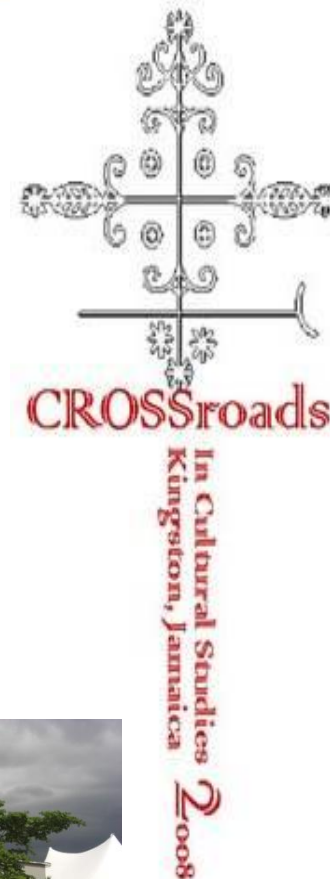
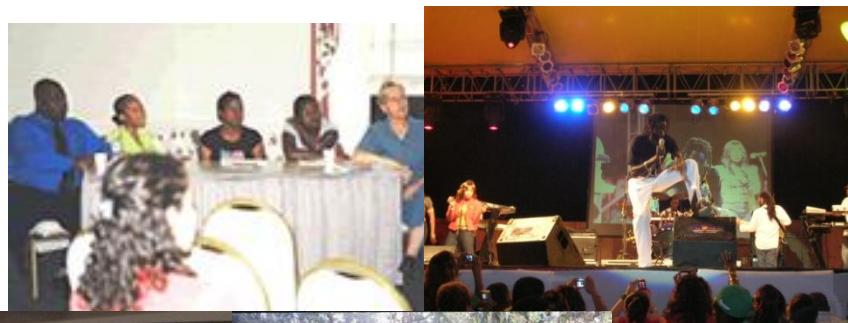


2008 ACS Crossroads in Cultural Studies

Association for Cultural Studies and the
University of the West Indies, Mona
Kingston 7, Jamaica

'Of Sacred Crossroads'



2008 ACS Crossroads in Cultural Studies

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'Of Sacred Crossroads'

The 7th Staging of the ACS Crossroads UWI, Mona Campus, Kingston, Jamaica

The Caribbean could well be regarded as one of the first crossroads of the modern era, where Africa and Asia met Europe on Amerindian soil.

Being a site of conquest, dislocation, crossings, enslavement and rebellion, memory and survival, and immense creativity and heritage, the Caribbean was thought to be a relevant site relevant site for hosting the 7th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference.

A local steering committee was established and the UWI's Cultural Studies Initiative was thought to be the logical host for this large multi-disciplinary project.



The Local Organizing Committee

Chair: Barry Chevannes

Deputy Chair & Chair, Finance: Joseph Pereira

Conference Coordinator: Sonjah Stanley Niaah

Conference Planner: Dollis Campbell

Chair, Programme Sub-committee: Annie Paul

Chair, Exhibition Sub-committee: Carolyn Allen

Chair, Logistics Sub-committee: Jalani Niaah

Chair, Publicity Sub-committee: Deborah Hickling/ Patricia Valentine

Web Manager: Noelle Nicolls



A Crossroads Conference with a difference - The Conference Theme

- Å The Crossroads conferences have never had a key theme, only general ones
- Å Being an academic and political encounter with the Caribbean as a crossroads, the steering committee felt that the key theme should be *'Of Sacred Crossroads'*
- Å *'Of Sacred Crossroads'* captures many concerns in a manner that allows for the broadest of interpretation and accommodation across disciplines and forms – religion, art, dance, song, orature, healing, re-creation, performance, ritual, belief systems, ethics, globalization, communication, among others.



'OF SACRED CROSSROADS'

The conference theme was divided into the following key themes:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Å Rituals of arrival and contact | Å Virtual spiritualities |
| Å Crossings ð the art of the crossroads | Å (Spiritual) Tourism |
| Å Spirituality and identity | Å Rituals, substances and sacred geographies |
| Å Language rituals | Å The spirit of music |
| Å Globalization and the spirit | Å Cultures of reconciliation |
| Å Indigenous spiritualities | Å Storytelling |
| Å Rituals of conflict - rites of rebellion | Å Crossroad deities and divination |
| Å Virtual realities | Å Geographies of the body and spirit |

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'Of Sacred Crossroads'

General areas of interest include:

- Å Body - Identity and Difference
- Å Media
- Å Gender and sexuality
- Å Popular culture
- Å Cultural industries
- Å Performance and gender
- Å Youth culture
- Å Religion and culture
- Å Nation states
- Å Power and knowledge
- Å New information technology
- Å Globalization and diaspora
- Å Nationalism and locality
- Å Consumerism and fetishism

Culture and economy
Fundamentalisms
Cultural Studies pedagogy
Policing the crisis
Culture and ethics
Critical methodologies
Politics of opposition
Cultures of everyday life
Social and cultural theory
The city
Cultural policy
Centre and periphery
Space and culture
Imagined communities



Profile of the Conference

- Å Conference dates: July 3-7, 2008
- Å Main sites: The Assembly Hall & The Undercroft
- Å Countries represented: scholars from some 68 countries will gather in Kingston representing all continents
- Å Academic encounter: Over 650 presentations have already been approved
- Å Cultural exposé: Crossroads 2008 features unique exploration of Caribbean heritage and culture including an exposé of food, craft and cultural expressions in the setting of a cultural village
- Å Making History: Crossroads 2008 marks the first time that the conference will be staged in the South, and arguably, at one of the first crossroads in the New World

Module - 2008 ACS Crossroads Conference

	<u>Day 1</u> Wednesday, July 2	<u>Day 2</u> Thursday, July 3	<u>Day 3</u> Friday, July 4	<u>Day 4</u> Saturday, July 5	<u>Day 5</u> Sunday, July 6	<u>Day 6</u> Monday, July 7
6.30 – 7.30am		<i>Crossroads Trail</i>	<i>Crossroads Trail</i>	<i>Crossroads Trail</i>	<i>Crossroads Trail</i>	<i>Crossroads Trail</i>
8.00 -9.00am	ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS & REGISTRATION (until 6.00pm)	REGISTRATION (until 5.00pm)	REGISTRATION (until 5.00pm)	REGISTRATION (until 2.00pm)	REGISTRATION (until 2.00pm)	REGISTRATION (until 10.00am)
9.00 – 11.00 am		Conference Opening & Keynote Address	Plenary I	Plenary II	Plenary III	Spotlight Sessions I & II
11.00 – 11.30am		Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
11.30 – 1.00 am	CAMPUS TOUR	Panel I	Panel IV	Panel VII	Panel X	ACS Business Meeting
1.00 – 2.30 pm		LUNCH & Opening of Library Exhibition	LUNCH & Film Screening & launch of Youth@d'Crossroads	LUNCH & Film screening & Youth@d'Crossroads	LUNCH & Performance & Youth@d'Crossroads	LUNCH & Performance
2.30 – 4.00 pm		Panel II	Panel V	Panel VIII	Panel XI	Spotlight Sessions III & IV
4.00 – 4.30pm	CAMPUS TOUR	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
4.30 – 6.00 pm		Panel III	Panel VI	Panel IX	Panel XII	Closing Conversation –
6.00 – 7.00 pm		Shuttles depart @ 6.30 pm	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER
7.00 – 9.00 pm		Prime Minister's Welcome Party, Vale Royal	CULTURAL VILLAGE – Revival / Kumina Night	CULTURAL VILLAGE – Nyabinghi Night	CULTURAL VILLAGE – Dancehall Night dubbed a night of 'Black Magic'	Tour - 'Kingston by Night' & dinner at Port Royal (TBD) & Performance of 'Break the Waters Free' (PSCCA) (TBD)

What does this conference intend to achieve?

- Å Successful exploration and engagement of local, regional and international cutting edge research and issues in cultural studies
- Å Academic debate and discussion to advance knowledge in the field
- Å Publicity for UWI's programmes in cultural studies (eg. ICS, CS Initiative)
- Å Partnerships with international scholars and publishers



Achievements Cont'd

- Å Increased awareness for students via exposure to international focal areas within cultural studies
- Å Exposure for the UWI as a campus / conference site and bright light shining from the West in its 60th year (eg. campus tours, Xroads Athletic trail using historic sites)
- Å Publicity for Jamaica as a tourism destination



SEE THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS

www.crossroads2008.org

See details regarding:-

- Å Invited speakers
- Å List of approved presentations
- Å Preliminary list of approved panels
- Å Promotional opportunities for books and resources
- Å Tours