



Struggle, Resistance, and Decolonization in African American Literature after 1960

By *W. Lawrence Hogue*

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Examines six African American writers—Richard Wright (*Native Son*), James Baldwin (*Another Country*), Ishmael Reed (*Flight to Canada*), Paule Marshall (*Praisesong for the Widow*), Toni Cade Bambara (*The Salt Eaters*), and Ntozake Shange (*Liliane*)—who use the cultural and historical past to imagine a different present and future.

In belonging to an oppressed/colonized racial group in the West, where their voices, humanity, history, culture, reality, and subjectivity are perpetually under siege, distorted, and/or erased, African American writers since the 1960s have struggled to be heard and represented. Yet, despite the racism, terror, trauma, and dehumanization, they, in revisiting, reclaiming, and reassessing their history and culture, used their decolonized imaginations and agency to reconfigure their history, subjectivity, and reality, and to invoke a more humane and just world, with love, despite all the odds.

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W. Lawrence Hogue is John and Rebecca Moores Distinguished Professor of English, Emeritus, at University of Houston and the author of many books.

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