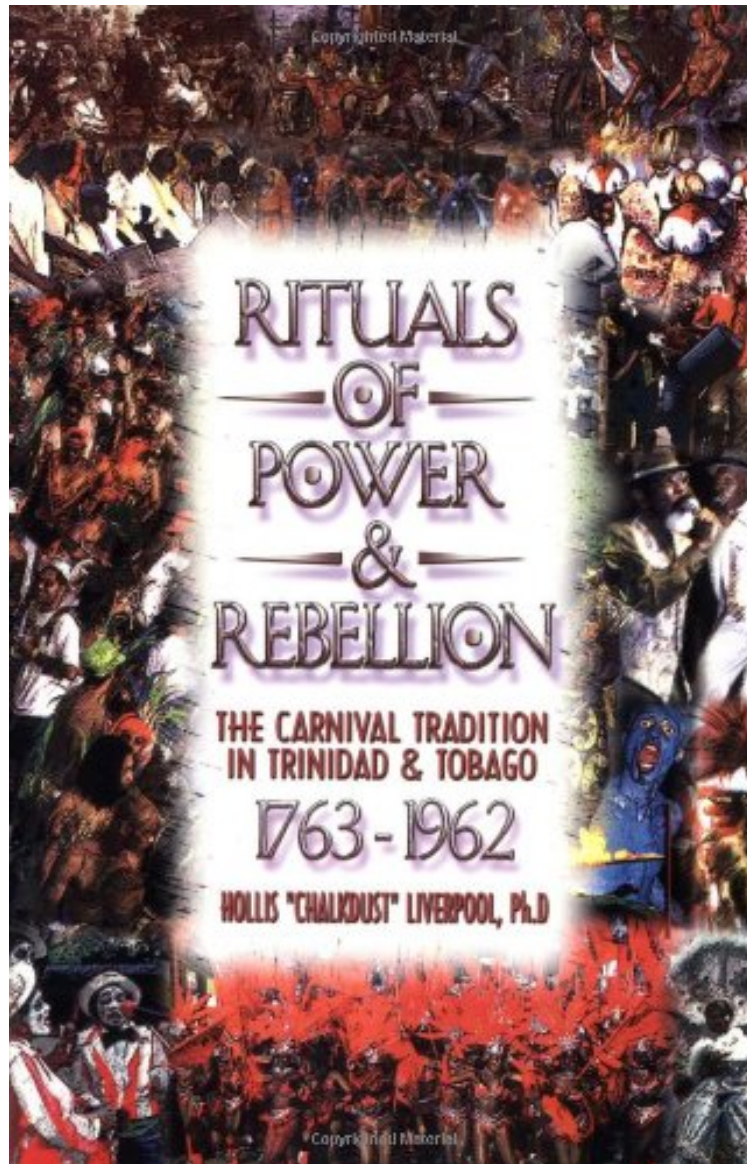


## Rituals of Power Rebellion: The Carnival Tradition in Trinidad Tobago, 1763-1962

*Hollis Chalkdust Liverpool*

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**Hollis Chalkdust Liverpool : Rituals of Power Rebellion: The Carnival Tradition in Trinidad Tobago, 1763-1962** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rituals of Power Rebellion: The Carnival Tradition in Trinidad Tobago, 1763-1962:

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review helpful. Total perfection!!By RosmoThis book is a total literary perfection. Dr. Liverpool does justice to the past, present and future of the history of our culture. Well done. The information within could have only been derived from lengthy research, patience and commitment.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Hollis Liverpool wrote an excellent academic book.By HenriettaBook Review.Prof. Hollis "Chalkdust" Liverpool,Rituals of Power Rebellion. The Carnival of Trinidad and Tobago 1763 - 1962. Chicago: Research Associates School Times Publications and Frontline Distribution Int'l Inc., 2001. ISBN 0-94839-080-8Dr. Hollis "Chalkdust" Liverpool has a natural talent for writing. The roots of the Carnival tradition, the history of calypso, the music, the dancing, and the masquerading date back to the place of origin, the homelands of the Africans, in the Western regions of Africa, before the period of slavery and forced migration to Trinidad. In the 18th and 19th century in Trinidad, the lyrics, the melodies, the tunes, the call/response style, everything related to calypso, were eventually affected by the Spiritual Baptists' arrival to Trinidad from the US. The Shango music and the African style of dancing from Africa were brought to Trinidad and Tobago by the slaves, and as a result of adaptation to their new environments, the Africans produced "the calypso". The Carnival and the calypso cannot be separated, for the Africans created their new style of masquerading and singing to vent their anger and frustrations from their oppression during their period of enslavement. "Rituals of Power and Rebellion" and the sequel "From the Horse's Mouth" are two books that go together and deserve recognition not only for the literary style, but for their authenticity as historical texts that shed light on a topic that few historians have discussed before. It is true that texts prior to these scholarly books were Eurocentric in their outlook. The Europeans style of masquerading was also brought by the French and others to Trinidad, but the survival of the Carnival tradition was mainly due to the Africans from Africa who created their new style of masquerading and singing in their new home in Trinidad and Tobago. Recently, Prof. Hollis "Chalkdust" Liverpool launched his book in Toronto, "From The Horse's Mouth: Stories of the history and development of the Calypso", published in Port of Spain, Trinidad: Juba Publications, 2003. ISBN 976-8194-13-8Dr. Hollis Liverpool is currently a Cultural Anthropologist and Assistant Professor of Social Sciences at the University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas. He is a Professor, a Calypsonian, an historian, a Calypso Monarch, a writer, an author of many books and has made suggestions in his book "From the Horse's Mouth" that the music and recordings of all the calypsonians from Trinidad and Tobago should be preserved for generations to come in the Archives. The Carnival and the calypso history are part of the culture of Trinbagonians and we must be proud to promote it as such. The birth of the T and T calypso has its own natural beauty. Dr. Liverpool says, and I put it succinctly, "If you don't buy a book for yourself, buy them for your children," and I agree with him. We must teach our kids the appropriate historiography of our country of birth. I enjoyed reading both these books, because now I have a greater understanding of Caribbean history, music, culture, and traditions. Trinidad and Tobago has calypso, kaiso, soca, chutney soca and many more styles of music yet to come.Review by Henrietta Akit, a Trinidadian from Toronto. B.A. Honors in History, from the University of Western Ontario, Canada.

The noble contributions of African peoples in the development of the carnival tradition in Trinidad Tobago.

A highly original. I havent seen anything remotely like this. -- Dr. Fred Cooper, Professor of History, University of Michigan A vigorous, painstaking, well-researched, critical study of an important and interesting subject. -- Dr. Maxwell Owusu, Professor of Anthropology, University of MichiganCertainly the best book I have read on Caribbean history. --Kenneth Tannis, MA Toronto, Canada About the AuthorHollis Urban Liverpool was the Director of Culture for the Republic of Trinidad Tobago up to 1999 and is currently the Director of the Carnival Institute, a division of the National Carnival Commission. He holds a BA and MA in History from the University of the West Indies; a MA in African History and a Ph.D. in History and Ethnomusicology from the University of Michigan, a Post-grad Diploma in Education from the University of the West Indies; and a Certificate of Philosophy from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He has published four books and written several papers on Trinidad Tobagos culture, carnival and calypso. As calypsonian Chalkdust, he has been crowned Calypso Monarch of Trinidad Tobago five times, and World Calypso Monarch in New York on the two occasions the contest was held.