You are invited
to a
Public Lecture & IGDS Book Launch

A Reading from Our Caribbean: A Gathering of Lesbian and Gay Writing from the Antilles
with author and activist
Thomas Glave
Professor of Creative Writing, English, and Latin American and Caribbean Studies at SUNY Binghamton
on
Thursday 15th April 2010
at 5.30 p.m.
Daaga Hall Auditorium
University of the West Indies
St. Augustine.

There will be an Open Discussion, Readings by Featured Speakers Colin Robinson and Lawrence Scott, as well as, an IGDS Book Sale and Signing at the table.
Our Caribbean: A Gathering of Lesbian and Gay Writing from the Antilles
Published by Duke University Press, 2008

The first book of its kind, Our Caribbean is an anthology of lesbian and gay writing from across the Antilles. The author and activist Thomas Glave has gathered outstanding fiction, nonfiction, memoir, and poetry by little-known writers together with selections by internationally celebrated figures such as José Alcántara Almánzar, Reinaldo Arenas, Dionne Brand, Michelle Cliff, Audre Lorde, Achy Obejas, and Assotto Saint. The result is an unprecedented literary conversation on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered experiences throughout the Caribbean and its far-flung diaspora. Many selections were originally published in Spanish, Dutch, or creole languages; some are translated into English here for the first time.

The thirty-seven authors hail from the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Panama, Puerto Rico, St. Vincent, St. Kitts, Suriname, and Trinidad. Many have lived outside the Caribbean, and their writing depicts histories of voluntary migration as well as exile from repressive governments, communities, and families. Many pieces have a political urgency that reflects their authors’ work as activists, teachers, community organizers, and performers. Desire commingles with ostracism and alienation throughout: in the evocative portrayals of same-sex love and longing, and in the selections addressing religion, family, race, and class. From the poem “Saturday Night in San Juan with the Right Sailors” to the poignant narrative “We Came All the Way from Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?” to an eloquent call for the embrace of difference that appeared in the Nassau Daily Tribune on the eve of an anti-gay protest, Our Caribbean is a brave and necessary book.


“Our Caribbean is a superb anthology. Thomas Glave does not exaggerate when he writes that this is ‘a book that I and others have been waiting for and have wanted for all our lives.’ Here we have a book that makes literal the ongoing necessity to write ‘against silence.’”
— Elizabeth Alexander, author of American Blue: Selected Poems

“Traversing boundaries of geography, history, language, and desire, Thomas Glave has assembled a poignant testament of how we dare to love differently and yearn for justice in the same breath...Necessary and timely.”
— M. Jacqui Alexander, author of Pedagogies of Crossing: Meditations on Feminism, Sexual Politics, Memory, and the Sacred

Thomas Glave is the author of Whose Song? And Other Stories; the essay collection Words to Our Now: Imagination and Dissent, a Lambda Literary Award winner; and the forthcoming short fiction collection, The Torturer’s Wife. Born to Jamaican parents in the Bronx and raised there and in Jamaica, Glave is a founding member of the Jamaica Forum for Lesbians, All-Sexuals and Gays (J-FLAG). He teaches in the English Department at the State University of New York, Binghamton, and is the 2008–2009 Martin Luther King, Jr. Visiting Professor in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Duke University Press website

http://thomasglave.com

Purchase Our Caribbean Here

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