Haitian writer and artist, Frankétienne @ Syracuse University
March 25-26, 2019

Two days of events—readings, book signing, lectures, film screening, art exhibition—with the great Haitian writer and artist, and his English translator, Dr. Asselin Charles

Photo: Tzuyi Lin, 2012
A- “Writing in two languages”
An open Q&A with Haitian writer and artist, Frankétienne, on writing Dézafi (1975), the very first novel published in Haitian Creole, and its transformation in French, Les Affres d’un défi (1979), in Dr. Genevieve Waite’s Seminar, FRE 400/600 “Translingual Francophone Authors.”
MONDAY MARCH 25, 02:15PM-03:35PM. BIRD LIBRARY PETER GRAHAM SCHOLARLY COMMONS 222 Waverly Avenue (1st floor, Room 114), Syracuse Phone 315.443.2093

B- “On writing and translating Dézafi”
Frankétienne and his English translator, Dr. Asselin Charles, will lecture on the challenges in their work of writing or translating Dézafi <https://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/5164>. Book signing by Frankétienne and Asselin Charles
MONDAY MARCH 25, 5:30PM-7:30PM BIRD LIBRARY PETER GRAHAM SCHOLARLY COMMONS 222 Waverly Avenue (1st floor, Room 114), Syracuse Phone 315.443.2093

C- “Excerpts from Dézafi by Frankétienne (1975)”
Frankétienne and his English translator, Dr. Asselin Charles, will present, then read in Haitian and English excerpts from the first novel published in Haitian Creole, Dézafi.
Book signing by Frankétienne and Asselin Charles
A light lunch will be offered (RSVP by March 20, noon @ jjonassa@syr.edu)
TUESDAY MARCH 26, NOON-2PM COMMUNITY FOLK ART CENTER, ART GALLERY 805 E. Genesee Street, Syracuse Phone 315.442.2230

D- “Screening of Une étrange cathédrale dans la graisse des ténèbres by Charles Najman (2012, featuring Frankétienne)” <http://www.lahuit.com/fr/content/une-etrange-cathedrale-dans-la-graisse-des-tenebres>. A conversation on the significance of the movie will follow with the audience, Frankétienne and his translator, Dr. Asselin Charles, Dr. Jean Jonassaint and Dr. Nicole Wallenbrock (Syracuse University).
TUESDAY MARCH 26, 02:30PM-04:15PM COMMUNITY FOLK ART CENTER, BLACKBOX THEATER 805 E. Genesee Street, Syracuse Phone 315.442.2230

E- “Frankétienne’s Syracuse Series”
An exhibition of eight paintings by the artist, sampling thirty years of his production (1988-2018).
MARCH 20 TO 26, TUESDAY-SATURDAY, 10AM-5PM, COMMUNITY FOLK ART CENTER (CFAC), ART GALLERY 805 E. Genesee Street, Syracuse Phone 315.442.2230

F- “Chasing Frankétienne’s creativity”
An exhibition of manuscripts and typescripts, proofs, first editions, pictures, posters and so one by or on Frankétienne.
MARCH 20 TO 26, 10AM-10PM, BIRD LIBRARY FIRST FLOOR 222 Waverly Avenue (in the lobby), Syracuse Phone 315.443.2093

For more information on these events, please contact Dr. Jean Jonassaint @ jjonassa@syr.edu.
This unexpected visit of a major writer and artist of our Americas, Frankétienne (1936- ), who published some forty books in French and Haitian, and produced thousands of paintings and drawings, organized by Prof. Jean Jonassaint (LLL, Syracuse University), in collaboration with the Haitian Studies Institute (CUNY-Brooklyn College) and the University of Virginia Press, is generously supported by funds or logistics provided by:
The Albert George Fund, French and Francophone Studies
The College of Art and Sciences
The Community Folk Arts Center (CFAC)
The Department of African American Studies
The Department of Art and Music Histories
The Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics
The English Department
The Humanities Center
The Program on Latin America and the Caribbean (PLACA)
Syracuse University Bookstore
Syracuse University Libraries

Works by Frankétienne in English translation

BOOKS
Dézafi. Charlottesville: The University of Virginia Press, 2018 [Dézaﬁ (1975), translated into English by Asselin Charles].

EXCEPRTS

On Frankétienne, whom the New York times called “the father of Haitian letters”

Douglas, Rachel
Glover, Kiaima

Jonassaint, Jean


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McFee, Mollie

Past, Mariana

For more on Frankétienne’s work and its reception visit [http://ile-en-ile.org/franketienne/].