Let’s Talk About the Humanities

Self-Fashioning, Resistance, & Resilience: Lessons From Our Literary and Activist Foremothers
September 28, 2022 at 1PM ET

with Donna Aza Weir-Soley
President of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars &
Associate Professor of English at Florida International University

This talk will be a retrospective on the lives and work of Sojourner Truth, Audre Lorde and Jamaican Creole Poet, Louise Bennett-Coverley, three Black women whose creative and scholarly activism have shaped the speaker's identity as a poet-scholar with a commitment to equity, justice, autonomy and creative exploration of the “self under construction.” All three women resisted attempts of the dominant culture to define and limit their selfhood and found ways to extend their influence beyond the limitations of race, gender, color, sexuality, culture, class and religion. This talk will highlight some of the ways in which their example and influence have helped to shape the speaker’s thinking, their work (as professor, scholar and mentor), and their complex identity as an educator, mother, poet and self-determined woman from working class Jamaican roots.

The Spanish Legacy: From Creole Patriotism to Chicano Power
November 15, 2022 at 1 PM ET

with Ignacio Martínez
Associate Professor of History and Ph.D Program Director at the
University of Texas El Paso

This webinar will provide an overview of Spain and The Hispanic World. The central aim of this project is to analyze and interpret the modern legacy of Spain throughout Hispanic-America by identifying major ideological and historical turning points over the past five-hundred years. For some, the relationship between Spain and Hispanic-America was seen as positive and emotionally enriching, for others Spain was deemed the main source of cultural and economic backwardness. This talk will discuss some of the difficulties involved in producing this type of nuanced research and will offer suggestions on ways to conduct historical scholarship that is direct and honest and yet mindful of historical trauma.

All talks are free to the general public and will be held virtually on Zoom. For more information, please visit: https://cmsi.gse.rutgers.edu/humanities-talks