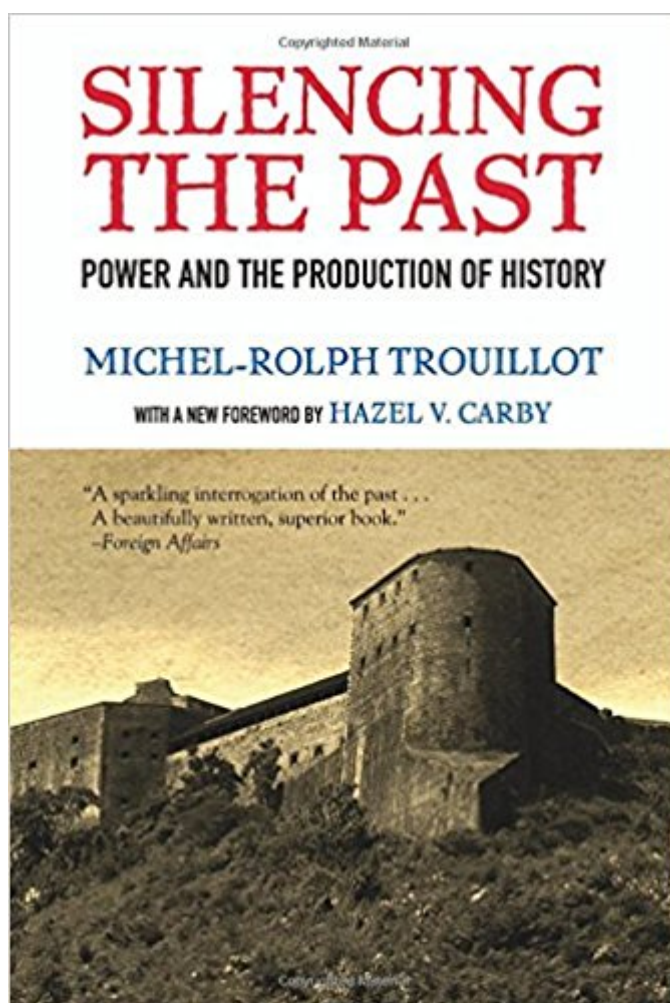


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# Silencing The Past: Power And The Production Of History, 20th Anniversary Edition



## Synopsis

Foreword by Hazel V. Carby – A modern classic about power and the making of history, with a new foreword by a prominent scholar – Placing the West’s failure to acknowledge the most successful slave revolt in history alongside denials of the Holocaust and the debates over the Alamo and Christopher Columbus, Michel-Rolph Trouillot offers a stunning meditation on how power operates in the making and recording of history. Presented here with a new foreword by renowned scholar Hazel V. Carby, *Silencing the Past* is an indispensable analysis of the silences in our historical narratives, of what is omitted and what is recorded, what is remembered and what is forgotten, and what these silences reveal about inequalities of power.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“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 “Written with clarity, wit, and style throughout, this book is for everyone interested in historical culture.”

• American Historical Review “[Trouillot was] a transformative presence in multiple fields [who] redefined the meaning of scholarship. . . . Trouillot

taught us all how to read carefully, argue passionately, and write responsibly. — Colin Dayan, Boston Review

— Colin Dayan, Boston Review

Michel-Rolph Trouillot (1949–2012) was one of the most prominent Haitian scholars working in the United States. He was the director of the Institute for Global Studies in Culture, Power, and History and Krieger/Eisenhower Distinguished Professor in anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. Hazel V. Carby is the Charles C. and Dorothea S. Dilley Professor of African American Studies, professor of American studies, and director of the Initiative on Race, Gender and Globalization at Yale University.

An important analysis of the epistemology of history.

This is by far one of the best books on History that a person interested in history could ever read. It stays with you decades after your first reading, and provides new and powerful insights on each rereading. It was as influential in my historical thinking as Benedict Anderson's *Imagined Communities*, and more thought-provoking than the entire corpus of Subaltern Studies. If you are not interested in history--and if you think that the Haitian revolution is not interesting enough for a scholar to develop a conceptual analysis of history, your interest in history is quite... defective--you may wish to skip this text and read something on the American or French Revolutions. For the hundredth time.

Everyone should take the time to read this if they get the chance. It has a very important message that needs to be shared.

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very instructive book. it will definitely recommend it to others

This is a must read for any student of history.

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