



Politics of Memory: Making Slavery Visible in the Public Space (Routledge Studies in Cultural History)

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The public memory of slavery and the Atlantic slave trade, which some years ago could be observed especially in North America, has slowly emerged into a transnational phenomenon now encompassing Europe, Africa, and Latin America, and even Asia – allowing the populations of African descent, organized groups, governments, non-governmental organizations and societies in these different regions to individually and collectively update and reconstruct the slave past.

This edited volume examines the recent transnational emergence of the public memory of slavery, shedding light on the work of memory produced by groups of individuals who are descendants of slaves. The chapters in this book explore how the memory of the enslaved and slavers is shaped and displayed in the public space not only in the former slave societies but also in the regions that provided captives to the former American colonies and European metropolises. Through the analysis of exhibitions, museums, monuments, accounts, and public performances, the volume makes sense of the political stakes involved in the phenomenon of memorialization of slavery and the slave trade in the public sphere.

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Editorial Review

Review

"One of the most successful aspects of the collection is the continued focus on the complexities and ambiguities of memory. If memories vibrate internationally, then it is our job as practitioners and scholars of memory to keep mapping--in both local and global senses--the ways that slavery is represented, contested, complicated, understood, ignored, and commemorated in the public space. *Politics of Memory* is a wonderful beginning to this shamefully overdue project." Chris Lloyd [H-Memory, H-Net Reviews, May 2013]

"Collectively, we are only just beginning to reflect critically on public representations of race slavery. Better late than never. This lively anthology from a new generation of commentators helps us peer into Pandora's Box with fresh eyes. *Politics of Memory* is distinctive for the rich diversity of the authors and for its wide geographical sweep." – Peter H. Wood, Professor Emeritus, Duke University and author of *Near Andersonville: Winslow Homer's Civil War*

"While there has been much work on re-discovering the historical accounts of slavery, this book is an important addition to scholarship that analyses the reasons for this - the call by descendants of slaves and those with collective memory of slavery for their histories to rank in the national and global story of slavery. *Politics of Memory* is an excellent account of this." - Stephen Gapps, *Historical Dialogues*

About the Author

Ana Lucia Araujo is Professor in the Department of History at Howard University, USA. She is author of *Romantisme tropical: l'aventure illustrée d'un peintre français au Brésil* (2008) and *Public Memory of Slavery: Victims and Perpetrators in the South Atlantic* (2010). She edited *Living History: Encountering the Memory of the Heirs of Slavery* (2009) and *Paths of the Atlantic Slave Trade: Interactions, Identities, and Images* (2011) and co-edited *Crossing Memories: Slavery and African Diaspora*. (2011)

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