

MIDEX Seminar Series 20-21

in collaboration with IBAR and the Black History Month

Canaan Limited: Canada in Black Slave and Neo-Slave Narratives

by Dr Astrid Haas (University of Central Lancashire)

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Wednesday 21st October 2020

4.00 – 5.00pm

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The lecture explores the depiction of Canada in mid-19th-century black slave narratives as well as 20th- and 21st-century neo-slave narratives. In the 19th century, Canada held a reputation of being a “land of liberty,” where slavery was absent and fugitives from slavery in the USA could establish a life in freedom. The lecture discusses how the autobiographies of former slaves Josiah Henson and Austin Steward portray Canada and its black community. These are compared to the images of the country in two novels about slavery, African American Ishmael Reed’s *Flight to Canada* (1976) and Black Canadian Lawrence Hill’s *The Book of Negroes* (2007)

Attendance is free

Hosted by UCLan Research Centre for Migration, Diaspora and Exile
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