

# TRANSATLANTIC

SLAVING and the

AFRICAN DIASPORA:

Using the

W.E.B. DU BOIS INSTITUTE

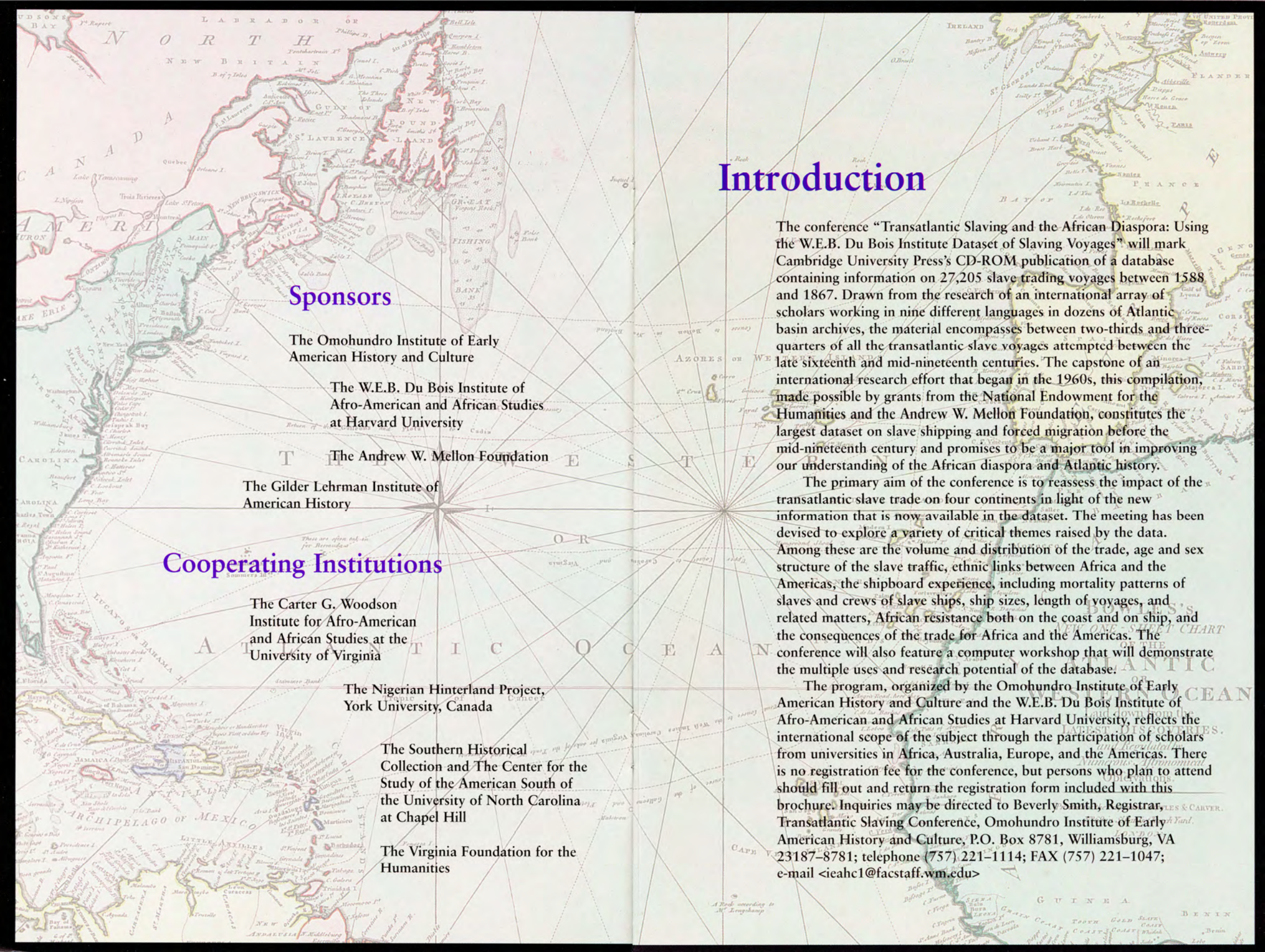
Dataset of Slaving Voyages



SEPTEMBER 11-13, 1998

Lane Auditorium,  
Bruton Heights School  
Bruton Heights School  
Education Center at  
Colonial Williamsburg  
301 First Street  
Williamsburg, Virginia





## Introduction

The conference “Transatlantic Slaving and the African Diaspora: Using the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Dataset of Slaving Voyages” will mark Cambridge University Press’s CD-ROM publication of a database containing information on 27,205 slave trading voyages between 1588 and 1867. Drawn from the research of an international array of scholars working in nine different languages in dozens of Atlantic basin archives, the material encompasses between two-thirds and three-quarters of all the transatlantic slave voyages attempted between the late sixteenth and mid-nineteenth centuries. The capstone of an international research effort that began in the 1960s, this compilation, made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, constitutes the largest dataset on slave shipping and forced migration before the mid-nineteenth century and promises to be a major tool in improving our understanding of the African diaspora and Atlantic history.

The primary aim of the conference is to reassess the impact of the transatlantic slave trade on four continents in light of the new information that is now available in the dataset. The meeting has been devised to explore a variety of critical themes raised by the data. Among these are the volume and distribution of the trade, age and sex structure of the slave traffic, ethnic links between Africa and the Americas, the shipboard experience, including mortality patterns of slaves and crews of slave ships, ship sizes, length of voyages, and related matters, African resistance both on the coast and on ship, and the consequences of the trade for Africa and the Americas. The conference will also feature a computer workshop that will demonstrate the multiple uses and research potential of the database.

The program, organized by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute of Afro-American and African Studies at Harvard University, reflects the international scope of the subject through the participation of scholars from universities in Africa, Australia, Europe, and the Americas. There is no registration fee for the conference, but persons who plan to attend should fill out and return the registration form included with this brochure. Inquiries may be directed to Beverly Smith, Registrar, Transatlantic Slaving Conference, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, P.O. Box 8781, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781; telephone (757) 221-1114; FAX (757) 221-1047; e-mail <ieahc1@facstaff.wm.edu>

## Sponsors

The Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture

The W.E.B. Du Bois Institute of Afro-American and African Studies at Harvard University

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

## Cooperating Institutions

The Carter G. Woodson Institute for Afro-American and African Studies at the University of Virginia

The Nigerian Hinterland Project, York University, Canada

The Southern Historical Collection and The Center for the Study of the American South of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

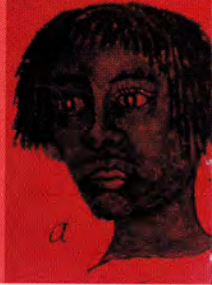
The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities



# Program

10:00–11:45 A.M.

Registration. Bruton Heights School, Bruton Heights School Education Center at Colonial Williamsburg, 301 First Street, Williamsburg, Virginia



11:45

Welcome. Lane Auditorium, Bruton Heights School. Unless otherwise noted, all sessions will convene in this room.



Ron Hoffman, *Director*  
Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture

Philip D. Morgan, *Conference Chair*  
Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture

12:00 P.M.

Opening Remarks  
Barbara L. Solow

12:30–2:30

## Session I: The Size of the Traffic

Chair: James A. Rawley, University of Nebraska

*Volume and National Participation in the Trade*  
Patrick Manning, Northeastern University

*The Portuguese Lacunae: Sources and Speculations*  
Joseph Miller, University of Virginia  
Roquinaldo Amaral Ferreira, University of California, Los Angeles

Commentators: William Darity, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Stuart Schwartz, Yale University



2:30-2:45

Coffee break

2:45-4:45

## Session II: Shipboard Experience

Chair: Johannes Postma, Mankato State University

*Long-run Patterns in the Shipping of Slaves*  
Stephen Behrendt, Harvard University

*Experiences on Slave Ships compared with those in Other Long-distance Oceanic Migrations*  
Stanley Engerman, University of Rochester  
Herbert S. Klein, Columbia University

Commentators: Ralph Shlomowitz, Flinders University of South Australia  
Stephanie Smallwood, University of California, San Diego

4:45–5:15

Coffee break







5:15-7:15

### Session III: Resistance and Memory

Chair: Robert L. Hall, Northeastern University

*African Agency and Resistance on the African Coast*  
David Richardson, University of Hull

*African Resistance in the Spanish Caribbean*  
Jane G. Landers, Vanderbilt University

*The Slave Trade as History and Memory: Mutual Confrontations of Slaving Voyage Documents and African/African-American Traditions*  
Ralph Austen, University of Chicago

Commentators: Ray Kea, University of California, Riverside  
Michael Craton, University of Waterloo

7:15-7:30

Coffee break and light refreshments

7:30-8:30

Slide Lecture

*The Voyage of the Diligent in 1731-1732: Reflections on World Systems and the Banality of Evil*  
Robert Harms, Yale University

8:30-10:30 A.M.

### Session IV: Sex and Age Composition of Slaves

Chair: Joanne Braxton, College of William and Mary

*African Conceptions of Gender and the Slave Traffic*  
Ugo Nwokeji, University of Toronto

*Age and Sex: The Slave Trade in Comparative Perspective*  
David Eltis, Queen's University

Commentators: Pieter Emmer, Leiden University  
Kristin Mann, Emory University

10:30-11:00

Coffee break







5:15-7:15 **Session VI: The Impact of the Slave Trade on Africa**  
 Lane Auditorium, Bruton Heights School

11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. **Session V: Transatlantic Links and Ethnicity**  
 Chair: Stephan Palmie, University of Maryland  
*Tracing Ethnic Links from Africa to the Americas*  
 John K. Thornton, Millersville University of Pennsylvania  
*Ethnicity among Africans in North America*  
 Lorena S. Walsh, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation  
*Ethnic Selectivity in the African Slave Trade to Louisiana: Comparing the Du Bois Database with the Louisiana Slave Database*  
 Gwendolyn M. Hall, Professor of History Emerita, Rutgers University  
 Commentators: Richard Price, College of William and Mary  
 Sandra Greene, Cornell University



1:00-2:15 Lunch break. Because the time is short and there are no restaurants immediately convenient to the Bruton Heights Campus, box lunches will be available. These must be ordered and paid for in advance. For order form and menus, see Conference Arrangements.

Chair: Jerome Handler, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities  
*Slave Trade and African Demography and Development*  
 Robin Law, University of Stirling  
*Slave Trade and African Society, Politics, and Culture*  
 Elisee Soumonni, Université Nationale du Benin, Cotonou  
*The Known, the Unknown, the Knowable, and the Unknowable: Evidence and the Evaluation of Evidence in the Measurement of the Transatlantic Slave Trade*  
 Joseph Inikori, University of Rochester  
 Commentators: Paul Lovejoy, York University  
 Martin Klein, University of Toronto

2:30-5:00 Computer Workshop. Morton Hall, The College of William and Mary. Transportation will be provided. The workshop is sponsored by the Carter G. Woodson Institute for Afro-American and African Studies.

7:15-8:30 Reception. Bruton Heights School.  
 8:45 Dinner. Shields Tavern, Colonial Williamsburg Historic Area. Reservations and payments must be made in advance. For details, see Conference Arrangements.



Sunday, September 13, 1998



8:30–10:30 A.M.

## Session VII: The Impact of the Slave Trade on the Americas

Chair: Ira Berlin, University of Maryland

### *The Brazilian Experience*

Manolo Garcia Florentino, University of Rio de Janeiro

### *The French Americas*

David Geggus, University of Florida

Commentators: Colin Palmer, Graduate School,  
City University of New York  
J. Lorand Matory,  
Harvard University

10:30–11:00

Coffee break

11:00 A.M.–12:30 P.M.

## Summary

Chair: Henry Louis Gates, Jr.,  
Harvard University

Bernard Bailyn, Harvard University  
Philip D. Curtin, The Johns Hopkins University  
David Brion Davis, Yale University



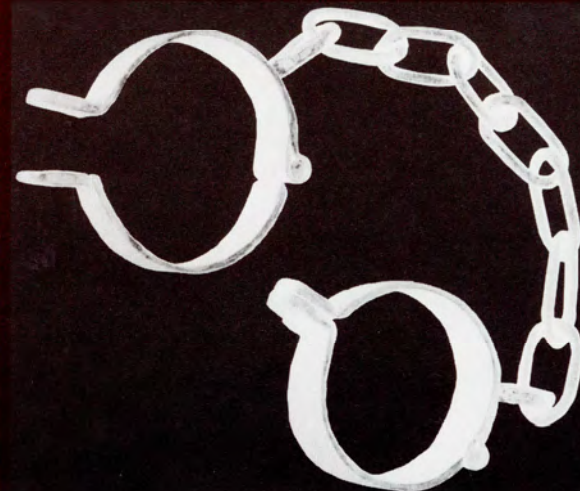
## Conference Arrangements

There is no registration fee for this conference. However, if you plan to attend, please fill out and return the registration form so that a conference packet can be prepared for you. The registration form should also be used to order box lunches and make reservations for the Saturday evening dinner. Payment for these activities by check or credit card should be sent with the completed form to:

Beverly Smith, *Registrar*  
Transatlantic Slaving Conference  
OIEAHC  
P.O. Box 8781  
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781

Telephone: 757-221-1114  
FAX: 757-221-1047  
E-Mail: [ieahc1@facstaff.wm.edu](mailto:ieahc1@facstaff.wm.edu)

Box lunch orders, dinner reservations, and payments must reach the Institute by August 31, 1998, and no refunds can be made for cancellations received after that date. For your protection, no credit card reservations by e-mail will be accepted.

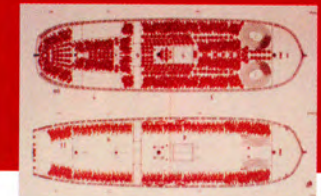




## Accommodations

A block of rooms has been set aside for conference attendees at the Governor's Inn (\$75.00 per night, plus 9% tax). Other Colonial Williamsburg accommodations are also available. For information and reservations, call 1-800-HISTORY. Mention that you will be attending the "Transatlantic Slaving and African Diaspora" conference on September 11-13, 1998, and ask for the special conference rate on rooms at the Governor's Inn.

# Registration



Name

Address

Telephone

E-mail

Affiliation

- Yes, you may put my e-mail address on the list of conference participants that will be included in the registration packet.
- I would like the planners to take into account that I am physically challenged in the following way:

Meal reservations

Full payment, by check or credit card, must be received by August 31, 1998, and there can be no refunds for cancellations received after that date. Make checks payable to OIEAHC Conference and send with this form to:

Beverly Smith, Registrar  
OIEAHC Conference  
P.O. Box 8781  
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8781





# Registration

For Saturday, September 12, 1998, please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ box lunch(es) for me at \$10.00 each.

vegetarian     non-vegetarian

Total for box lunch(es) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please hold \_\_\_\_\_ dinner reservations for me for Saturday evening, September 12, 1998.

Choice of entrée:

- Filet mignon, \$50.00  
 Salmon, \$50.00  
 Grilled vegetable polenta with herbed tomato sauce, \$38.00

Total for dinner(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed for meals \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit cards: VISA or MasterCard only.  
Please circle the one you are using.  
For your protection, no credit card reservations by e-mail will be accepted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card holder's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card holder's name printed

## Artwork

Heads of Gold Coast Men and Women (cover and p. 2). From P.E.H. Hair, Adam Jones, and Robin Law, eds., *Barbot on Guinea: The Writings of Jean Barbot on West Africa, 1678-1712* (Hakluyt Society, 1992), by permission of the Hakluyt Society and the British Library (ADD MS 28788).

Shackles (cover and p. 9). Courtesy of Jerome S. Handler, Slide Collection on the Transatlantic Slave Trade and New World Slavery.

Bowles's New One-Sheet Chart of the Atlantic or Western Ocean (inside cover and p. 1). Carrington Bowles (London, c. 1794), courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University.

The Africans of the slave bark *Wildfire*, 1860 (p. 3). Wood engraving from a daguerreotype, courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, LC-USZ62-19607.

Mandingo Chief and High Head Man (p. 4). From Joseph Corry, *Observations upon the Windward Coast of Africa . . .* (London, 1807; reprint Frank Cass Publishers, 1968).

Punishing Negroes at Cathabouco (Calabouco), Rio de Janeiro (p. 4). Augustus Earle (1793-1838), watercolour, 23.6 x 26.3 cm, NK 12/100, Rex Nan Kivel Collection, National Library of Australia.

Une marché d'esclaves à Suriname, (p. 5). Lithograph, from Jacques Benoit, *Voyage à Suriname: description des possessions néerlandaises* (Brussels, 1839), courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University and Jerome S. Handler, Slide Collection on the Transatlantic Slave Trade and New World Slavery.

Map of Guinea (p. 6). From Olfert Dapper, *Description de l'Afrique* (Amsterdam, 1686) courtesy of the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University and Jerome S. Handler, Slide Collection on the Transatlantic Slave Trade and New World Slavery.

Cartouche (p. 7). From Robert Greene, *A New Mapp of the World* (London, 1676), courtesy of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

View of Mulberry Plantation, residence and slave quarters, (p. 8). Thomas Coram, oil on paper, c. 1800, courtesy of the Gibbes Museum of Art/Carolina Art Association, Charleston, South Carolina.

Cartouche (pp. 10-11). From Herman Moll, *A New & Correct Map of the Whole World* (London, 1719), courtesy of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

The slave ship *Le Diligent* (p. 11). Drawing by Robert Durand, *Journal de Bord d'un Négrier* (1731), courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University, and Robert Harms, slide collection.

Tight packing on the slave ship *Aurora*, 1784 (p. 11). From Jean Boudriot, *Traite et Navire Négrier l'Aurore* (Paris, 1984), courtesy of Jean Boudriot and Hubert Berti, Ancre, Nice.

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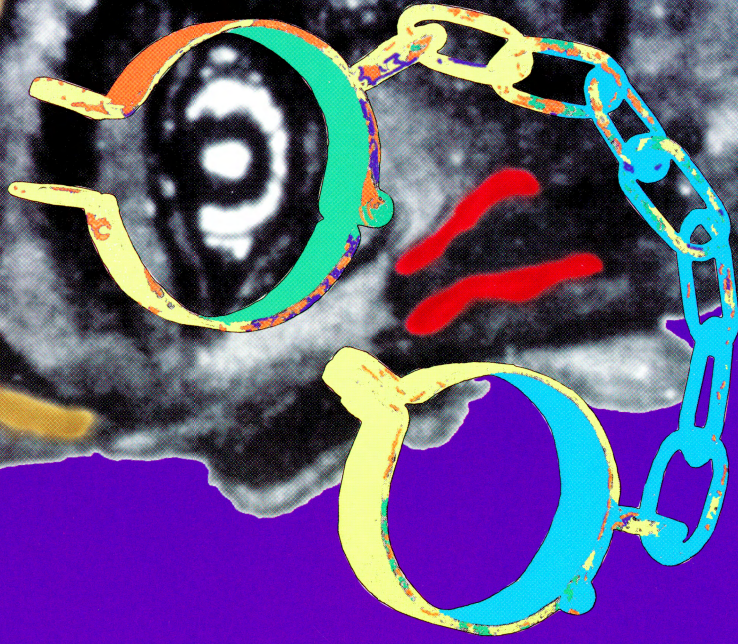
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