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## Woman Professor

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*Professor Sandra Pouchet Paquet  
University of Miami, Florida, USA  
November 1 - 3, 2007*

*The Asian Experience In The Caribbean and The Guyanas*

She ascends the dais,  
tall, dignified,  
her grey suit  
sombre like an evening  
tallying the sun's working-day.

Her hair is white, without the dark  
of youth's ambivalences,  
cropped close  
as if tuned to her brain's signals  
of wisdom and truths.

No swill of drinks,  
no sip of wine  
in the halls of learning -  
her words admonishing,  
disciplines.

Yet her voice comes softly,  
the given voice of Eve,  
a mother's enveloping  
a homeful of students,  
embracing invited speakers.

And subtly feminine -  
her earrings dangling  
touches of sparkle  
as she speaks.