

## **Black Women Writers**

African, African American, and Diaspora

Black Women Writers presents 100,000 pages of literature and essays on feminist issues, written by authors from Africa and the African Diaspora. Facing both sexism and racism, black women needed to create their own identities and movements. The collection documents that effort, presenting the woman's perspective on the diversity and development of black people generally, and in particular the works document the evolution of black feminism. Many of the writings have been hidden in rare and hard to find texts, obscure typewritten documents, photocopied journals, and other fugitive sources.

Coverage of African American women begins in the eighteenth century with narratives depicting slavery, moves through and beyond the Harlem Renaissance, and includes writers from the movements of the 1960s, covering *womanism*, *black feminism*, and related topics. The explosion of works by women in the Caribbean that started in the second part of the twentieth century is also covered. African women came into their own as writers during the late 1950s and 1960s, following the winds of independence that swept across Africa, and *Black Women Writers* includes works by a wide range of authors from that period.

## Writers include:

Phillis Wheatley
Ida B. Wells
Amanda Berry
Marita Bonner
Zora Neale Hurston
Maya Angelou
Sonia Sanchez
Rosa Guy
Michelle Wallace
Patricia Hill Collins
Michelle Cliff (Jamaica)
Maryse Conde (Guadeloupe)

Edwidge Danticat (Haiti)
Dionne Brand (Trinidad)
Other Caribbean writers
Ama Ata Aidoo (Ghana)
Bessie Head (South Africa)
Grace Ogot (Kenya)
Chikwenye Okonjo Ogunyemi (Nigeria)
Flora Nwapa (Nigeria)
Buchi Emecheta (Nigeria)
Other US and Caribbean writers and women from more than 20 African countries

The authors in *Black Women Writers* write about how various historical, economic, and political conditions affect women; how they deal with slavery and colonialism; how race and class operate in a regional context; the wide-ranging roles of women as intellectuals, nation builders, and influencers of society as a whole; and how and why the feminism practiced in one part of the world is rejected by women in another region. This online resource offers a collection of materials, previously not available on the Web and extremely difficult to locate in print, with relevance for black studies, women's history and literature, history generally, regional political studies, and other areas.

## **Publication Details**

Black Women Writers is available on the Web, either by annual subscription or as a one-time purchase of perpetual rights. Other Alexander Street titles in Diversity Literature and Postcolonial Studies are available and cross-searchable through Alexander Street Literature. For more information contact sales@alexanderstreet.com or visit http://alexanderstreet.com.