

# Theorizing Black Studies: Representing African-Americans in the African Imagination

## Friday, December 3, 2010 - Hawkins-Carlson Room

9:50am      **Remarks by Victoria Wolcott, FDI Interim Director**

10am-12pm    **Session1: African-Americans in the Caribbean Imagination**

- Martin Munro (French, Florida State U.)

*“Rhythm and Diaspora: Haiti, New Orleans and Jazz”*

- Faith Smith (English, Brandeis U.)

*“(African) Americans and Caribbean Self-Fashioning”*

Moderator:    John Michael (English, U. of Rochester)

12:00-1:00pm    **Lunch break, Hawkins-Carlson Room**

1:00-2:30pm    **Session2: The Challenge of Representation: From Africa and the Francophone Diaspora.**

- Odile Cazenave (Romance Studies, Boston U.)

*“Alain Mabankou’s Lettre à Jimmy and Leonora Miano’s Soulfood Tropicale: for a new Interpretation of the American Soul”*

- Alexie Tcheuyap (French Studies, U. of Toronto)

*“The Weight of Memory and Stereotypes: African Cinema and the African Imagination”*

Moderator:    Sharon Willis (Art & Art History, U. of Rochester)

**Coffee Break**

3:00-4:00pm    **Session3: Representing African-Americans in the African Imagination: A Visual Anthology**

4:00-6:00pm    **Keynote speaker:**

- Maryse Condé (Professor Emerita, Columbia U.)

*“Between Hope and Reality: Is there such a thing as a Black World?”*

Moderators:    Cilas Kemedjio (Modern Languages & Cultures, U. of Rochester) and Juliana-Nfah Abbenyi (English, North Carolina State U.)

6:00-7:00pm    **Reception, Hawkins-Carlson Room**

7:30pm      **Garth Fagan Dance** (for conference participants and Moderators)

## Saturday, December 4, 2010 - Hawkins-Carlson Room

10:30am-12:00pm **Session 4: African-Americans and the “Come Back to Africa”: a critical appraisal**

- Lisa Aubrey (African & African American Studies and Political Science, Arizona State U.)

*“African-Americans in the African Imagination: Figments, Feigns, Foreigners, Facts”*

- Cilas Kemedjio (Modern Languages & Cultures, U. of Rochester)

*“Maryse Condé and Her Afrocentric Sisters: Deconstructing “romantic black nationalism”’s invention of Africa”*

Moderator:    Larry Hudson (History, U. of Rochester)

12:00-1:00pm    **Lunch break, Hawkins-Carlson Room**

1:00-3:00pm    **Session 5: Musical Mediations in Diasporic Encounters**

- Tejumola Olaniyan (English, U. of Wisconsin, Madison)

*“Fela Kuti’s Black America”*

Célestin Monga, World Bank

*“The New Ethics of Looting: Shakira, Michael Jackson and others in the Age of Plagiarism”*

- Lydie Moudileno (Romance Languages, U. of Pennsylvania)

*“Representing African-Americans in the African Imagination: New Perspectives in Black Diasporic Studies”*

Moderator:    Jeff Tucker (English, U. of Rochester)

4:00-6:00pm    **FDI Reception** (Meliora Salon D)