

As reflected by Trinidad's indigenous music, the final implications drawn from this investigation are: that, the positivity or negativity of the interaction depends upon the context or situation in which the 'interactors' find themselves; that the fluctuating nature of inter-ethnic interaction (between Indos and Afros) attests to the ambivalent and insecure state of ethnic relations; that interaction between Afro and Indo-Trinidadians concurrently forms and is informed by 'text' and 'behaviour.'

Thank Dr. Louis Rapp for his insightful comments and recommendations.

Gratitude should be extended to Mr. John Scoble for the lively debates which have never failed to incite my investigative interest, my sisters Dalina, Seydina and Sopheria who motivated me with their prayers and helpful words, and my other siblings (Genevieve, Philippa and Philip) who wholeheartedly supported me without fail.

Sincere appreciation also goes out to my first typist, Ms. Marianne Callender for her early input into this research project, and Ayesha Mohamed and her family for their steadfast prayers during the final stages of my thesis completion.

Finally, special thanks are due to my informants. Without them, this project could not have been successfully undertaken.

Keywords: Francisca Carol Allard, calypso, chutney, pichakaaree, interaction, indigenous music.