CPI Welcomes the Summer 2020 Special Issue Influenced by Maya Angelou's Poem: "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"

In this CPI Special Issue (Vol. 12, No.1), invited Guest Editors, Cecille DePass, Enid Lee, Alleson Mason, and Sonia Aujla-Bhullar have collaborated to produce the largest CPI issue, to date. Very much like a migratory bird in flight, the issue crosses man-made and natural borders between the north and south. In doing so, the readers will note that the issue's catchment area is quite vast. The issue includes voices of more than 30 contributors who live in Canada, USA, Australia, New Zealand, as well as a refugee camp in Kenya. It is important to note, too, that some contributors are originally from or live in the Caribbean. As anticipated, most of the contributors speak (in different voices and different ways) to key concepts of oppression and freedom identified in Maya Angelou's (1993/1983) poem: "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings".

In the Introduction, Cecille DePass explains the issue's context and evolution. To quote Ali Abdi, Co-founder of CPI, the current and recent issues exemplify the spirit within which they brainstormed CPI, many years ago (personal communication). Divided into four major parts, **The First Part** ranges widely. It explores central issues, problems and complexities associated with culture and identity within the larger contexts of the enduring legacies of colonization. **The Second Part** analyzes key aspects of the links between pedagogy, the lived curriculum, the uses and abuses of power, and the impacts on the life chances of racialized people.

The Third Part continues to grapple with issues of oppression, freedom, resistance and resiliency. Furthermore, CPI readers will note that some beautiful Jamaican photographs from Emma Lewis' archives highlight core concepts in Maya Angelou's (1993/1983) poem. The photographs are included because they function as visual and inspirational introductions to the issue itself, as well as to specific parts and sections of what has developed into a truly thought-provoking issue. Finally, CPI readers will note a recurring overarching theme, specifically, that all contributors explore central issues associated with postcoloniality in our contemporary world.

The Fourth Part is new. Timothy Reiss has written a comprehensive obituary to the world renowned, poet and historian, Kamau Brathwaite. Reiss' detailed tribute captures Brathwaite's history and flags his eventful life journeys from Barbados, to England, to Ghana, the Caribbean and to the USA. It is likely that Kamau Brathwaite's works will continue to influence generations of academics and students. Because of severe constraints of time and space, Anne Hickling-Hudson's tribute to her brother will be published in the Fall 2020 issue. Interestingly, Fred Hickling is described as going beyond Fanon in terms of his practice and research.

A long held dream, since the journal's inception was that from time to time, CPI would include Research Reports. The two issues for 2020 include such reports. **The first Research Report**, by Abdiqani Ahmed Farah, analyzes the governance of tertiary educational institutions in Somalia.

Reference

Angelou, M. (1993/1983). I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings. Retrieved from:
<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/48989/caged-bird>

Future CPI Publications include the following:

In **Fall 2020** (Vol. 12, No. 2), **Nicholas Ng-A-Fook with Carol Lee and Hembadoon Iyortyer Oguanobi**, at the University of Ottawa, will produce an international issue entitled: “Living Stories of Migrancy: Exile, Unconditional Hospitality and Transnational Citizenship”. The Ottawa team has garnered some very exciting work. By Spring 2020, the University of Ottawa team received some 20 submissions. The Fall 2020 issue promises to be another stellar CPI issue.

Under Discussion:

- (i) In **Summer 2021** (Vol. 13, No. 1), **Kathleen Sitter** will produce an international issue concerning multiple sensory ways of teaching and learning. The Call for Submissions will be published in CPI, Vol. 12, No. 2, 2020. To date, Dr. Sitter has received very strong interest from several potential contributors who wish to submit their work.
- (ii) In **Fall 2021** (Vol. 13, No. 2), **Veronika Bohac-Clarke** will produce an international issue entitled: “Beauty and the Beast: Using creative expression to envision a just society amid post-truth politics, pandemic and climate change”. See Call for Submissions in this issue for details.
- (iii) In **Summer 2022** (Vol. 14, No. 1), **Carol Lee**, University of Ottawa, and a team of academics, will produce an international issue which explores: Posthumanism: In educational and cultural frameworks. The Call for Submissions will be published in CPI, Vol. 12, No. 2, 2020.
- (iv) In **Fall 2022** (Vol. 14, No. 2), **Kim Koh**, University of Calgary, will lead an international editorial team to produce a Special Issue: “All that Glitters is not Gold: Culturally response online assessment and pedagogy in uncertain times”. See Call for Submissions in this issue for details.
- (v) In **Summer 2023** (Vol. 15, No. 1), **Tiffany Prete**, University of Alberta, and a group of Indigenous academics will produce an international issue which will follow up some of the overarching themes presented in CPI, Vol. 10, No. 2, 2018.

CPI’s Book Reviews:

Due to the size of the Summer 2020 issue, there are no Book Reviews published in this issue. Book Reviews will be published in the Fall 2020 issue (Vol. 12, No. 2). Individuals willing to review books for CPI should see the Call for Book Reviewers (CPI, Vol. 9, No. 2, 2017) and contact Dr. Kathy Sitter, University of Calgary, CPI Book Review Editor.

Invitations and Caveats:

CPI welcomes proposals to develop special issues, and to create additional eBooks in the **Legacy Series**, introduced in Winter 2019.

Although CPI publishes some works that tend to be critical of the existing status quo, the journal is committed to publishing pieces that portray hope for a better future for all and not for a few of us. To this end, CPI promotes the vision of a fairer, more equitable and a just world documented in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Furthermore, CPI supports a dream that is/was espoused and practised by, for example: Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Paulo Freire, Kofi Anan, Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, Toni Morrison, Maya Angelou, bell hooks, Vandana Shiva, Kamu Brathwaite, and Rosemary Brown, to name a few.

Contributions published in CPI do not necessarily express the perspectives and considered opinions of the CPI Editorial Board, its founding Editors, Reviewers and Production Team.

Every effort has been made to identify and seek permission from the copyright holders, especially for the photographs included in this issue, however, if any copyrights have been inadvertently overlooked, please contact the respective author(s) and CPI will make the necessary changes.

Reminders:

- (i) CPI invites its Editorial Board, readers and contributors to share information regarding, recent research, publications and accomplishments.
- (ii) CPI continues to welcome contributions from/by academics in the south and north in the fields of: literature, humanities, social sciences, arts, and of course, in education.
- (iii) CPI requests that any future publication, exhibition, or performance of specific work published in the journal, kindly acknowledges its prior publication in CPI.

Arrivals and Departures:

CPI welcomes and looks forward to **Nicholas Ng A-Fook and his team's** major Special Issue: "Living Stories of Migrancy: Exile, Unconditional Hospitality and Transnational Citizenship" to be published in Fall 2020.

Lorna Goodison, Jamaican Canadian poet and author who has published her novels and poetry (for a considerable number of years), has received the 2019 Queen's Gold Medal for poetry. The award for excellence is given to poets in the United Kingdom and the British Commonwealth. In the past, Goodison has received several awards. For example, in 2008, she was the recipient of the B.C. National Award for Canadian nonfiction, for her book: "From Harvey River". As importantly, Goodison has received Yale University's Windham Campbell Literature Prize, and she was a finalist for the Trillium Book Award and the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-fiction.

In January 2020, **Cyril Dabydeen** (former Ottawa Poet Laureate and professor at Carleton University), was awarded the Canute A. Brodhurst Prize for the best short fiction for: "How Far Do We Go?" The work was published in Vol. 33, 2019 of *The Caribbean Writer*. Dabydeen, a prolific writer of poetry and short stories, has published extensively. His recent books include:

Cultural and Pedagogical Inquiry, Summer 2020, 12(1), pp. i-v
 ISSN 1916-3460 © 2020 University of Alberta
<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/cpi/index>

“My Undiscovered Country”, 2017 (Mosaic Press) and “God’s Spider”, 2015 (Peepal Tree Press). In 2016, CPI published one of Cyril Dabydeen’s anthologies of poems: “Myth-making from Margin to Centre” (Vol. 8, No. 1).

Departures:

World-renowned, **Professor Emeritus, Kamau Brathwaite (1930-2020)** was born Lawson Edward Brathwaite in Bridgetown, Barbados. Kamau Brathwaite was educated at Cambridge University and completed his PhD at the University of Sussex. Brathwaite worked in Ghana in the 1950s, and later taught at the University of the West Indies and in the USA. For some 20 years, he was an esteemed professor in Comparative Literature at New York University (NYU). For the comprehensive obituary, please see Timothy J. Reiss’ **Tribute** in this issue.

The internationally known, Jamaican Psychiatrist, **Fred Hickling (1944-2020)** passed away suddenly. See Anne Hickling-Hudson’s **Tribute** to her brother in the CPI Fall 2020 issue.

For more than 60 years, **Roy Little Chief (1938-2020)** was a well-known activist who fought for the rights of Canada’s First Nations and Indigenous People. In the late 1970s, Little Chief was critical of systemic racism in the Calgary Police force and RCMP. A former student of a residential school, he became an active member of the National Residential Schools Survivors Society and lobbied for reparations for its survivors. Roy Little Chief advocated for the creation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). (Justice Murray Sinclair, Commissioner, TRC, tabled its findings and recommendations to the Government of Canada in Summer 2015). As the Chief (1981-1983) of the Siksika Nation and an Elder, Roy Little Chief will be remembered (Google).

Trained under Mexico’s Diego Rivera, the artist, **Antonio Gonzalez Orozco (1933-2020)** created two of the murals in the National Palace in Mexico City. His work was exhibited in Mexico and internationally (Google).

Joseph Echols Lowery (1921-2020). A Methodist minister and peace activist, Rev. Lowery worked with Martin Luther King Jr., and was an organizer for peace marches in Selma and Birmingham, Alabama, during the civil rights era. Lowery was a founder of the Southern Leadership Conference (a civil rights organization) with Martin Luther King Jr. He also led protests for: civil rights in South Africa (before apartheid was abolished), and for peace in the Middle East. In 2009, Rev. Lowery was awarded the Medal of Freedom by former President Barak Obama (Google).

John Lewis, civil rights activist and democratic Congressman for some three decades, has passed away at 80 years. Described as ‘the conscience of the democratic caucus’, Congressman Lewis was the last survivor of the “Big Six” civil rights leaders who included Martin Luther King Jr. They organized, for example, the freedom rides in 1961, the instrumental 1963 March on Washington, DC, for jobs and freedom that pressured the J. F. Kennedy administration to initiate the Civil Rights Bill. After many years of advocacy, Lewis won the authorization for the construction of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African-American History and Culture. It was opened in 2016 by former President Barak Obama. (See Laurence I. Barrett’s article in the

Washington Post, July 17, 2020, entitled: “John Lewis, front-line civil rights leader and eminence of Capitol Hill, dies at 80”, for a detailed obituary (Google).

The Guardian (International Edition), as well as the *New York Caribbean News* have reported that the **UN High Commission for Human Rights**, stated that in 2019, some 107 human rights defenders were murdered in Colombia. They were advocates for the human rights of community-based organizations, as well as for specific ethnic groups such as, Colombia’s Indigenous peoples and African-Colombians. In 2018, 115 human rights advocates were murdered in Colombia (Google).

We thank the Guest Editors, Contributors, international and national External Reviewers, the Senior Journal Manager and the Desktop Publisher, for all of their voluntary work to produce CPI’s massive 2020 Summer issue.

Very best wishes to the CPI readers for the northern hemisphere summer and the southern hemisphere winter as we learn to live with the Covid-19 global pandemic and its consequences.

Cecille DePass and Ali Abdi
CPI Editors and Founders