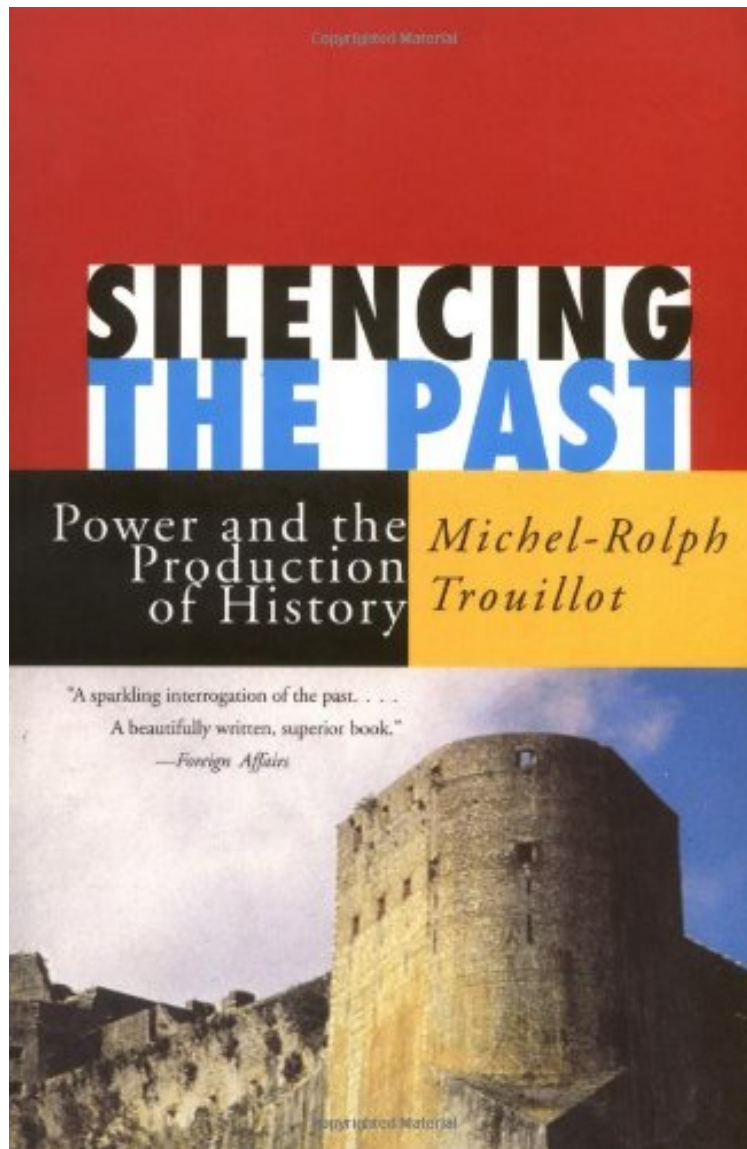


[Download pdf] Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History

Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History

Michel-Rolph Trouillot

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#185401 in Books 1997-07-30 1997-07-30 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.01 x .65 x 5.401, .58 #File Name: 0807043117216 pages | File size: 22.Mb

Michel-Rolph Trouillot : Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Silencing the Past: Power and the Production of History:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellently written and an intriguing view of how history is createdBy Stephen MatlockThis is an excellent book, for many reasons.First, it's a book about the history of the Western Hemisphere (mostly), centering on Haiti and San Souci, and then upon Columbus.Second, it's a book about

how history is determined. It's not just a compendium of facts. History is developed and managed based upon certain facts and upon the suppression of other certain facts. Third, it's a book about what history means, how facts are presented or suppressed, what the history of that history is. Fourth, it is simply an excellently written book. The language is crisp and accurate, the thought advances at a smooth but swift state, and the author is present in every paragraph and word. There is no hesitancy or evasiveness. I enjoyed this book. It's a history book, but I enjoyed it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. highly recommended By Rachel A great work for those interested in the construction and perpetuation of historical narratives, and ways to expand our understanding of history. The introduction and beginning is pretty theory-heavy, but then the book offers examples for understanding which are accessible, helpful, and engaging. Highly recommended - definitely has influenced my research and writing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the most important books I have ever read By A. Whisnant Difficult text, but absolutely key to understanding how history works. So very worth the time it takes to digest. New insights every time I re-read.

Placing the West's failure to acknowledge the most successful slave revolt in history alongside denials of the Holocaust and the debate over the Alamo, Michel-Rolph Trouillot offers a stunning meditation on how power operates in the making and recording of history.

From Booklist Trouillot, a widely respected scholar of Haitian history, has experienced firsthand how the recounting of historical "truth" can be manipulated to serve the interests of a particular group in power. Nevertheless, he rejects the facile proposition that history is no more than self-justifying propaganda written by the "winners" of conflict. Rather, he suggests that we can gain a broader and more accurate view of past events by striving to listen to a broader spectrum of voices. While recognizing that competing groups and individuals may lack equal access to modes of communication, he maintains that the variety of voices is there; we simply have to work harder to hear them. To illustrate this point, Trouillot examines the untold aspects of the Haitian independence struggle as well as the ongoing conflict over the "true" legacy of Columbus. Trouillot is a first-rate scholar with provocative ideas; general readers may find themselves somewhat lost in his discourses, but serious students of history should find his work a feast for the mind. Jay Freeman Now that so many grand projects of the past are up for reappraisal, Michel-Rolph Trouillot interrogates history, to ask how histories are in fact produced. . . . A beautifully written book, exciting in its challenges. --Eric R. Wolf "An accessible book filled with wisdom and humanity." --Bernard Mergen, *American Studies International* "Aphoristic and witty, [Silencing the Past] shows that the two senses in which history is made, by doers and by tellers, meet in moments of evidentiary silence. [A] hard-nosed look at the soft edges of public discourse about the past." --Arjun Appadurai "Trouillot is a first-rate scholar with provocative ideas. . . . His work [is] a feast for the mind." --Jay Freeman, *Booklist* "Trouillot makes the postmodernist debate come alive." --Choice "A sparkling interrogation of the past. . . . A beautifully written, superior book." --Foreign Affairs "Elegantly written and richly allusive. . . . Silencing the Past is an important contribution to the anthropology of history. Its most lasting impression is made perhaps by Trouillot's own voice--endlessly agile, sometimes cuttngly funny, but always evocative in a direct and powerful, almost poetic way." --Donald L. Donham, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* "Written with clarity, wit, and style throughout, this book is for everyone interested in historical culture." --Civilization About the Author Michel-Rolph Trouillot, one of the most prominent Haitian scholars in the United States, is director of the Institute for Global Studies in culture, Power, and History and Krieger/Eisenhower Distinguished Professor in anthropology at Johns Hopkins University.