

***WOMEN TREASURES
OF HAÏTI***

**PRESENTED BY:
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WHO ARE THOSE WOMEN?

- ① Mothers
- ① Wives
- ① Professionals
- ① Artists
- ① Writers

POPULATION: 8 MILLIONS

- More than 52% are women
- Women come from different social strata
- Great diversity
- There are commonalities and differences

WOMEN'S ROLE

RURAL WOMEN

- ❖ The backbone of the economy
 - ▷ Distribution and the marketing of the food products
 - ▷ 90% of the street vendors are female

- ❖ In the domestic field
 - ▷ Participate in the harvest of corn and rice / Cook
 - ▷ Responsible for the upbringing of their children
 - ▷ Support and remain with their mate

- ❖ Not politically active

CONT'D

URBAN WOMEN

- ① They are educated
- ① Vocationally oriented
- ① Are in the job market
- ① Are politically versed
- ① Have political power (Elected)

WOMEN IN HAITI'S HISTORY

From the Colonial Era

- ④ Queen **Anakaona**, leader of the Tainos (Indians)
 - ▷ Poet, dancer
 - ▷ Political (rebelled against the Spaniards)
 - ▷ Symbol of survival and pride of the era

REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

Marie Claire Heureuse Félicité

- Jean-Jacques Dessalines' wife. Cared for the sick and the prisoners.
- She is the 1st. Red Cross.
- Fought her husband's temper to save many French men's lives.



Sanite Belair

- Sergeant in Toussaint Louverture's army
- Fought for the Haitian independence
- Died with her husband, Charles Belair.

Women in Haiti's History (cont'd)

Marie Jeanne

- Inseparable companion of a great war hero, Lamartinière
- In the battle of 'La Crête-à-Pierrot', passed ammunitions around to the soldiers and loaded up the cannons.

Catherine Flon

- Goddaughter of Dessalines
- Sew the first flag in 1803
- Hero of the fight to end slave



Défilé [Marissainte Dédé Brazil]

- Buried the rest of Emperor Jean-Jacques Dessalines

HAITIAN ♀ CELEBRITIES

FROM THE 19TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT

- ① Activism
- ① Arts
- ① Literacy
- ① Poetry
- ① Writing

Haitian Women in Literature

Ida Salomon-Faubert

Daughter of late President Lysius Salomon

1st ♀ woman to publish a poem in Haïti -
'Poetry of the Heart' –



Cléante Desgraves-Valcin

1st Haitian woman to write a novel (1929)



Haitian Women in Literature (cont'd)

Marie Thérèse Colimon-Ha

Writer



Marie Vieux-Chauvet

- Haitian literature
- Stood against all forms of injustices
- Voodoo / slavery / colonialism are some of the themes she tackled.



Yvonne Hakim-Rimpel

Feminist, Journalist. Founder of the Women's League for Social Action (1934), group of intellectuals, professionals and activists of the middle and upper class. Focus on legal rights, suffrage, access to education, equality for married ♀ women.



Haitian Women in Literature (cont'd)

Paulette Poujol-Oriol

Writer/Journalist and Playwright

A die-hard feminist for 50 years

Former President of the Women's League
for Social Action



Mona Guérin

Actor/Journalist/Playwright/Entertainer



Haitian Women in Literature (cont'd)

Mimi Barthélémy

Story Teller

Lives in Paris



Evelyne Trouillot

Poet



Edwidge Danticat

- 1st Novel *Breath, Eyes Memory* 1994
- Strong advocate of issues affecting Haitians abroad and home



HAITIAN ♀ CELEBRITIES

FROM THE 19TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT

Ⓜ Music

Ⓜ Performing Arts

Haitian Women in Music

**LUMANE CASIMIR
(1917-1955)**

**SINGER / 1ST ♀ GUITAR PLAYER
DIED AS AN INDIGENT**



Haitian Women in Music (cont'd)

Martha Jean-Claude

Engaging music
The 'Woman of Two Islands'
50 songs and 8 albums



Toto (Marie Clotilde) Bissainthe

Actress
Homage to the lives/struggles/miseries
and spiritualities of working class and rural
Haitians



Haitian Women in Music (cont'd)

Lina Mathon-Blanchet

Musician / Composer

Haitian Folklore



Emerante De Pradines

Singer / Dancer / Actress

Micheline Laudun-Denis, Pianist

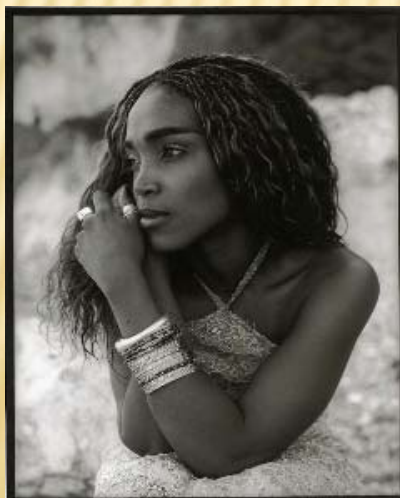
Haitian Women in Music (cont'd)

The Late Miriam Dorismé, singer

Carole (Mawoulé) Démesmin



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Emeline Michel

Musical Icon

'Queen of the Haitian Song'

Creates themes i.e. AIDS
and Peace Messages

Best Paintings by some Gifted Artists

- ① Tamara Baussant
- ① Rose-Marie Desruisseaux †
- ① Marie Thérèse DeVendegis
- ① Marie Josée Gardère
- ① Françoise Jean
- ① Edith Lataillade, Writer
- ① Michele Manuel
- ① Marie Alice Théard, Art Historian/ Writer
- ① Luce Turnier †

HAITIAN ♀ CELEBRITIES FROM THE 19TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT

® In Politics

Haitian Women in Politics

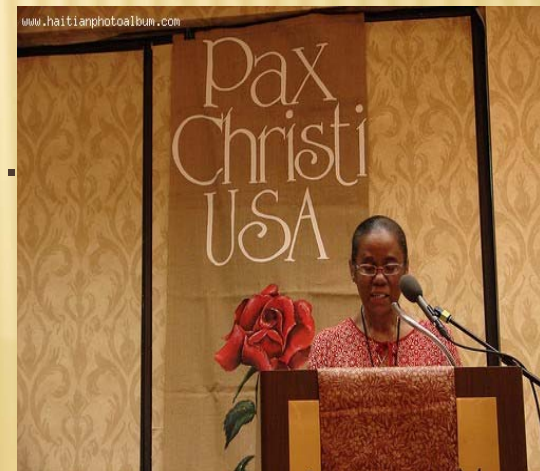
Ertha Pascal-Trouillot

1st. Woman Justice of the Haitian Supreme Court. Provisional President of Haiti. March 13th, 1990 - February 7th, 1991. 1st. woman to hold that office. Away from the public eye.



Claudette Werleigh

1st Female Prime Minister (1995 -1996). Founded the League for Women Empowerment – to promote women’s participation in politics. New Secretary General of Pax Christi International



Haitian Women in Politics (cont'd)

- **Mireille Durocher-Bertin**
Eminent lawyer. Activist.
- Assassinated. March 13th, 1995



In 2010, daughter **Sarojd**
(20 years old and a lawyer)
represented Haïti at the
Miss Universe Contest

Haitian Women in Politics (cont'd)

Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis

2nd Female Prime Minister (2008-2009)



Haitian Women in Politics (cont'd)

Myrlande Hyppolite Manigat



- Ⓜ Wife of President Lesly F. Manigat (1988)
- Ⓜ Elected Senator of the 47th Legislature (2005)
- Ⓜ Highly educated
- Ⓜ Presidential Candidate in the November 2010 Elections

THERE ARE MANY MORE

This selection of Haitian women in this presentation is far from being exhaustive. Several women contributors from our history may have been missed.

Apologies and Honor to them.

We hope that the work and contributions made by many women in the Haitian society were outlined in this presentation.

HAÏTIAN WOMEN FOR AN ETERNITY



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