

Black Historians and the Writing of History
in the 19th and early 20th centuries
What Legacy?

Thursday 12 June 2014: 9:00-6:00

Friday 13 June 2014: 9:00-6:30

University Paris Diderot

Room Pierre Albouy (685 C)

(Grands Moulins de Paris, C Wing, 6th floor)

International Conference

Project *Writing History from the Margins* (Sorbonne Paris Cité)

Thursday 12 June 2013

9:00 Registration

9:30 Opening address: François BRUNET (University Paris Diderot)

10:00 **Plenary session:** Pero DAGBOVIE (Michigan State University)

From the Margins to the Mainstream: Reflections on a Century of the African American Historical Enterprise

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 **Writing the History of the Diaspora**

Chair: Claire BOURHIS-MARIOTTI (University of Cergy-Pontoise)

- Patrick RAEL (Bowdoin College): *Slave Resistance and Antislavery Ideology: The Haitian Revolution and the Coming of the Civil War*
- Violet M. SHOWERS JOHNSON (Texas A&M University): *Writing Afro-Caribbean History into African American History in the 1920s and 1930s: The Claims, the Rows and the Legacy*
- Michael BENJAMIN (Armstrong Atlantic State University): *From the Margins: Self-Taught Black Historians and the Project to Publish a Diasporic Encyclopedia*

1:00 Lunch

2:30 **Alternative Sources: Art(s) and History**

Chair: Claudine RAYNAUD (University Montpellier 3)

- James SMALLS (University of Maryland): *Freeman Murray and the Art of Social Justice*
- Mary Ann CALO (Colgate University): *Art History, Racial Art Theory and Adult Education: Remembering Alain Locke's Negro Art: Past and Present (1936)*
- Adena SPINGARN (Stanford University): *James Weldon Johnson's Black Manhattan and the Popular Stages of History*

4:00 Coffee break

4:30 **Historians or "Leaders of the Race"**

Chair: Hélène LE DANTEC-LOWRY (University Sorbonne Nouvelle - Paris 3)

- Nicole TOPICH (Harvard University): *Black Histories and Historians in Petitions*
- Zachery WILLIAMS (University of Akron): *From the Bottom to the Top: Howard University Historians and Policy History in the United States*
- Glenn JORDAN (University of South Wales): *A Vindicationist Voice: George Washington Williams and History From the Margins*

6:00 Cocktail party

Friday 13 June 2014

9:00 Pre-session coffee

9:30 **Plenary session:** CLAIRE PARFAIT (University Paris 13)

Early African American Historians: a Book History Perspective

10:30 Coffee break

11:30 **The Writing of African American History: the Construction of Specific Objects and Methods**

Chair: Marie-Jeanne ROSSIGNOL (University Paris Diderot)

- John ERNEST (University of Delaware): *The Negro in the American Rebellion: William Wells Brown and the Design of African American History*
- Stephen G. HALL (Alcorn State University): *One Hundred Years Before Woodson: Assessing the Development of African American History in the 19th Century*

12:00 **Race and History, Race in History**

Chair: Chris WEEDON (Cardiff University)

- Martha S. JONES (University of Michigan): *Who Were the "Negro Historians"?: Reading William Yates on Race and Citizenship*
- Nicolas MARTIN-BRETEAU (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales): *Historian of Himself, Historian of His Race: W. E. B. Du Bois and the History of Race Oppression in the U.S.*

1:00 Lunch

2:30 **Incorporating Slavery into the Historical Narrative**

Chair: Myriam COTTIAS (CNRS, CIRESC)

- Clare CORBOULD (Monash University): *Talking and Writing about Slavery in the Interwar Years, and the Origins of American Social History*
- Kate MASUR (Northwestern University): *"The Colored Side of Lincolniana": John E. Washington and the Black History of the Lincoln Presidency*

3:30 **Taking up the Challenge: Publishing African American Historical Works**

Chair: Claire PARFAIT (University Paris 13)

- Cheryl KNOTT (University of Arizona): *Merl R. Eppse and the Publication of The Negro, Too, in American History*
- Aaron PRIDE (Kent State University): *Selling The Souls of Black Folk: The Legacy and Tradition of the Trotter Family in the African American Historical Enterprise*

4:30 Coffee break

5:00 Roundtable with all the participants: **Black Historians: What Legacy?**

6:00 Closing address: Pap NDIAYE (Sciences Po Paris)