

Contents

- 13 *Random Thoughts* by E.A. MARKHAM

LOUISE BENNETT (b. 1919)

- 45 *Interview with Louise Bennett* by DENNIS SCOTT
51 Independence
52 South Parade Peddler
53 Jamaica Oman
55 Census
56 Uriah Preach
57 Speechify
58 Yuh Nephew Sue
60 Tan a Yuh Yard
61 Proverbs
62 Colonisation in Reverse

MARTIN CARTER (b. 1927)

- 66 *Interview with Martin Carter* by PETER TREVIS
72 *Conversations*
75 Do Not Stare at Me
75 Looking at Your Hands
76 Listening to the Land
77 University of Hunger
78 Till I Collect
79 Letter 3
79 On the Fourth Night of Hunger Strike
80 Death of a Comrade
80 Shape and Motion Two
82 Black Friday 1962
83 Who Can Share?
83 The Great Dark
84 Under a Near Sky
84 How Come?
85 My Hand in Yours
86 There Is No Riot
86 On the Death by Drowning of the Poet, Eric Roach

DEREK WALCOTT (b. 1930)

- 89 *Leaving School*
- 94 *Self Portrait*
- 95 Ruins of a Great House
- 96 Sea Canes
- 97 A Letter from Brooklyn
- 98 Mass Man
- 99 For the altar-piece of the Roseau Valley Church, St Lucia
- 102 *Another Life. Extract A: Chapter 1*
- 104 Parades, Parades
- 106 Preparing for Exile

EDWARD KAMAU BRATHWAITE (b. 1930)

- 109 *Rohlehr on Brathwaite*
- 117 *Timehri*
- 120 Wings of a Dove
- 124 Jah
- 125 Mont Blanc
- 128 Kingston in the kingdom of this world
- 130 Horse weebles
- 133 Stone

DENNIS SCOTT (b. 1939)

- 138 *Interview with Dennis Scott* by MERVYN MORRIS
- 142 Tricksong
- 142 Riversong
- 143 A family man
- 144 Weather report
- 144 Grampa
- 145 Hatch: or, The revolution viewed as an exploding library
- 146 Time piece
- 146 Time-slip
- 147 The infection
- 148 More poem
- 148 Dreadwalk
- 149 : for Joy
- 150 Sentry
- 150 Apocalypse Dub
- 151 Uncle Time
- 152 Construction
- 152 Guard-ring
- 154 Epitaph

MERVYN MORRIS (b. 1937)

- 157 *Riding Pillion with the Poet*
- 160 Nursery
- 160 Greatest Show on Earth
- 161 Case-History, Jamaica
- 161 Stripper
- 162 The Pond
- 163 Valley Prince
- 163 Meeting
- 164 One, Two
- 165 Journey into the Interior
- 165 Literary Evening, Jamaica
- 166 The Early Rebels
- 167 The House Slave
- 167 Young Widow, Grave
- 168 Love Story
- 168 Family Pictures
- 170 Peace-time
- 170 Terminal
- 171 I Am the Man
- 172 *From On Holy Week*

JAMES BERRY (b. 1924)

- 175 *Signpost of the Bluefoot Man*
- 178 Caribbean Proverbs Poems
- 179 Defendant in a Jamaican Court
- 180 Words of a Jamaican Laas Moment Them
- 180 What Is No Good
- 181 Ol Style Freedom
- 182 Fractured Circles
- 183 Lucy's Letter
- 185 Faces Around My Father
- 188 The Coming of Yams and Mangoes and Mountain Honey
- 189 Fantasy of an African Boy

E.A. MARKHAM (b. 1939)

- 193 *Many Voices, Many Lives*
- 197 The Boy of the House
- 197 This England?
- 197 Grandmotherpoem
- 199 Two Haiku
- 199 The Sea
- 200 *Lambchops: A Mugger's Game*

- 201 *Sally Goodman: Conversation Across Water*
- 201 *A Good Life Sonnet*
- 202 *Rendezvous*
- 202 *Love in the Hospital*
- 203 *The Mother's Tale*
- 205 *A Date on the Calendar*
- 206 *Letter to Kate*
- 207 *Long Lines from the Island*
- 208 *Hinterland*

OLIVE SENIOR (b. 1943)

- 212 *Interview with Olive Senior* by ANNA RUTHERFORD
- 217 *Birdshooting Season*
- 217 *Cockpit Country Dreams*
- 219 *Epitaph*
- 220 *Childhood*
- 221 *Hill Country*
- 222 *One Night, the Father*
- 224 *X*
- 224 *City Poem*
- 226 *rain*
- 226 *The Victim*
- 227 *The Lady*
- 228 *Drought*

LORNA GOODISON (b. 1947)

- 231 *A Far-Reaching Voice* by ANNE WALMSLEY
- 235 *For My Mother (May I Inherit Half Her Strength)*
- 238 *The Mulatta as Penelope*
- 238 *On Becoming a Mermaid*
- 239 *The Mulatta and the Minotaur*
- 240 *Keith Jarrett – Rainmaker*
- 241 *'Mine, O Thou Lord of Life, send my roots rain'*
- 242 *I Am Becoming My Mother*
- 242 *Nanny*
- 244 *For Rosa Parks*
- 244 *Bedspread*
- 246 *Heartease (I)*
- 247 *A Rosary of Your Names (II)*

LINTON KWESI JOHNSON (b. 1952)

- 250 *Interview with Linton Kwesi Johnson* by MERVYN MORRIS
262 Reggae Sounds
262 Dread Beat an' Blood
263 Bass Culture
264 Five Nights of Bleeding
266 Reggae fi Dada
269 Di Black Petty-Booshwah
270 Song of Rising
271 Di Great Insohreckshan

MICHAEL SMITH (1954-83)

- 275 *Interview with Michael Smith* by MERVYN MORRIS
284 Me Cyaan Believe It
287 I An I Alone
290 Give Me Little Dub Music
292 Say, Natty-Natty

GRACE NICHOLS (b. 1950)

- 296 *Home Truths*
299 Those Women
 From I is a long memoried woman:
299 *Extract from I is a long memoried woman*
300 Night is her Robe
301 Sugar Cane
303 Epilogue
 From The Fat Black Woman's Poems:
303 The Fat Black Woman's Motto on Her Bedroom Door
304 Tropical Death
305 The Fat Black Woman's Instructions to a Suitor
305 Small Questions Asked by the Fat Black Woman
 . . .
306 Island Man
306 Shopping
307 Winter Thoughts
308 Two Old Black Men on a Leicester Square Park Bench
309 Be a Butterfly
310 Never Enough
310 Possession
311 Because She Has Come

FRED D'AGUIAR (b. 1960)

- 314 *Zigzag Paths*
- 317 *From* Mama Dot
- 317 Oracle Mama Dot
- 318 Angry Mama Dot
- 318 Obeah Mama Dot
- 319 Mama Dot's Treatise
- 320 Mama Dot Warns Against an Easter Rising
- 321 Mama Dot Learns to Fly
- 322 *From* Farewell Mama Dot
- 322 Papa-T
- 323 Masquerade
- 324 Airy Hall
- 324 Airy Hall Barrier
- 325 Airy Hall Iconography
- 326 Airy Hall Dynasty
- 327 Airy Hall Ward
- 327 The Cow Perseverance

- 329 *Acknowledgements*