

Beyond Calypso: New Perspectives on Samuel Selvon

Warwick University Yesu Persaud Centre for
Caribbean Studies 2 July 2011

Featured speakers: *Professor Kenneth Ramchand*
(*University of Trinidad and Tobago*),
Dr. Alison Donnell (*Reading*) and
Poet Vahni Capildeo (*Kingston*)

Samuel Selvon is one of the Caribbean's most widely-read, popular and influential novelists, one whose works have, as early as their first publication, been granted classic status. While the author's significance is undeniable, historically Selvon's oeuvre has been read primarily to seek its insight into the lived experience of the Windrush generation, or its replication of the tropes and techniques of calypso. Selvon's work, though, has much more to offer than this. While expressing a strong, Caribbean-centred cultural identity, his writing demonstrates a perceptiveness that extends wider than its immediate context.

Beyond Calypso will explore the full richness of Selvon's writing. In advance of the sixtieth anniversary of the author's first novel, *A Brighter Sun*, in 2012, this one-day event will draw together new perspectives on Samuel Selvon in order to celebrate his contribution to Caribbean, British and postcolonial literatures.

In addition to academic papers, Beyond Calypso will feature Selvon's readings of his own work restored from the Centre for Caribbean Studies's sound archives as well as readings from creative writers inspired by Selvon's legacy.

To find out more and register for the conference, please visit:
www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/ccs/events/selvon/



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