

BLACK WOMEN IN ANTIQUITY

Edited by Ivan Van Sertima

THE AFRICAN EVE

A summary of the controversies raging over the find of "Lucy", our first known human ancestor.

... Ivan Van Sertima

GREAT QUEENS OF ETHIOPIA

... Charles S. Finch, M.D. and Larry Williams

THE FEMALE HORUSES AND GREAT WIVES OF EGYPT

... Diedre Wimby

NEFERTITI: QUEEN TO A SACRED MISSION

... Sonia Sanchez

AFRICAN GODDESSES

... Runoko Rashidi

ISIS: THE BLACK MADONNA

... Eloise McKinney-Johnson

THE WARRIOR QUEENS OF AFRICA

... John Henrik Clarke

THE IMAGE OF WOMAN IN ANCIENT AFRICAN ART:

... Rosalind Jeffries

FEMALE STYLE AND BEAUTY IN ANCIENT AFRICA

... Camille Yarborough

GREAT BLACK WOMEN IN EARLY EUROPE

... Edward Scobie

CLEOPATRA IN HISTORY

... Carolyn Shuttlesworth

Black Women In Antiquity

OUT ON APRIL 15, 1984

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The articles are beautifully illustrated, the treatment lively and scholarly. The book **Black Women in Antiquity** features some of the best African-American researchers in the field, writing for both the academic and the layman.

This will be the third special journal to be published as a book by the *Journal of African Civilizations*. For the information of those who would like to order the other two, the first of these *Blacks in Science: Ancient and Modern* is still available at \$12.00. The second *Egypt Revisited* is a reprint of *Egyptian History Revised* - Vol. 4, No. 2, (November, 1982) but it is reprinted in new cover with a major additional article "Conversations with Cheikh Anta Diop" by Dr. Charles S. Finch, M.D. This will be published in October (1983) and will sell for \$7.50 plus 75¢ postage.

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SUMMARIZED VITA ON IVAN VAN SERTIMA

Ivan Van Sertima was born in Guyana, South America. He was educated at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University and the Rutgers Graduate School and holds degrees in African Studies, Linguistics and Anthropology.

He is a literary critic, a linguist, and an anthropologist and has made a name in all three fields.

As a literary critic, he is the author of Caribbean Writers, a collection of critical essays on the Caribbean Novel. He is also the author of several major literary reviews published in Denmark, India, Britain and the United States. He was honored for his work in this field by being asked by the Nobel Committee of the Swedish Academy to nominate candidates for the Nobel Prize in Literature, from 1976-1980.

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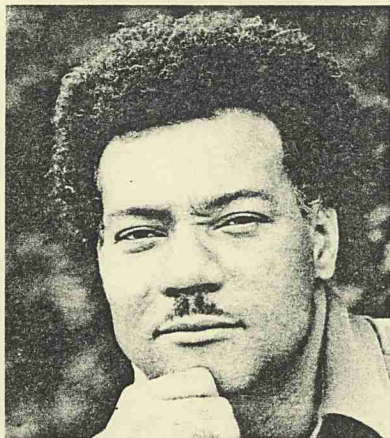
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Literary Critic, Linguist, and Anthropologist

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Dr. Van Sertima is author of *They Came Before Columbus: the African Presence in Ancient America*; Associate Professor, Africana Studies, Douglass College, Rutgers University; Editor and Founder of the *Journal of African Civilizations*.

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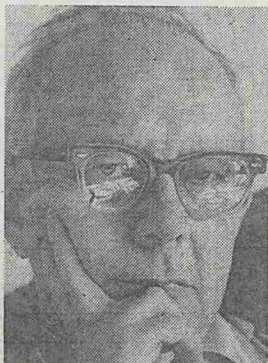
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THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 1981



The New York Times/William E. Sauro

Irving Howe

added, "without having some sense of occupying a distinctive place in the scheme of things."

Music: Calliope

By JOHN ROCKWELL

The New Calliope Singers' "Sixth Annual Recital of Choral Chamber Music" on Friday night at Alice Tully Hall won no prizes for stylistic coherence — the music ranged gleefully from Billings to Gibbons to Russell Pinkston to Marga Richter to Hindemith to Brahms to Bartok to Monteverdi to Maurice Wright. But the nature of the choral medium imposed a certain unity to the evening, and the general excellence of the performances under Peter Schubert's direction kept things buoyant.

Of the three pieces of new music, two were commissions receiving their first performances. Miss Richter's "To Whom?" proved an evocatively chromatic setting of Virginia Woolf, interspersed with a Kyrie. Mr. Wright's "Like an Autumn Sky" was an amiable collage of text-settings, replete with spoken bits, three pianists at one keyboard, two percussionists and various

Van Sertima Wins Prize for Book on Africa

Ivan Van Sertima, a linguist and anthropologist, has won the 1981 Clarence L. Holte Prize for his book "They Came Before Columbus."

Published in 1976 by Random House, the book presents evidence that Africans sailed west to the Americas for trade and exploration 2,200 years before Columbus arrived.

In a ceremony at Columbia University's Low Memorial Library recently, Jewel Plummer Cobb, dean of Douglass College, presented Mr. Van Sertima with a citation and the \$7,500 award. Dr. Cobb is a director of the Twenty-First Century Foundation, which administers the prize.

Mr. Van Sertima is editor of the Journal of African Civilization and has written "Caribbean Writers," a collection

of essays, and compiled the Swahili Dictionary of Legal Terms.

The Holte award, begun in 1979, is given every two years "for a work of excellence in literature and the humanities relating to the cultural heritage of Africa and the African diaspora." Chancellor Williams, the historian, received the first prize for his analysis of Africa, "The Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race From 4500 B.C. to A.D. 2000."

The award is named for Clarence L. Holte, a retired advertising executive who is thought to have the largest private collection of books and literature on Africa. In 1977, Mr. Holte donated his collection to the Kashim Ibrahim Library of Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria.

DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN

OCTOBER, 1982

IVAN VAN SERTIMA

Columbus discovered America or did he? Ivan Van Sertima, an anthropologist, linguist, professor and literary critic, has refuted this long-held belief.

In 1976, Van Sertima authored the book, *"They Came Before Columbus: The African Presence in Ancient America."* This treatise debunked the cemented notion that Christopher Columbus first trespassed onto the New World. Van Sertima, armed with statistics, documents and other historical material, advanced the theory that blacks were the first visitors to set foot in America — not as slaves, but as free men and women experienced in navigation, proficient in art and capable of shaping their own destiny.

Born in Guyana, South America, Van Sertima is a mixture of African, American Indian, German, Dutch and Scotch. He attended London University's School of Oriental and African Studies. Having never been exposed or educated on the history of Africa, he began his quest to learn more about the unknown continent.

After studying the literature of Africa through poems and stories written in Swahili, and his curiosity further ignited by the revelations contained in fiction, Van Sertima forged into the area of anthropology, where he first became aware of the sophistication of early African societies.

During a 1970 visit to America, he read *Africa and the Discovery of America*. This book presented evidence of African and Arabic influences on medieval Mexican and South American languages. Its clues, added to those contained in the work of Alexander von Wuthenau, a lecturer in art at Mexico City's University of the Americas, provided the impetus for Van Sertima's book. Von Wuthenau had unearthed a large number of negroid heads in clay, gold, copper and copal sculpted by pre-Columbian American artists. "Their negritude could not be explained away," said Van Sertima. "Their colorations, fullness of lip, kinky hair, generously-fleshed noses and compound earrings."

Van Sertima spent years compiling a spate of material to provide the ammunition that enabled him to categorically advance the premise that before Columbus, black people from Africa had already reached these shores and had reigned as free men with skills. Van Sertima buttressed his theory with the discovery of huge, sculptured stone heads,



nearly 2,000 years old, four of which were found at LaVenta, Mexico. Each head stands eight feet high and the large one weighs around 40 tons.

"The heads are unmistakably African," asserts Van Sertima. "There would be no reason to erect huge monuments to the Negro if his only role had been that of a slave."

Van Sertima further believes the first immigrant Africans came from a region to the south of Egypt, which shared in the glories of ancient Egyptian civilization. He writes that after centuries of being a military power behind the Egyptian throne, black Nubian kings became the Egyptian monarchy in the eighth century B.C. It was around that time that some of the stone heads with dome-shaped helmets resembling those used by the Nubian military in the first millennium B.C. were constructed.

Van Sertima, the scholar, has woven facts into a narrative constructed by Van Sertima, the artist. What has emerged is a compelling work that captures history in a spellbinding manner. His book, published by Random House in 1977, is now in its seventh printing. It was published in French in 1981 and, that same year, was awarded the *Clarence L. Holte Prize*, a prize awarded biennially, "for work of excellence in literature and the humanities relating to the cultural heritage of Africa and the African diaspora."

Van Sertima's interest in Africa has manifested itself in other ventures. As a linguist, he has published essays on the dialect of the Sea Islands off the Georgia coast. He is also the compiler of the *Swahili Dictionary of Legal Terms*, based on his field-work in Tanzania, East Africa in 1967. As a literary critic, he is the author of *Caribbean Writers*, a collection of critical essays on the Caribbean novel. He is also editor of the *Journal of African Civilizations*.

He is an associate professor of African Studies at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, visiting associate professor at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey and the recipient of scores of honors. He was asked by the prestigious Nobel Committee of the Swedish Academy to nominate candidates for the Nobel Prize in Literature from 1976-1980.

Ivan Van Sertima, professor, author, anthropologist, literary critic, artist, linguist, editor and black man, continues to make inroads that firmly rank him as one of the world's most venerable Africanists.



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- Rates are quoted in U.S. currency unless otherwise specified on the reverse side. For Canadian destination hotels, rates are quoted in Canadian currency.
- Rates confirmed are per room per night. Tour rates are quoted per person unless otherwise specified.
- U.S. dollar rates are subject to fluctuations between the currency exchange rate at the time of confirmation and at the time of checkout.
- Applicable Taxes, Service Charge, and Added Value Tax (A-V Tax) will be added to the hotel bill.

DEPOSIT/CANCELLATION REQUIREMENTS

- Any required deposit is specified on the reverse side and must reach the destination hotel by the date shown; otherwise, the reservation will be cancelled.
- The deposit must be made payable to the hotel and sent to the attention of the "Front Office Manager". Please include the arrival date on the check and/or correspondence.
- Cancellation of a reservation for which a deposit has been sent must reach the destination hotel by the date specified on the reverse side or the deposit will be forfeited.
- A new deposit is required for revisions received after the cancellation refund deadline date.

This confirmation should be presented at the front desk upon check-in. Reservation is not transferable.

For immediate hotel information, please contact the nearest **HILTON RESERVATION SERVICE** office, Hilton Hotel, Hilton Inn, Hilton International or Vista International hotel anywhere in the world. Consult the telephone directory for the local or toll-free number serving your city.

Dr Leonard Clarke
6700 Jean Drive,
Raleigh,
North Carolina 27612

December 3, 1983

Dear Dr Clarke,

Thank you very much for the invitation to speak on January 31, 1984. I could fly out on the Monday and speak on the Tuesday, even on Monday night, and cover as many engagements as you like. I would have to catch an early flight back on Wednesday morning to be in time for lectures at 1 p.m.

I will bring, as you suggested, at least a dozen copies of They Came Before Columbus and, according to how you would like to structure it, I could speak both on the African Presence in Ancient America as well as Blacks in Science: Ancient and Modern.

I enclose a photo, summarized vita, and a cutting from The New York Times and Dollars and Sense. I also enclose a copy of the latest journal - Egypt Revisited.

As we agreed, my honorarium for the talks is \$500 plus expenses. The number of talks does not matter, once it is not more than three in a day since that is the limit of my capacity to speak effectively.

I look forward to hearing from you. Any questions, please call me on (201) 828-5443 or 4667.

Yours, in good faith,

Ivan Van Sertima
Ivan Van Sertima

Ivan Van Sertima,
59, South Adelaide Avenue,
Highland Park,
New Jersey 08904.



North Carolina State University

P. O. Box 5067, Raleigh, N. C. 27650

Office of the Provost
and Vice-Chancellor

January 12, 1984

Dr. Ivan Van Sertima
59, South Adelaide Avenue
Highland Park, New Jersey 08904

Dear Dr. Van Sertima:

This is to confirm your lecture series on January 31, 1984 at North Carolina State University.

It is our understanding and our agreement that your fee for this lecture series will be \$500.00 plus travel, lodging and meal expenditures. We look forward to having you and we are planning a maximum of 3 lectures on the 31st. In addition, we hope that your arrival time on the 30th will enable you to present a lecture on that date.

Looking forward to seeing you again, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lawrence".

Lawrence M. Clark
Associate Provost

LMC/ci



North Carolina State University

P. O. Box 5067, Raleigh, N. C. 27650

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Associate Provost

LMC/ci

January 30-31, 1984
Dr. Ivan Van Sertima
Purpose: Lecture on Africa & Black Presence in America

SSN: 142-50-4681

Air Travel Expenses-----	\$298.00
Lodging Accommodations-----	80.00
Honorarium-----	500.00
Subsistence*-----	43.00
TOTAL EXPENSES -----	\$921.00

* Jan. 30
Dinner.....\$13.00
Jan. 31 25.00
B5.00 L7.00, D-13.00
Feb. 1
B5.00 5.00
 \$43.00

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B5.00	
	\$43.00

North Carolina State University
presents

IVAN VAN SERTIMA

Literary Critic, Linguist, and Anthropologist

LECTURE SERIES



SPEAKING ON "EARLY AFRICAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY"
AND "AFRICAN PRESENCE IN ANCIENT AMERICA"

Dr. Van Sertima is author of *They Came Before Columbus: the African Presence in Ancient America*; Associate Professor, Africana Studies, Douglass College, Rutgers University; Editor and Founder of the *Journal of African Civilizations*.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1981

2:00 p.m.

AND

7:30 p.m.

STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM, NCSU STUDENT CENTER

SPONSORED BY: THE PROVOST OFFICE

Seminar ^{500? + expenses}
Ivan Van Sertimer

Jan 30 and 31, 1984

Time:

How Many:

pay per
Lucy Hunter

Room - On Campus to speak

Lucy Hunter

Student Center Ball
Room (availability)

Purpose: Lecturer (Africa & Black
Presence in America)

Provost Office - sponsor

7/5/84

Patsy Poole - University Student Center



James