

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	11
2. Historiographies and (Counter)Narratives of the Slave Trade in Francophone Africa	25
2.1. The Slave Trade in African Historiography and the Politics of Forgetting	27
2.2. Politics of Silence: Memory, Guilt, and Representation of the Slave Trade in Francophone African Literature	34
2.3. Silence, Trauma, and Memory: Literary Representations of the Slave Trade in Francophone Africa	44
3. Literature Review and Theoretical Framework	51
3.1. Literature Review.....	51
3.2. Theoretical Framework: Traumatomimesis and Historiopoiesis	70
3.2.1. Postcolonial Trauma Theory: The Promise and Potential of African Literature	72
3.2.2. The Transformative Power of Literature in Mourning, Healing, and Trauma Recovery	85
3.2.3. Historiopoiesis and the Art of Reimagining History in Transatlantic Literature.....	93
4. Revisiting the Slave Trade in Francophone Africa: A Historiopoetic Approach	103
4.1. Alem's <i>Esclaves</i> : Re-narrating the Past to Re-member the Present.....	103
4.2. N'Sondé's <i>Un Océan, deux mers, trois continents</i> : Unshadowing the Shameful Past	160
4.3. Recomposing the Haunting Past: Amnesia and Memory in Miano's <i>La Saison de l'ombre</i>	199

5. Slave Trade Trauma and the Francophone African Imagination...	241
5.1. Memory and Moralities of Capture	249
5.1.1. Treason and Trauma in the African Atlantic Memory	252
5.1.2. King Adandozan's Deposition and the Political Capture of the Dahomey	254
5.1.3. The Religious Capture and Manipulation in N'Sondé's <i>Un Océan, deux mers, trois continents</i>	256
5.2. The Spatiality of the Slave Trade Experience	263
5.2.1. Space and Trauma in Miano's <i>La Saison de l'ombre</i>	266
5.2.2. The Spatiality of the Slave Trade in Alem's <i>Esclaves</i>	271
5.2.3. Charting the Atlantic in N'Sondé's <i>Un Océan, deux mers, trois continents</i>	278
5.3. The Corporeality of Capture	282
5.3.1. The Psychotraumatic Effect of Capture	286
5.3.2. Dismembering: Renaming the African Body	292
5.3.3. The Body as Text: Inscribing Trauma and Dismemberment	296
6. Mourning, African Renaissance and the Slave Trade in Francophone Africa	305
6.1. Trauma Healing, Mourning, and African Renaissance	306
6.2. Mourning, Forgetting, and Re-memberment	314
6.3. Aesthetic and Language of Mourning	325
7. Conclusion	339
8. References	349