

“CONFERENCE: HOMAGE TO CHESTER HIMES”

Presentation:

This conference is inscribed within the commemoration of the centenary of the birth of the author Chester Himes, on the day when he passed away 25 years ago, November 12th.

As an author of international prestige, in 1969, he settled down in Teulada-Moraira (Marina Alta, Alicante, Spain), where he lived for the rest of his life establishing a close relationship with its people and geographical location. This relationship still continues today by means of the presence of his wife, Lesley Himes, who lives there, and the attention paid by many followers of his literary work (writers, filmmakers, critics and academic researchers) who have visited the area.

The Town Council of Teulada-Moraira and the Universidad Permanente of the Universidad de Alicante, with the cooperation of the Sede Universitaria de Benissa, organise a homage to this acclaimed Afro-American author, who is contemporary and universal, with the purpose of a cultural, linguistic and academic integration.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- **Antoni Joan Bertomeu Vallés**, *Mayor of Teulada*.
- **Concepción Bru Ronda**, *Head of the Universidad Permanente in the Universidad de Alicante*.
- **John D. Sanderson**, *Coordinator of the conference, Universidad de Alicante*.
- **Teresa Morell Moll**, *Head of the Sede Universitaria de la Marina, Universidad de Alicante*

SECRETARIAT

Campus de San Vicente del Raspeig
Apdo. Correos 99 - 03080 – Alicante
Tel: +34 - 965909454 and +34 - 965903400– 2730
Fax: +34 - 965909812
E-mail: upua.intercultural@ua.es

FUTHER INFORMATION ALSO AT:

Sede Universitaria de Benissa, C/Purissima, 57-59
E-mail: seu.benissa@ua.es and Tel. 965 73 35 62

ORGANISING by:



Teulada  Moraira



COLLABORATE



CONFERENCE



“CONFERENCE: HOMAGE TO CHESTER HIMES”

Thursday 12th to Saturday 14th November 2009
Espai La Senieta, Moraira
Town Hall of Teulada

“CONFERENCE: HOMAGE TO CHESTER HIMES”

This is a conference for:

- Experts and researchers on this author’s literary work.
- Filmmakers and cinema producers.
- Foreign residents and associations related to the work of Chester Himes.
- Academics: lecturers and students interested in the *noir* genre.
- Any other individuals interested in Chester Himes’ work.

THURSDAY

12

NOVEMBER

18:00 h Official opening:
Mayor of Teulada-Moraira, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Alicante, Coordinator of the conference, and Lesley Himes (the author’s widow).

18:30 h Lecture (in French): **‘Chester Himes: An American in Paris’**. Claude Mésplède. Author and critic of crime novels.

19:45 h Lecture (in Spanish): **‘A biographical perspective of Chester Himes’**. Rosario Bru Ronda, Spanish researcher.

21:00 h Opening of photographic exhibition based on Chester Himes’ work. Donna Rothraud de Meindorfer.

FRIDAY

13

NOVEMBER

10:30 h Lecture (in Spanish). **‘Chester Himes: the last great unorthodox noir author’**. Mariano Sánchez Soler, Author and journalist.

11:45 h Reading of the short story (in English). **‘Christmas Gift’** (Chester Himes, 1944), John Sanderson. University of Alicante.

12:15 h Projection of the short film ‘Un Regalo de navidad’ (in Spanish with English subtitles). (Juana Ronda, 2009).

12:30 h Round table with the director and actors of ‘Un regalo de navidad’.

13:30 h Break.

16:30 h Lecture (in Spanish): **‘Film adaptations of Chester Himes’ novels: Coffin Ed Johnson and Grave Digger Jones on the screen’**. John D. Sanderson, University of Alicante.

17:45 h Round Table:
Moderator:

- Teresa Morell Moll, Head of the Sede Universitaria de la Marina of the UA.

With the participation of:

- Bernat Capó, Author.
- Mariano Sánchez Soler, Author and journalist.
- John D. Sanderson, University of Alicante.

19:00 h Presentation and projection of ‘Cotton Comes to Harlem’ (Ossie Davis, 1970).

Aims:

- Biographical analysis of the author and his influence on Teulada-Moraira during the last fifteen years of his life.
- In-depth study of his work in order to contribute to its wider knowledge.
- Development of papers and panels by experts, researchers, relevant institutions or individuals who established a relationship with the author can discuss his work, literary production and repercussions on art.
- Presentation of the latest contributions to the analysis of his work, including audiovisual productions of Spanish origin.
- Supply an open space for an intercultural gathering that will strengthen the sociolinguistic integration of foreign citizens living within the area of influence of the University of Alicante.

SATURDAY

14

NOVEMBER

09:15 h Concentration in Espai La Senieta.

09:30 h Visit through the Town Centre of Moraira, and to the Monument of Chester Himes.

10:00 h Visit to Teulada Town Centre
Visit to the Almàssera (olive press museum, Historical Centre of Teulada and the “Cooperativa Agrícola San Vicente Ferrer”.

12:45 h Return to Moraira.

13:00 h Closure of the conferences: Musical performances of the Choir of La Senieta and the Colla de Dolçainers i Tabalaters el Falçó.