry Workshop. She has published two books of poetry: "*Cacería*" (Editorial RIL, 1999) and "*Léxico Fuego*" (Editorial del Temple, 2001).

GARFIELD ELLIS was a James Michener fellow to the Caribbean Writers Summer Institute at the University of Miami in 1992 and 1993. He later received a full scholarship to The University of Miami where he completed his Master of Fine Arts degree. He is now the Operations Manager at the Jamaica Observer. Ellis's writing has been widely published. His story *Breeze* won the *Heineman/Lifestyle* short story competition in 1990 and *Caney* has been included in Longman's *Caribbean New Voices*

collection for 1996. Another short story was published in the Winter 1997 issue of *Callaloo*. His first collection *Flaming Hearts and other Stories* won the prestigious Una Marson Award for adult fiction in the Jamaica National literary awards. In 1999, his novel (manuscript), *Till I'm laid To Rest*, also won the Una Marson Award for Adult Fiction. His newest Collection, *Wake Rasta and Other Stories* was published in January 2002. Macmillan Publishers will be putting out his novel, *Such As I Have*.

Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, **PHEBUS ETIENNE** grew up in East Orange, New Jersey. She completed writing programs at Rider University and New York University. Her poems have appeared in *The Butterfly's Way: Voices From The Haitian Diaspora in the United States*, *Poet Lore*, *The Best of Callaloo: Poetry*, and *Cave Canem Anthology VI*. She received a 2001 poetry fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and a grant from The Whiting Foundation.

ROXANNA FONT is a poetry editor of the *Bellevue Literary Review*. She received her MFA from New York University and has been awarded writing residencies at Hedgebrook and the Djerassi Institute. She lives in San Francisco.

PEGGY GARRISON teaches creative writing at New York University and is a writer in residence for Teachers and Writers Collective. She has published several books of poems, including *Ding the Bell*, *Charing Cross Bridge and other Poems*, and, with David Quintavalle, *With Candor*. She has been widely published in literary magazines and earned an MA in Creative writing from The City College of New York.

MAGGIE HARRIS was born in Guyana and has lived in the UK since 1971. Her first collection, *Limbolands* won the Guyana Prize for Literature 2000. She has performed her work in the UK, Europe, Ireland and the Caribbean, and regularly works with other artists of different disciplines. She works as a Reader Development Worker for Kent Libraries and has just won an award from East England Arts to write a collection of poems for children, *Anansi Meets Miss Muffet*. She is also writing a memoir of her childhood in Guyana.

ALBA DELIA HERNANDEZ is a fiction writer who was born in Puerto Rico and raised in Bushwick, Brooklyn. She has received several honors and awards including the Bronx Council of the Arts First Chapter Award and Columbia University's Outstanding Achievement Award in Literature and Writing. She is a summa cum laude graduate of Columbia University where she also received Phi Beta Kappa honors. She gives many thanks to Columbia University's HEOP Program for the many blessings it brought into her life. Ms. Hernandez is currently Program Director of Teachers & Writers Collaborative, a non-profit organization that sends writers into the public schools to teach creative writing.

DEBORAH JACK is Assistant Professor of Photography at the University of Buffalo, where she also received her MFA in the visual arts. Her work has been included in several shows and exhibitions. Ms. Jack is also the author of the poetry collection, *The*

Rainy Season, published by the House of Nehesi Press and has had work published in *Calabash*. She divides her time between Buffalo and St. Martin.

JACQUELINE JOAN JOHNSON is a multi-disciplined writer working in the areas of poetry, books for children, non-fiction and fiction. A graduate of New York University and CUNY, she currently resides in Brooklyn, New York and is a native of Philadelphia, PA. She is the winner of the 1997 third annual White Pine Press Award for Poetry. Her poetry book *A Gathering of Mother Tongues* was published by White Pine Press in the spring of 1998. Ms. Johnson is a 2002 Cave Canem fellow and she teaches poetry as Frederick Douglas Creative Arts Center in New York City. She is at work on two new projects: a book of poems "The Place Where Memory Dwells," and a novel.

PASCAL J. LAFONTANT grew up in Miragoane, Haiti. His poems have appeared in *The Bitter Oleander*, *Lamadel: Cents Poèmes Créole*, *Galaxy*, and *Remedy*. He was a finalist for the 2001 *Frances Locke Memorial Prize*. He lives in Houston, Texas.

MIA LEONIN'S first book of poetry *Braid* was selected by Anhinga Press as part of the Florida Poetry Series. Her poetry has appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *Indiana Review*, *New Letters* and others. She is of Cuban-American descent, lives in Miami and teaches at the University of Miami.

DWIGHT MAXWELL is a native of Jamaica and lives in New York City, where he instructs Humanities at Second Opportunity high school. He received a MFA in Creative Writing from New York University in 1997 and was recently awarded a residency at Teachers and Writers Collaborative. His poetic works appeared in such literary journals as: *Callaloo*, *Calabash*, and the *Seneca Review*.

IAN MCDONALD was born in 1933 in Trinidad and received a Honours Degree in History from Cambridge University. He has lived in Guyana since 1955 where he is currently Chief Executive Officer of the Sugar Association of the Caribbean. As a sportsman, he played at Wimbledon and captained the West Indies Davis Cup Team throughout the 1950s --1960s. He is the author of the novel *The Humming-Bird Tree*, and the poetry collections: *Mercy Ward*, *Essequibo*, and *Jaffo the Calypsonian* with a new collection *Between Silence and Silence* due to come out in 2004. He is the editor of the magazine *Kyk-Over-Al*, and helped edit and write the introduction for *Selected Poems of Martin Carter*; and edited jointly with Jacqueline De Weever *A.J. Seymour's Collected Poems*. He received a Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of the West Indies.

ANTON NIMBLETT is a Trinidadian who has been living in the USA for over twenty-five years. His first published work, "On The Side", appeared in *Calabash*. He is at work on a collection of short stories, and has been an active member of the Nkiru Writer's Workshop in Brooklyn. He is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University.

COLIN ROBINSON straddles a national and cultural identity with the Caribbean and Trinidad, where he spent his childhood and adolescence – and another with the political and expressive communities he has helped build as a “Black, Gay man” or a “queer man of color” in New York City, where he has spent his entire adult life. His creative work is similarly fragmented; he managed production and served as administrator for *Other Countries: Black Gay Voices*; collaborated with choreographer Ronald K. Brown on *Lessons* and filmmaker Marlon Riggs on *Tongues Untied* and *Anthem*. His poems and essays have appeared primarily in LGBT and independent literary and political journals and anthologies since 1985.

BONAFIDE ROJAS is a poet/musician/photographer/teacher, a native of the transplanted Puerto Rican town of the Bronx. He is the 2002 SLAM THIS! Champion and a member of the 2002 New York City | Union Square Slam team. His work can be found in *Bum Rush the Page: a Def Poetry Jam* (Three Rivers Press, 2002), *RoleCall: A Generational Anthology of Social and Political Black Literature and Art* (Third World Press, 2002), *The Centro Journal*, the academic publication of The Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Hunter College, 2001) focusing on the next generation of Nuyorican poets and *Freedom to Speak*, the first anthology by Poetry Slam, Inc. His first book *Pelo Bueno* (Dark Souls Press, April 2003) deals with the issues of stereotypes, cultural preservation, music, love, struggle, racism, and personal growth.

RODRIGO ROJAS' poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in : *580Split*, *Lake Effect*, *Xavier Review*, *Frantic Egg*, *Ginko Tree*, *Cuadernos Hispanoamericanos*, *Ajo y Zafiros*, *Plagio*, and *Aérea*. A recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship and a recent graduate of NYU's Creative Writing MFA, he teaches undergraduates in the Literatura Creativa poetry program at Universidad Diego Portales, Chile.

SILVIO TORRES-SAILLANT received his Ph.D., in Comparative Literature from New York University, and is Associate Professor and Director of the Latino-Latin American Studies Program at Syracuse University. His interests include: Caribbean literature, comparative poetics, ethnic American literature, Latino texts, diaspora and migration studies. Among his many publications are: *Caribbean Poetics*. Cambridge University Press, 1997; *The Dominican-Americans* (with Ramona Hernández). Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1998; and *El retorno de las yolas*. Santo Domingo: Ediciones Librería La Trinitaria and Editora Manatí, 1999. He is currently working on an Anthology of Latino Literature, among other projects.

ROBERT EDISON SANDIFORD is the author of *Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall: Stories*, *Attractive Forces* and *Stray Moonbeams*. His work has appeared in *Caribbean Travel & Life*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Calabash*, *The Comics Journal*, and *The Antigoniash Review*, among other publications.

OLIVE SENIOR is the author of eight books, including: *Summer Lightning*, *Arrival of the Snake Woman* and *Discerner of Hearts* --- all short story collections. She has also published two collections of poems, *Gardening in the Tropics* and *Talking of Trees*, as

well as several non-fiction books. Her *Encyclopedia of Jamaican Heritage* is forthcoming.

KATIA ULYSSE was born in Haiti. Her short stories, essays, and poetry have been published in various literary journals, including *The Caribbean Writer*, *Peregrine*, *Phoebe*, *Poui*, and *MaComere*. Her work has been anthologized in *The Butterfly's Way* (Soho Press, 2000). Ulysse is also the Co-Founder of The Dona Literacy Grant for Children in Haiti.

C. M. HARCLYDE WALCOTT has, among other occupations, worked as a Theatre Director, Film-maker and Photo-journalist. His creative writing has appeared in *The New Voices*, *Arts Review*, *Poui* and *Bim*.