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By James Houk



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Examines the historical forces that have transformed Orisha from a relatively simple religion in colonial Trinidad to an abstruse mix of belief, ritual, and symbolism. The voices of worshippers and Orisha leaders spring to life the intensity and power of the religion.



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Editorial Review

Review

"When I began my work in Trinidad, I remained a curious bystander during the first summer of my fieldwork. When I returned for a year-long stay, I gradually moved into the active participant group. Finally, after my initiation and once I began serving as a drummer, I moved up. ...My movement from the fingers to near 'center stage' occurred as my knowledge of and experiences in the religion grew." -- James T. Houk, from Chapter 9 "This welcome study gives much needed attention to the various roots and influences within the Orisha complex in Trinidad and serves to establish James Houk as a leading scholar of African-Caribbean religions. Must reading for Trinidad specialists. Highly recommended." --Stephen D. Glaxier, University of Nebraska

From the Publisher

An anthropologist demystifies a fascinating, eclectic Caribbean religion

From the Author

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— James T. Houk, from Chapter 9

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