# **Conference Call for Papers**

## REROUTING THE POSTCOLONIAL

# The University of Northampton, UK, 3-4 July 2007

This two-day conference marks the relaunch last year of the journal *World Literature Written in English* as the *Journal of Postcolonial Studies*. It will explore the rerouting and transformation of the field of postcolonial studies in response to new theories, texts and research questions, as well as the contemporary world situation. We live today in an increasingly mobile world of global forces, accelerated flows of migration, exile and transnational movement which, according to Homi Bhabha, cause those 'genealogies of origin that lead to the claim for cultural supremacy and historical priority' to be contested. Diaspora theory draws attention to the fact that the paths or ROUTES open to people through increased migration, dislocation and relocation, even the temporary inhabiting of new spaces offered by cosmopolitan travel and tourism, contribute to a critique of ROOTS, of fixed origins and traditional identificatory structures such as family, society and nation.

The following are some questions underpinning this conference:

What REROUTINGS of the postcolonial occur due to accelerated movements of peoples, the theorizing of diaspora, transformed modes of production through the impact of global technologies, new paradigms such as the "glocal," the reshaping of culture by globalization?

What is the effect of the current shift away from resistant and counter discourses and the politics of liberation and representation?

How is 'writing' the postcolonial, in areas such as pedagogy, genre and the canon, aesthetic and textual practices, changing in response to these developments?

Abstracts (200-300 words] should be received by Friday 2 March 2007.

Send to <Janet.Wilson@northampton.ac.uk> and <Fiona.Tolan@northampton.ac.uk>.

Please put 'Rerouting the Postcolonial' in the subject line of the e-mail as abstracts will be sorted automatically. Early notification of acceptance may be requested if required for international speakers.

Conference Publication: Selected papers will be considered for publication in the conference proceedings.

# Forthcoming in **ariel** 38.1

# A special issue on Anglo-Caribbean slavery

Guest editors: Sara Salih, University of Toronto
Candace Ward, Florida State University

March 25, 2007 marks the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, passed by Britain's parliament by a vote of 114 to 15. Although the act did not completely eradicate slave-trading activities, it represents a monumental first step in abolishing an institution responsible for what French historian Jean Michel-Deveau describes as the "greatest tragedy in the history of humanity in terms of scale and duration." In commemoration of this bicentennial, this special issue of *ARIEL* will examine a variety of texts produced during the long eighteenth century that deal with the Caribbean slave trade and that reflect the ideological underpinnings of the trade and the resistance to slavery by enslaved peoples in the Caribbean and abolitionists on both sides of the Atlantic.

Articles include:

Hilary McD. Beckles on the discourse of slavery

Trevor Burnard on white Creole culture and hypermasculinity

Brycchan Carey on the Barbadian origins of Quaker anti-slavery rhetoric

John Gilmore on slavery in John Singleton's A General Description of the West Indian Islands

Sarah Salih on the animal and human in Edward Long's History of Jamaica

Candace Ward on representations of resistance in early Anglo-Caribbean fiction

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### some past & future contributors

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Hauntings. . .

How is the text haunted by the historical moment in which they emerge and by the histories to which they seek to represent? How might texts be haunted by the very texts that they engage in dialogue? Are there specific postcolonial hauntings?

Chelva Kanaganayakam on Michael Ondatje's *Anil's Ghost* 

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