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María Acosta Cruz was born and raised in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, and got her B.A. at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in comparative literature from the State University of New York at Binghamton. She is Professor of Spanish at Clark University. Her main research interests are Caribbean and Latino cultures. She explores issues such as the making and marketability of identities, Puerto Rican cultural history, and national and gender-based stereotypes. Her book *Dream Nation: Puerto Rican Culture & the Fictions of Independence* was published by Rutgers University Press and is also part of the American Literatures Initiative from NYU, Fordham, Temple and Virginia University Presses. The series has funding from the Mellon Foundation. She can be found on Twitter at @macostacruz.

Danielle Boodoo-Fortune is a poet and artist from Trinidad & Tobago. Her writing and art have appeared in several local and international journals such as *Bim: Arts for the 21st Century*, *The Caribbean Writer*, *Small Axe Literary Salon*, *Poui: Cave Hill Journal of Creative Writing*, *Anthurium: A Caribbean Studies Journal*, *Dirtcakes Journal*, *Blackberry: A Magazine*, *Room Magazine* and others. Danielle was awarded The Charlotte and Isidor Paeiwonsky Prize by The Caribbean Writer's editorial board in 2009, nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2010, and awarded the Small Axe Poetry Prize in 2012. In 2013 she was nominated for Best New Poets, and shortlisted for the Wasafiri New Writing Prize as well as the Montreal Poetry Prize.

Kathleen DeGuzman is a Ph.D. candidate in English and a fellow at the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities at Vanderbilt University. She is completing a dissertation that reveals how the relationship between the Anglophone Caribbean and Victorian Britain generated unconventional practices of radicalism that trouble the oppositions within postcolonialism and imperialism.

Johanna X. K. Garvey received her BA from Pomona College (in French) and her MA and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley (in comparative literature). She is an associate professor of English at Fairfield University, where she was founding Co-Director of the Women's Studies Program and founding Co-Director of the Program in Black Studies: Africa and the Diaspora. She is currently Director of Black Studies. Her areas of expertise include Caribbean women writers, literature of the African Diaspora, gender and sexuality studies, and global women's literature in a cultural studies framework. She has published articles and book chapters on Ann Petry, Michelle Cliff, Merle Collins, Paule Marshall, Dionne Brand, Shani Mootoo, Patricia Powell, Maryse Condé, and others, in *Callaloo*, *The Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial*

Literature, Textual Practice, Emerging Perspectives on Maryse Condé, Black Imagination and the Middle Passage, and Black Liberation in the Americas. She is completing a book manuscript *The Sides of the Sea: Caribbean Women Writing Diaspora*, has a book in progress on Black women writers and New York City, from Harriett Jacobs to the present, and a book-length study of Afro-Caribbean author Dionne Brand.

Kelly Baker Josephs is associate professor of English at York College/CUNY, specializing in World Anglophone Literature with an emphasis on Caribbean Literature. Her book, *Disturbers of the Peace: Representations of Insanity in Anglophone Caribbean Literature* (University of Virginia Press, 2013), considers the ubiquity of madmen and madwomen in Caribbean literature between 1959 and 1980. She is the editor of *sx salon: a small axe literary platform* and manages *The Caribbean Commons* site.

Harold N. McDermott, PhD, currently serves as director of the Language and Technology Research Centre at the University of Technology, Jamaica. He has authored several texts in Communication Studies and Literatures in English at the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency level and has published a number of articles on Caribbean literature in international journals.

Kei Miller read English at the University of the West Indies and completed an MA in Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University. Kei's first collection of short fiction, *The Fear of Stones*, was short-listed in 2007 for a Commonwealth Writers First Book Prize. He has written two poetry collections, *Kingdom of Empty Bellies* and *There is an Anger that Moves*, and is also editor of Carcanet's *New Caribbean Poetry Anthology*. His first novel, *The Same Earth*, was published in 2008, followed by *The Last Warner Woman* (2010), another poetry collection *A Light Song of Light* (2010) and a collection of essays *Writing Down the Vision: Essays and Prophecies* (2013). His most current work is a collection of poetry entitled *The Cartographer Tries to Map a Way to Zion* (2014).

Tzarina T. Prater is an Assistant Professor of English in Bentley University's English and Media Studies Department where she teaches African American and Anglophone Caribbean literature as well as Gender and Cultural Studies. She has published articles on the work of Michelle Cliff, Patricia Powell, John Oliver Killens, U.S. spectatorship of Hong Kong action cinema. Her most recent publication on the prose and poetry of Chinese Jamaican writer, Easton Lee, in *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*, and the article in this volume

of *Anthurium* on the work of Kerry Young, come out of her book project entitled *Labrish and Mooncakes: Chinese Jamaican Literary and Cultural Production and Nationalism*.

Bill Schwarz teaches Caribbean literature in the School of English and Drama, Queen Mary, University of London. The second volume of his *Memories of Empire – The Caribbean Comes to England* – will be completed in 2015, as will the first instalment of his collaboration with Stuart Hall: *Displacements: Lives and Ideas in Two Black Diasporas*.

Vanessa K. Valdés is an Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at The City College of New York – CUNY. Her research interests include comparative studies of the literatures of the Americas, particularly Afro-Hispanic, African-American, Spanish Caribbean, and U.S. Latina/o Literatures. She currently serves as Book Review Editor of *s/x salon*, an online literary salon on Caribbean literature and culture. She is the editor of *The Future Is Now: A New Look at African Diaspora Studies* (2012) and *Let Spirit Speak! Cultural Journeys through the African Diaspora* (2012). She is the author of *Oshun's Daughters: The Search for Womanhood in the Americas* (SUNY Press 2014).