INDEPENDENCE AND AFTER:
DR ERIC WILLIAMS & THE MAKING OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

27th SEPTEMBER 2011
10.00-6.00
INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF THE AMERICAS
The Senate Room, 1st floor, SENATE HOUSE
LONDON WC1E 9HU

To mark the centenary of the birth of Dr Eric Williams and in anticipation of the 50th anniversary of independence in Trinidad and Tobago, this one-day conference explores the shaping of Trinidadian politics and society under the Williams’ administration and the legacies of this period today. To attend please RSVP olga.jimenez@sas.ac.uk

PROGRAMME

10.00-10.05 Welcome and Introduction

10.05 – 11.15 Dissecting the Man and the Myth

- Paul Sutton, Reader Emeritus, Hull University
  Ryan on Williams: An Appreciation and Critique

- Selwyn Ryan, University of the West Indies, St Augustine
  Response

- Colin Palmer, Schomburg Center
  Response

11.15 – 11.30 Tea & Coffee

11.30 -1.00 Politics & Ethnicity

- Colin Clarke, Professor Emeritus, Oxford University
  Reflections on Race, Religion and Politics in Trinidad and Tobago either side of Independence

- Brinsley Samaroo, University of the West Indies, St Augustine
  Dr Williams’ Academic East Indian Concerns

- Humberto Garcia Muniz, University of Puerto Rico
  The Pan-Caribbeanism of Eric Williams
1.00-2.00 Lunch Break (*Lunch will be provided for speakers and chairs only)

2.00 – 3.15 Politics & National Culture

- Teruyuki Tsuji, Kwansei Gakuin University
  *Villaging the Nation: Eric Williams and the Engineering of National Culture*

- Jacqueline Nunes, London School of Economics
  *Voice of the oppressed or the oppressor’s tool? A quantitative analysis of the relationship between calypso and the PNM*

3.15 – 4.30 Personal Reflections on Political Times

- Raoul Pantin, journalist and writer, Trinidad and Tobago
  *Eric Williams: A Personal Reflection*

- Raffique Shah, trade unionist and activist, Trinidad and Tobago
  *Eric Williams: Neutralising the Opposition*

4.30 – 4.50 Tea & Coffee

4.50-6.00 Legacies of the Williams Era

- Matthew Bishop, University of the West Indies, St Augustine
  *The Legacy of Eric Williams and Contemporary Trinidadian Politics*

- ROUND TABLE followed by open discussion: **Reflections on the Williams Era**

Including:
- Colin Palmer, Schomburg Centre, New York
- Selwyn Ryan, University of the West Indies, St Augustine
- Brinsley Samaroo, University of the West Indies, St Augustine

6.00 Reception

8.00 Speakers’ Dinner

*This conference has been made possible by the generous funding of the Eric Williams Memorial Collection Research Library, Archives & Museum at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, and by the Institute for the Study of the Americas*