

'African Americans

are American Heartbreak'



Poet Pierre-Damien Mvuyekure

Dr. Pierre Damien Mruyekure teaches English, American, Multicultural, Post-Colonial, and African American literatures in the Department of Languages and Literatures. He is the author of Lamentations on the Rwandan Genocide 2nd Edition The "Dark Heathenism" of the American Novelist Ishmael Reed: African Voodoo as American Literary HooDoo, Lamentations on the Rwandan Genocide, World Eros Volume 10: West African Kingdoms, 500-1590, A Casebook Study of Ishmael Reed's Yellow Back Radio Broke-Down and several articles. pierre.mvuyekure@uni.edu

The following

three poems are Pantoum

poems. Pantoum is a poetic form That originated from Malaysia and was embraced by French poets such as Charles Beaudelaure and later by American poets.

I wrote "African Americans are American Heartbreak" while preparing an abstract for a conference paper on Nikole Hannah-Jones's 1619 Project and noted that the title came from Langston Hughes's poem. "When A.T.L's Tempy and Siles Went to the Polls" explores the baffling idea that young Black men in Atlanta voted for Donald Trump, alleging that they could relate because America's justice system has victimized them both. They could not relate to Vice President Kamala Harris. Tempy and Siles are two colonial mimics in Langston Hughes' Not Without Laughter.

AFRICAN AMERICANS ARE **THE AMERICAN HEARTBREAK 1619**

-After Langston Hughes, Nikole Hanna-Jones

We are the American heartbreak-

That is one of my poems about the problem of the Negro people about American democracy. Perhaps we should say the problem of American democracy in ration to the Negro people because, for some reason, the Negro in America has always been called "a problem"-Langston Hughes.

African Americans are American heartbreak. "The great mistake that Jamestown made long ago" Magnalia Negro Americana before Magnalia Christi Americana. The Pequot before the Pilgrims. The 20 Africans did not land on Plymouth Rock, Plymouth Rock landed on them-African Cargo. Le Bateau ivre baptized in Les Fleurs du mal blooming all over America masking other Dreams.

Magnalia Negro Americana before Magnalia Christi Americana. The Pequot before the Pilgrims. Freedom stumped its toes on the African American Roc, but the Rock was fettered and not Free. Le Bateau ivre baptized in Les Fleurs du mal blooming all over America masking other Dreams. American democracy is Heartbroken, written in blood, raising itself on the backs of the not Free.

Roc. but the Rock was fettered and not "Free Train "of moods like a string of beads, "coloredlenses which paint the world their hue." American democracy Heartbroken, written in blood, raising itself on the backs of the not Free. The 1619 Project. America's Waterloo Congo Mboka na Biso. Mais Amérique jamais Battue.

Train "of moods like a string of beads. "colored-lenses which paint the world their hue." African Americans are American heartbreak. "The great mistake that Jamestown made long ago" The 1619 Project. America's Waterloo Congo Mboka na Biso. Mais Amerique jamais Battue. The 20 Africans did not land on Plymouth Rock. Plymouth Rock landed on them. African Cargo.

WHEN A.T.L.'S TEMPY AND SILES **WENT TO THE POLLS**

When Tempy and Siles woke up and went to olls, Dr. Martin L King turned in his grave.

"Il est comme nous. Persécuté. Persecuted.

Like us." One told France 24.Not Collective Soul.
With no degrees, they incorrectly identified
with him. Judicial harassment. New Wave.
Colonial mimics who sold their souls to the
devil-not kin to the legend of Robert Johnsons-

"Il est comme nous. Persécuté. Persecuted. Like us." One told France 24.Not Collective Soul Angry white men drive their American pickup tracks with a gaze as blank and pitiless as the sun. Colonial mimics who sold their souls to the devil-not kin to Robert Johnson- became a black

My daughter cursed at one of them on Main Street. I said, you know that he could have a gun. Angry white men drive their American pickup tracks with a gaze as blank and pitiless as the sun. From Paris Baldwin wrote, "To act is to be committed, and to be committed is to be in

danger – My daughter cursed at one of them on Main Street. I said, you know that he could have a gun. "In the minds of most white Americans, it is the loss of their identity." Often a dog in the

manger
From Paris Baldwin wrote, "To act is to be committed, and to be committed is to be in

When Tempy and Siles woke up and went to the polls, Dr.Martin L. King turned in his grove. "In the minds of most white Americans, it is the loss of their identity." Often a dog in the

With no degrees, they incorrectly identified with him. Judicial harassment. New Wave. &

