Book Review Symposium – Organiser’s Introduction


In April 2018, we gathered for a conversation about Peter James Hudson’s Bankers and Empire: How Wall Street Colonized the Caribbean. Our discussion was part of the Association of American Geographers’ annual congress. We met in New Orleans. I read Bankers and Empire slowly. The work of racial capitalism and finance capitalism and the political economy of race often undoes me. The weight of capital – and therefore we who make capital what it is – is heavy. The weight is difficult to tease out because it is insidious and oppressive and relentless and, of course, normalized as an extra-human system (without human instruction or input), that just keeps spinning on its own. Indeed, our implication in this infrastructure is often obscured by the ways in which accumulation by dispossession (Harvey 2005; Wynter 2003) is rendered an inevitable way of life. I thus read Bankers and Empire slowly. In this book, Hudson unravels the intricacies of capitalism to demonstrate how the discursive and material heaviness of business is tied to the economies of race (including economies of whiteness) in the Caribbean. His research brilliantly takes the reader through a density that rests on multiple stories: the business-businesses of empire and their attendant legal and extra-legal geographies, as well as the racial scripts that accompany imperial economies (read: dark finance). Timber, rubber, sugar, fruit, and more, are enmeshed with smuggling, insurgency, and revolt. The intricacies proliferate. Slow. I am grateful for the essayists’ perceptive and smart reading of this book and for Hudson’s wonderfully insightful response to their comments and critiques. I engage the conversation below as a lesson – one that taught me how to read and reread what I have already read differently and one that gave me different frameworks, and new perspectives, on black and Caribbean geographies.
References


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Introduction Debtscapes, Double Agents and Development: Reflections on Poverty Capital It is an honor for me to introduce this series of reflections on Ananya Roy’s important book Poverty Capital: Microfinance and the Making of Development (2010). Her work is an extraordinary inspiration to many geographers, and so it was no surprise that the session about her book at the 2010 meetings of the Association of American Geographers generated a giant audience that spilled out into the corridor. CONTINUE READING. View via Publisher. The symposium or conference organizers may decide to collectively publish the information presented. This is done in a format called a proceeding. Proceedings report the content of symposium talks in a collection of papers which may take up an entire edition of a journal. It is the responsibility of the organizers to solicit and collect manuscripts from the speakers and to deliver them to the publisher. The decision to publish a proceeding is generally made before the symposium convenes. If the organizers do not plan to publish the symposium in a formal proceeding, you can still publish your talk. In this case, you (the author) will be responsible for locating a suitable journal to submit your manuscript. Many, but not all, journals accept these types of papers. Spring meeting symposium organizer handbook. Table of contents. Section 1: mrs. Thank you for agreeing to serve as a symposium organizer for the 2021 MRS Spring Meeting! The Spring and Fall Meetings are critically important services offered by MRS. They provide a dynamic interactive framework in which global materials disciplines can convene, collaborate, and integrate to advance technical interdisciplinary research. The high-quality and visionary symposia at MRS meetings are key to the Society’s mission and its continued success. The meetings are the main drivers for engaging members and volunteers, building our membership, and the principal forum to exchange resear