

The Rejuvenation of Arts and Culture Through Folklore

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- Chapter
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Abstract

The arts and culture in Creole societies today are often still closely associated with folklore and orature—which are rarely associated with modernity and popular culture. This chapter explores folklore and orature as sources from which contemporary culture is tapped (any culture, written or oral). With particular reference to Seychellois Creole society, it discusses how these oral sources can be used to rejuvenate Creole cultures of the postcolonial era even as they contend with the powerful influences of globalization and international popular culture. For example, despite the heavy influence of English in modern popular culture, youth music is a medium by which young people in Seychelles relate to each other in Kreol. Thus, as A. Kriel says, ‘oral literature is not at all that traditional and static but living and changing all the time’ (*An African Horizon* (p. 18). University of Cape Town Press, 1971).

Keywords

- **Arts**
- **Creole culture**
- **Folklore**
- **Orature**
- **Rejuvenation**
- **Seychelles**
- **Postcolonial globalization**

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Notes

1. 1.
Brathwaite refers to a meeting of The Caribbean Artists Movement in April 1967, London, during which George Odlum made these declarations. Source—CAM tapes, 1967.
2. 2.
The agglutinated word in the Creole Institute dictionary is defined as the bachelor or playboy, whilst the compound noun written in two words is defined as the wild cockerel.

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