

LITFEST PRESENTERS, 2013

ADRIAN AUGIER



Source: www.ansacaribbeanawards.com

Adrian Augier, a St. Lucian, is very versatile. He is a development economist by training, but he is also an artist, poet, and a carnival designer. He is co-founder of St. Lucia's Lighthouse Theatre and of the Creative Arts centre. He has written and produced several musicals and plays (Hewannorah, Anthem, L'esperance).

In 2009, he received the Cacique award for Development and integration of Caribbean Theatre, and in 2010, the Caribbean Laureate award for Arts and Letters .

He is the recipient of an honorary doctorate from UWI, and also of the prestigious SABGA award. Currently, he is Secretary General to St Lucia's National Economic Council. He has worked as Development consultant to UNCTAD, and to US AID.

DORBRENE O'MARDE



Source: www.wadadlipen.wordpress.com

Dorbrene O'Marde is Antiguan. He has devoted several years working as director, producer, songwriter, and lobbyist, for the Performing Arts.. He has written and produced five full-length

plays, and directed several African and Caribbean plays in Antigua and Barbuda. His work in the calypso arena includes songwriting; producing and editing the very popular calypso magazine “calypso talk”, and hosting of the radio series by the same name. He is the recipient of the “Friends of the Arts Sunshine Award.”

Some of his plays are “Fly on the Wall”, “Tangled Web”; “For real”.

VONNIE ROUDETTE



Source: www.flickr.com

Vonnie Roudette has a very chequered history. She is of Caribbean and British parentage, spent her childhood in Ghana and Nigeria, but received her secondary and tertiary education in the UK. She spent 3 years at a University in Japan, after which she worked for a short period with a designer in Japan, before returning to England where she was employed as an Art lecturer at Manchester University.

She currently teaches an Associate degree course in fine art and design and A level art at St. Vincent Community College. (She is a certified farmer)
Theatre design, film, and video are her specialties.

WHITNEY GREENAWAY



Source: www.reverbnation.com

Whitney is of Dominican parentage but was born in Florida. She spent her early years in Dominica where she received her primary and early secondary school education. She is a very popular award-winning Slam poet.

Whitney credits the development of her poetry skills to her grandmother in Dominica, who did not allow her to watch any television when she lived with her. She therefore read widely, and then realized she needed an outlet for her ideas and vocabulary, so she began experimenting with writing poems. When she returned to the US as a teenager, her poetry career took off. Later, she began taking part in Slam poetry competitions, and has showcased her work throughout New York. She placed 6th at the Women of the World Poetry Slam in 2012.

JANE ULYSSES GRELL



Source: www.janegrellstoryteller.com

Jane hails from the village of Delices in Dominica. She received her secondary education at the Convent High School, and her tertiary education in the USA, England and France. She settled in England where she taught for several years until she retired from teaching. It was early in her teaching career that she began using oral story telling to help develop children's literacy skills. She then began writing and performing her own work.

In the 1990's, she was seconded to the BBC School Radio to work in an advisory capacity on the multi-cultural content of its output . She has written and presented stories for school programmes, and has conducted several workshops for teachers and students on “writing and story-telling”. In June 2013, she launched a new book of poems, “Praise Songs”.

PHILLIP NANTON



Credit: www.commonwealthwriters.com

Philip Nanton, a Vincentian, is an Associate Fellow at the Centre for Caribbean Studies, University of Warwick. He is a poet, short story writer, dramatist and producer of several radio documentaries. His creative work appears in anthologies, and has been broadcast over BBC radio.

He works as a free lance researcher on the Caribbean, and he is also a visiting lecturer at the centre for West- African studies at the University of Birmingham, UK.

ALEX GIL



Source: www.twitter.com/elotroalex

Dr. Alex Gil is a Caribbeanist scholar whose work explores the building of Caribbean cultural history through digital means. He specializes in scholarship on Aimé Césaire and on digital humanities. He has done research on Césaire's manuscripts and the changing versions of the author's publications across the world. He will present some of his findings with a panel of other scholars at the festival. Dr. Gil is currently the Digital Humanities Coordinator at Columbia University Library. Originally from Dominican Republic, he now resides in New York City.

PHILLIP "BLACK SAGE" MURRAY

Phillip Murray of Trinidad, whose stage name is Black sage, will be a presenter. His specialty is composing and singing calypsos extemporaneously. He is given a topic on stage, and right there he composes and sings a calypso on the given topic. He has won the Extempore crown 3 times, and has appeared at several festivals to showcase his talent.

We hope he will be able to conduct a workshop for our calypsonians, as well as perform.

RESEAU POETIQUE DE LA GUADELOUPE

This vibrant and energetic group delighted many last year with their singing, dancing, and drumming. They have agreed to return this year.

LENNOX HONYCHURCH has had a captive audience each year, as he presents Through the use of power point, slides, film, aspects of Dominica's literary landscape. He will also make a presentation this year.

Excerpts will be read from the work of **ALICK LAZARE**, while **Dr Justin Fadipe** Will read from his poetry collection.

STUDENTS FROM THE PORTSMOUTH SECONDARY SCHOOL'S CHORAL SPEECH CLUB

As well as **BUDDING POETS AND SPANISH CLUB DANCE GROUP FROM THE DOMINICA STATE COLLEGE** will perform at the festival.

We have a group of young emerging poets who are also expected to perform.

AND OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH SHAUNA JOHNSON AND PRESENTING THIER WORK AT SESSIONS CALLED 'LYRICS UNDER THE STARS'