

Exploring Slave Resistance in Glasgow

Haitian revolutionary General Toussaint Louverture made a guest appearance at the Riverside Museum in Glasgow on 27 September 2019, to help families understand the importance of the Haitian Revolution and the vital roles enslaved and free Black people played to initiate and lead the first and only successful revolt to end a brutal and unjust system of enslavement in the Caribbean. Although the Haitian Revolution gave rise to the first free Black republic and has shaped our world, and understanding of social justice, freedom and activism, but its history was long-obscured and misrepresented. Black scholars such as CLR James and Michel-Rolph Trouillot uncovered this rich and vital story and, today, researchers at the University of Glasgow, are trying to build on this revolutionary work to challenge racism, raise awareness of Scotland's role in slavery and empire and the important of slave resistance to slavery.

The event highlighted research done by Rachel Douglas (SMLC) which resulted in her book, 'Making the Black Jacobins', Peggy Brunache on the creative and resourceful foodways of enslaved people as a form of Black resistance in the Caribbean, Rosie Spooner on decolonising museum collections and interpretation and Christine Whyte on the history of seeking refuge from slavery through flight.