

PRESIDENT  
Karyn Ball  
University of Alberta

VICE-PRESIDENT  
Hosam Aboul-Ela  
University of Houston

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT  
Huda Fakhreddine  
University of Pennsylvania

SECRETARY-  
TREASURER  
Dina Al-Kassim  
University of British  
Columbia

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER  
Danielle Marie

PAST PRESIDENT  
Karen Emmerich  
Princeton University

NOMINATIONS  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Anthony Alessandrini  
CUNY

FINANCE  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Eyal Amiran  
University of California, Irvine

PROGRAM  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Jini Kim Watson  
New York University

PUBLICATIONS  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Harris Feinsod  
Northwestern University

CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Tze-Lan Sang  
Michigan State University

ADPCL REPRESENTATIVE  
Luis Fernando Restrepo

GRADUATE STUDENT  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Ipek Sahinler  
University of Texas at Austin

GRADUATE  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE  
Haider Shahbaz  
University of California Los Angeles

## The René Wellek Prize (best book in comparative literature)

### Committee:

- Chair: Jeremy Glick (Hunter College): 2023-2026
- Jing Tsu (Yale): 2024-2027
- Anna Bernard (King's College London): 2025-2028

Edited Collection Winner: Marlene L. Daut and Kaiama L. Glover, *A History of Haitian Literature* (Cambridge University Press, 2024)

Marlene L. Daut and Kaiama L. Glover's comprehensive, erudite, and sprawling *A History of Haitian Literature* constitutes probably the first "full-scale history of Haitian literature published in the English language" (1). Its expanse moves from pre-revolutionary experiments in theatre, opera, and written texts, nineteenth-century abolitionist pamphleteering, revolutionary reasonings and responses to a multiple century palimpsest of colonial and military occupations and attendant resistance sequences. The authors in this outstanding collection mine literary and performative archives and events that explore what the editors name as "the twinned matters of storytelling and sovereignty" in Haitian literary contexts related to the "seemingly endless challenge of self-determination" (1). Haitian authors respond "to the incursions of North Atlantic imperialism" and "the predatory economic, social, and political practices of their former colonizer, France". (1) Daut and Glover's collection actualizes Gina Athena Ulysse's clarion call for "new narratives" for Haiti by meticulously collected meditations on the country's rich literary/performative/textual history. The essays collected here worry and poke large holes in an imperialist centuries long claim that Haiti's literary production is derivative of French models. At the same time, the authors carefully situate Haitian letters in their necessary "global political context". In a sense, *A History of Haitian Literature* rewrites a variant on the dialectic of singular, particular, and universal showing how Haitian Letters in its particularly were always already internationalist. *A History of Haitian Literature* extends its disciplinary reach to consider the centrality of anthropology for generations of insurgent Haitian writers and revolutionary cultural workers. Questions of language—Haitian Creole (Kreyòl), theatrical performance, the interweaving of governance documents with poetics, avant-garde movements in production and curation, revolutionary and pre-revolutionary periodical culture, the novel form, and an assemblage of concepts cohere to form the discrete, yet interdependent scholarly meditations in the volume's twenty-eight chapters. Émeric Bergeaud's 1859 novel *Stella*, the literary production, anthropological-curatorial activism, and revolutionary Marxist political activity of Jacques Roumain, "The Zombi as Episteme in Haitian Prose Fiction", Kettly Mars's novel *Je suis vivant's* (with a little help from Audre Lorde's) political erotics constitute just a few of the generative topics explored in these pages. In 1948, referring to the aesthetic and transformative force of Haitian painting, André Breton signed the guest book of Haiti's *Le Centre d'Art* concluding his provocation: *des épauettes de Dessalines ventilera le monde* (with the epaulets of Dessalines it will ventilate the world). Daut and Glover's essential collection via its attendant care to the rich history and unfolding sequence of Haitian Letters extend Breton's sense of scale making crystal clear—Haitian Literature is the world.