

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
BLOOMINGTON

IU's Institute for Advanced Study
Visiting Fellow Lecture
presented in collaboration with
The Black Film Center/Archive and
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Dr. Jane Bryce
Professor Emerita of African Literature and Cinema
University of the West Indies, Cave Hill



Queering Omeros: Isaac Julien's *Encore: Paradise Omeros Redux*

The dominant reaction in the Caribbean to homosexuality in forms of popular culture such as dancehall and hiphop is one of uncomprehending rejection. In the documentary, *The Darker Side of Black* (1994), Isaac Julien critiques the vilification of homosexuality. Is Julien, a London-based artist of West Indian parentage with an interest in representing the implications of that heritage for himself, "relevant" to a Caribbean audience? Or does his work remain exclusively within the purview of Black British cultural agendas and/or an elite artistic community? As a way to begin thinking about these questions I offer a brief sequence of his work to date, followed by a close-up on one short film, *Encore: Paradise Omeros Redux*.

Born in Tanzania, Jane Bryce was educated there, in the UK and in Nigeria. She has published cultural and literary criticism in a range of academic journals and essay collections, specializing in African and Caribbean popular and contemporary fiction, representations of gender, cinema (with special interest in Nollywood), and visual culture. Formerly a freelance journalist and fiction editor, she is also a creative writer and a founding editor of *Poui: Cave Hill Journal of Creative Writing*. She was director of the Barbados Festival of African and Caribbean Film (2002-07) and Barbados curator of the St. Louis-based Africa World Documentary Film Festival (2009-2016).

Thursday, September 28th, 2017
3:30 p.m.
IAS Seminar Room

Dr. Bryce's lecture is open to the IU community and the general public.

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