



The Eric Williams Memorial Collection

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“The University of Woodford Square - 1956”

PORT OF SPAIN – On September 23, 2002, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago launched the stamp, *The University of Woodford Square - 1956* as the culmination of 40 days of celebration commemorating the nation’s 40th anniversary of Independence. The stamp is one of a set of four – three others honouring the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth. It is available both individually (approx. US 15 cents) and as a First Day Cover (approx. US 38 cents) from: TTPost, Philatelic Bureau, c/o Annette Figueria, National Mail Centre, PO. Box 1, Piarcro, Republic of Trinidad & Tobago.

The University of Woodford Square – 1956, an original acrylic painted by well-known local artist Adrian Camps-Campins, celebrates a time, place - indeed, a man who was central to the development of Trinidad and Tobago’s independent status and spirit. The painting depicts Dr. Eric Williams, the first Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, delivering one of his famous speeches in downtown Port of Spain to the massive crowds gathered in *Woodford Square*.

On the eve of Independence, the “University” of *Woodford Square* was, as Dr. Williams’ wrote in 1967, “a centre of free university education for the masses, of political analysis and training in self government, for parallels of which we must go back to the city state of ancient Athens. The lectures have been university dishes served with political sauce. They have given the people of Trinidad and Tobago a vision and a perspective.....by placing them in the context of the world struggle....for human freedom and for colonial emancipation. They have taught the people what one French writer of the 18th century saw as the greatest danger, that they have a mind.”

Adrian Camps-Campins who has, himself, exhibited at several international venues, among them the Meridian International Center in Washington, DC and the ‘Grand Palais’ in Paris, has agreed to allow the painting’s image to be used for the benefit of the Eric Williams Memorial Collection at the University of the West Indies. The Collection was inaugurated in 1998 by current **US Secretary of State, Colin Powell**. It has been named to **UNESCO’s** prestigious *Memory of the World Register* – the United Nations’ effort to preserve the world’s historical and cultural heritage.

The painting has been made available to the Eric Williams Memorial Collection through the generosity of *bpTT*.

A greeting card comprising photographs and other historical details, is also available for sale, as are Limited Edition 16” x 24” signed and numbered prints.

For orders, contact: Erica Williams Connell - ewc.suilan@juno.com.