

## ABSTRACT

The Folk in Eric Roach's  
Drama

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This study attempts to analyze the use of the folk tradition in the plays of Eric Roach. Roach's use of the folk in drama reveals the author's closeness to this environment. It shows his elemental understanding of the conflicts existing in his society.

The study locates Roach's work in the larger context of the development of the drama in the Caribbean and in particular, drama in Trinidad and Tobago between the 1940s and 1960s. It examines his use of folk material as a major contributor to the development of his plays. The study presents the maintenance of traditional folk tendencies in the face of growing educational and social changes. It also traces the existence of folk qualities outside of the strictly rural environment, showing their presence even in the urban environment where major social and political changes have taken place.