Monchoachi Liberamerica

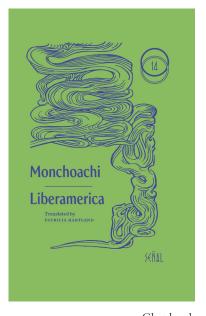
Translated from French and Haitian Creole by Patricia Hartland

Excerpted from part one of Monchoachi's two-volume collection Lémistè (Partition noire et bleue) ['Mistry (Black and Blue Partition)], Liberamerica is Martinican writer and poet Monchoachi's first collection of poems in English translation. Liberamerica's world is one full of ancestors and other creatures, a liminal space between languages, life and death, male and female, land and water, body and spirit. A territory of rituals and relations brought into being within the dynamic linguistic multiverse for which Monchoachi is best known.

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[Monchoachi] has completely renewed our vision of the Creole language—the way we read it, practice it, defend it. He has reshaped the relationship of this language to French, and has explored the blossoming of an unheard speech, its explosion into life...

— PATRICK CHAMOISEAU



Chapbook Poetry | \$12 5.25" x 8.25" | 40 pp. ISBN 978-1-946433-68-8 Señal #14

Distributed by: Small Press Distribution

Release Date: December 15, 2020



Monchoachi (b. 1946, Martinique) is an award-winning writer, poet, and translator. His Martinican creole works include *Dissidans* (1980), *Bél-bél-zobél* (1983), and translations of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* and *Endgame* (2002). His French works include *L'espére-geste* (2002) and *Lémistè* (2012). In 2007, he founded the Lakouzémi project, an annual gathering of writers, dancers, performers, and activists.



Patricia Hartland is a poet and translator who works from French, Martinican Creole, and Hindi. Their translations of Monchoachi's *BLACK AND BLUE PARTITION* are forthcoming from The Operating System in 2020.