

*Joanne C. Hillhouse*

## **PROSPERO'S EDUATION**

*(on hearing George Lamming)*



Still,  
We eat  
their realities  
like tasty food;  
Pepperpot  
Festival and jerk  
Saltfish cakes.  
We breathe it  
in  
like fresh  
air,  
and don't think  
to question  
the foul smell of  
money on our hands;  
stilted realities,  
fork-tongued politicians,  
and generic BET bling bling  
beats  
ingested with complacency.  
We tap our  
feet  
to this tuneless rhythm  
and eat  
and sleep.

The enslaved  
is not pitiable,  
not nearly as pitiable,  
as the oblivious slave.