



DÉZAFI

Launching the English translation of Frankétienne's masterful work.

**TUESDAY,
MARCH 19
5:05–7:30 P.M.**

**GOLD ROOM,
BROOKLYN COLLEGE
STUDENT CENTER**

Haitian Studies Institute

The CUNY Haitian Studies Institute, in cooperation with the Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities, Department of Africana Studies, and the Caribbean Studies program at Brooklyn College present writer, musician, painter, and activist **Frankétienne**, and **Asselin Charles**, Ph.D., a scholar of Black Atlantic literature, for the launch of the English translation of Kreyòl novel *Dézafi*.

An outspoken challenger of political oppression, **Frankétienne** is considered by many to be the “father of Haitian letters.” A candidate for the 2009 Nobel Prize in Literature, he was presented France’s prestigious *Commandeur dans l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* in 2010.

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Asselin Charles had a long career as a professor of comparative literature and is now an independent scholar. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Literature in 1988 at Penn State University. A scholar of the literature of Africa and the African diaspora, Charles focused his research on the parallels and intersection of writings from the Caribbean and the Harlem Renaissance. He is known for a number of notable English translations, including Frankétienne’s novel *Dézafi*, described by its publishers, The University of Virginia Press, as “the tale of a plantation that is run and worked by zombies,” that is “a powerful allegory of political and social liberation.”

The event will be hosted with the co-sponsorship of Black and Latino Male Initiative and Haitian American Student Association.

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College**

