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Re-imagining the Guyanas

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French Guyane, Guyana and Suriname are not often focused on. Sometimes French Guyane is believed to be an island, and one often wonders where Guyana is situated, or Suriname. This collection of essays aims to increase the visibility of the Guyanas and more particularly of the three countries mentioned above. It also means to contribute to scholarship already published and share the knowledge across various disciplinary fields. It will question the traditional divide between disciplines as the best way to approach such complex territories that contain many geographies, histories, languages and cultures. Moving away from simplistic and binary perspectives, the contributors of the volume address these questions that revisit colonial and postcolonial identities, and the porosity between their borders. What can the Guyanas do for us and what can we do for them? Creative and academic writers such as Gaiutra Bahadur, Sonja Boon, Janette Bulkan, Juanita Cox, Tim Cribb, Cyril Dabydeen, Charles Forsdick, Lisa Katharina Grund, Kathleen Gyssels, Natalie Hopkinson, Ateeka Khan, Sinah Kloß, Michael Mitchell, Gabriel Cambraia Neiva, Clem Seecharan, Janice Lowe Shinebourne, explore their Guyanas and others’.

La Guyane française, le Guyana et le Suriname ne sont pas souvent au centre des intérêts de tout un chacun. Parfois la Guyane française est prise pour une île et on se demande souvent où sont situés le Guyana ou le Suriname. Les essais réunis dans ce volume ont pour but d’augmenter la visibilité des Guyanes, et plus particulièrement des trois pays mentionnés. L’intention est aussi d’enrichir la recherche déjà publiée et de partager les connaissances de façon interdisciplinaire. Ce volume s’efforcera de mettre en question la division traditionnelle entre les champs universitaires : une telle division est-elle le meilleur moyen d’approcher des territoires si complexes, aux géographies, histoires, langues et cultures si multiples ? S’éloignant d’une approche binaire qui serait simpliste, les auteurs du volume réexaminent ces questions qui touchent aux identités coloniales et postcoloniales, et à la porosité de leurs frontières. Que nous apportent les Guyanes et que pouvons-nous leur apporter ? Écrivains et universitaires tels que Gaiutra Bahadur, Sonja Boon, Janette Bulkan, Juanita Cox, Tim Cribb, Cyril Dabydeen, Charles Forsdick, Lisa Katharina Grund, Kathleen Gyssels, Natalie Hopkinson, Ateeka Khan, Sinah Kloß, Michael Mitchell, Gabriel Cambraia Neiva, Clem Seecharan, Janice Lowe Shinebourne explorent leurs Guyanes et celles des autres.

KEY WORDS : Ecotones, French Guyane, Guyana, Suriname, migration, indentured labour

MOTS-CLÉS : Ecotones, Guyane française, Guyana, Suriname, migration, travail engagé.

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