If I had to pick a painting in the history of art that has moved me the most, it would be Rembrandt's Susanna because it touches me both as a woman and as an artist. When Rembrandt depicted this Susanna, the figure of the nude was transformed from a purely decorative form to a psychological model. Because Rembrandt shows the elders spying on a woman at her most intimate moment, he makes an artistic declaration that this woman has been objectified and fragmented by the male gaze. It is significant that the skin of this nude is not the youthful blooming skin of a young woman, instead the model may have been his more mature wife.

I have chosen Susanna as the central focus because the strong women surrounding her understand and negate her suffering, dismiss the elders and re-member her. These women are my mentors and are growing into age knowing their wholeness.
Aida Da Graça, 62 years old

"Regardless of my age, I feel happy. I feel myself young with plenty of energy, always ready to confront the realities of life."
"I think it's quite normal to be anxious about aging. For all of us it means entering unknown territory, with its attendant fears. The reality for me has been that growing older has meant a time of much greater freedom. My children are grown and increasingly independent. I am free to develop my own person, in a way that I never had the courage to do when I was younger. I am discovering strengths and recognizing weaknesses. I don't need to apologize and explain as much as I used to. I wish I'd known ten years ago that getting older would be this interesting, because I have spent too much time in the past worrying about it."

Elizabeth Topp, 47 years old

"As we get older, many of us fret about the inability to remember — but the things we demand that our minds hold onto are often the very clutter that fragments us. What we need most, during these years, is the ability to centre the self and develop the inner strengths that a long life can provide...We must write our own revolutionary stories to live into."

Shelagh Wilkinson, 64 years old
"It is now that I begin to feel the years in my body. But as long as I can be active and dance, I continue to feel young."

"No meaning that comes from outside of ourselves is real. The most important things that each woman must learn, no one else can teach her. It is enough for a woman to accept her freedom, take her best shot, do what she can, face the consequences of her acts and make no excuses. At my best, I take full responsibility for what I do and for what I choose not to do. I see that there is no prison except that which I construct to protect myself from feeling pain, from resisting my losses. Life is not a rehearsal."
“I have learned that our ease or grace in accepting the aging process is determined by our values. I have sought meaning in the inner life and welcome what time brings — the honing of mind and spirit, a greater plentitude of wisdom, self-understanding and joy. Especially joy. Now, at forty-two I have new life — his [our son's] pure joy in each of us; if we can touch it, we are ageless.”
"Rebecca West got it right. When she was in her nineties, she said: 'The only problem with getting old is that your upholstery wears out.'"
**Narratives of Black Working Women in Ontario 1920s - 1950s**

by Dionne Brand
with the assistance of
Lois De Shield and the Immigrant Women's Job Placement Centre

Through oral histories Dionne Brand documents the lives of Black women in Ontario from the 1920s to the 50s. These voices bring to life decades previously excluded from the historical record of Black life in Canada.

Renowned poet, Dionne Brand has previously published work that includes Sans Souci, a collection of short stories, as well as six volumes of poetry. Her most recent publication, No Language is Neutral was nominated for the 1990 Governor-General's Award for poetry.

“No Burden to Carry exquisitely weaves the threads of autobiography and history into a flexible and meaningful relationship. Never again will I be at a loss for names of Black women who have stood at the junctions of Canadian history.”

— ANGELA Y. DAVIS

$17.95 pb  0-88961-163-7  288 pages

---

**THE GRANDDAUGHTERS OF IXMUCANÉ**

Guatemalan Women Speak
As told to
Emilie Smith-Ayala

The granddaughters of Ixmucané are Guatemalan women who have survived violence and terror, women dedicated to Guatemala's struggles for liberation. In this essential and unique political document their compelling voices insist that their history be heard and recorded even as they continue to suffer and struggle.

Smith-Ayala skillfully weaves the testimonies of more than twenty-five women, women whose lives bear witness to stories of tragedy and pain, of survival and growth and of resistance and revolt into a forceful embodiment of women's role in the global struggle for peace, justice and equality.

$17.95 pb  0-88961-169-6  256 pages

---

**RE-BELLE ET INFIDÈLE/ THE BODY BILINGUAL**

Translation as a Re-Writing in the Feminine

by Susanne de Lotbinière-Harwood

A truly bilingual book by an award-winning feminist translator. In Re-Belle et Infidèle, The Body Bilingual, Susanne de Lotbinière-Harwood explores the complex terrain of translating the writing of feminists who use language innovation to create a feminized space in language. She writes simply and clearly, drawing the reader into the mind of a woman at work on a project that is philosophical, political, cultural and literary. Written in both French and English, this book is a unique contribution to feminist literary theory and an essential for literary translators.

The author is the winner of the Felix Antoine Savard Prize for her translation of Letters From An Other.

“To read her work is to understand translation as an act of creation.”

— LISE WEIL, Trivia

$18.95 pb  0-88961-166-1  174 pages