

ABSTRACT

Guadeloupean Nationalist Poetics and the Novels of Gisèle Pineau

Kerri-Gaye Alicia Rushton

Although Guadeloupe is officially a French overseas department, its people seek to maintain their own cultural identity. By so doing they assert uniqueness as a people. This thesis examines nationalistic tendencies in the work of Guadeloupean female author Gisèle Pineau. The contention is that throughout her work Pineau affirms Guadeloupean nationalism which exists in spite of official French control.

Pineau's interest in Guadeloupean nationalism is pervasive throughout her work. This nationalism is evident even while she examines issues of history, Guadeloupean folk beliefs and the women in the Guadeloupean interior. Through these issues she inadvertently expresses Guadeloupean peoplehood.