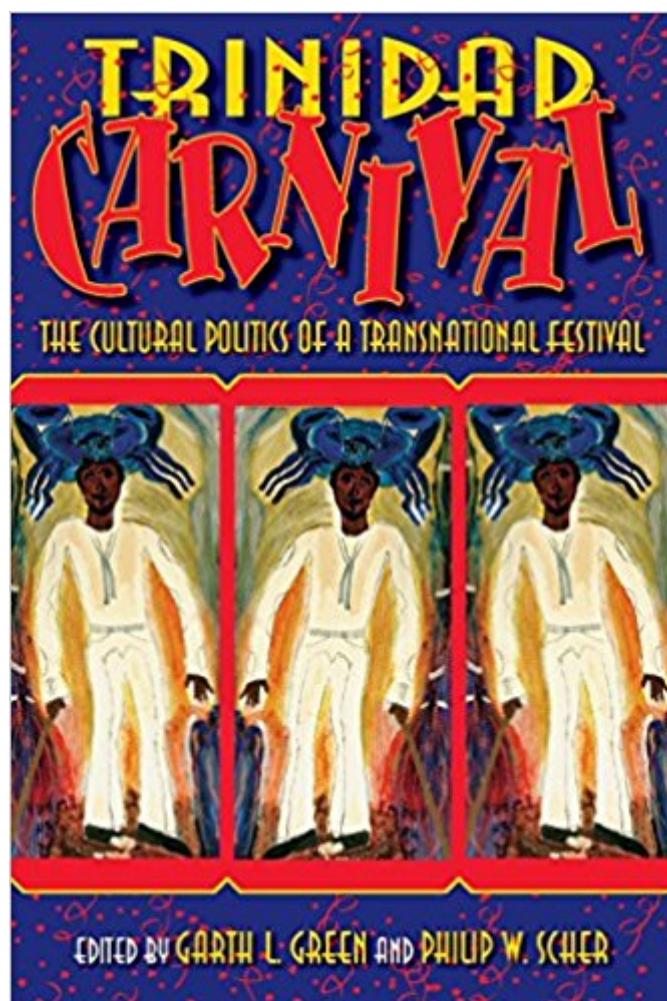


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Trinidad Carnival: The Cultural Politics Of A Transnational Festival



Synopsis

Like many Caribbean nations, Trinidad has felt the effects of globalization on its economy, politics, and expressive culture. Even Carnival, once a clandestine folk celebration, has been transformed into a major transnational festival. In *Trinidad Carnival*, Garth L. Green, Philip W. Scher, and an international group of scholars explore Carnival as a reflection of the nation and culture of Trinidad and Trinidadians worldwide. The nine essays cover topics such as women in Carnival, the politics and poetics of Carnival, Carnival and cultural memory, Carnival as a tourist enterprise, the steelband music of Carnival, Calypso music on the world stage, Carnival and rap, and Carnival as a global celebration. For readers interested in the history and current expression of Carnival, this volume offers a multidimensional and transnational view of Carnival as a representation of Trinidad and Caribbean culture everywhere. Contributors are Robin Balliger, Shannon Dudley, Pamela R. Franco, Patricia A. de Freitas, Ray Funk, Garth L. Green, Donald R. Hill, Lyndon Phillip, Victoria Razak, and Philip W. Scher.

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"... provides interesting and thought provoking reading.... [I]t would be valuable for higher level students at university and researchers who have a keen interest in transnational festivals and cultural tourism." — Donna Chambers, University of Surrey, *Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events*, Vol. 1.2 2009 "... this book is a must-read for scholars and fans of West Indian culture and particularly Trinidad Carnival and its visual and musical components. It

delivers a vast field of information from both a deep historical as well as a contemporary perspective." *Journal of American Folklore*, October 2009 "[The] editors... have assembled a fine collection of articles that examine the Trinidad Carnival as well as its transnational offshoots.... Through a thoughtful review of existing literature they persuasively argue for theoretical and methodological approaches that are sensitive to the multivalent nature of Carnival." *The World of Music*, 51 (2), 2009 "Anyone wishing to explore tradition, authenticity, community, identity, nation and transnation will be rewarded by reading this volume." *Western Folklore* "[E]ditors Garth L. Green and Philip W. Scher have gathered a thought-provoking collection of essays that extend our understanding of Trinidadian festivals and festival arts at home and abroad." *Journal of American Folklore* "... Tracking the various forces that historically and contemporarily shape Carnival as event, ideology, national culture, and commodity, the essays in Trinidad Carnival never view Carnival through a single analytical lens. Indeed, they never yield a picture of a singular Carnival, a particular mas player. Rather, they show how 'specific Carnivals, specific masqueraders, and specific Carnival controversies are in motion, are well-traveled and circulate through the population not just of Trinidadians, but of Caribbean people everywhere, defining their Caribbean-ness while helping to change those definitions as new contexts arise' (Green and Scher 23)." *Anthropological Quarterly* "This collection of essays is a fascinating look at contemporary Carnival as... a national and transnational institution. Many of the essays would be useful for readers interested in transnational movement of music and festivals, as well as in Carnival and the Caribbean specifically." *Journal of Folklore Research*, August 25, 2009 "Green and Scher carefully selected essays for this collection that reflect the identity crisis within the parent Trinidadian carnival, while paying special attention to the transnationalism of the offspring carnivals spread throughout the globe... [T]his collection initiates a discussion of how the ideology of national cultural forms is affected locally by global forces. Moreover, this essay collection examines the process by which carnival fosters and adapts to the changing nature of Caribbeaness on a global scale." **NOTES: QTLY JRL MUSIC LIB ASSN**

Explores Carnival as a global celebration. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

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