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Of Masks and Masquerades : Walcott, Chamoiseau and the Construct of a Creole Imaginary

In this essay I will examine the texts Texaco by Patrick Chamoiseau and Dream on Monkey Mountain by Derek Walcott. I will compare how Walcott and Chamoiseau explore the dialectics that exist between Caribbean people who express a strong cultural identification with Africa and others in authority who seek to maintain the colonial order. Further I will examine how, through a counter discursive stratagem highly influenced by the anti-colonial theories of Franz Fanon, the writers uncover the masks of the harbingers of power in the postcolonial Caribbean and in the process construct a Creole imaginary that includes more predominantly the narratives of our African heritage.