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When the Empire Bites Back: Food Fun and Fking for Discerning Tourists**

The connection between how the Caribbean is viewed and how it is consumed is not merely discursive. The Caribbean region became a location of desire for tourist at precisely the same moment that consumer goods from the region were increasingly sought after. Krista Thompson charts the processes involved in turning what had viewed/seen as zone of “tropical death” into a location where the mercantile elite could both increase their wealth and flaunt it, all while also acquiring a tremendous amount of cultural capital in the process. Ironically, food, or more specifically fruits, were an essential element in this shift in the visual economy of the region. Laurent Cantet’s Heading South (2005) manages to combine both characterizations of the Caribbean. Adapted from three short stories by Danny Leferrère, Heading South presents Haiti as a proverbial sexual playground for three middle-aged white women on holiday. My critique of the film is aimed specifically at linking the patterns of visual consumption developed during the colonial era to contemporary manifestations of what Krista Thompson refers to as the “visual economy” that informs consumer expectations, desires and experiences in the Caribbean.