

# BOYDELL & BREWER AFRICAN GRIOT

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## HERERO GENOCIDE

### GERMANY'S GENOCIDE OF THE HERERO

In 1904, the indigenous Herero people of German South West Africa (now Namibia) rebelled against their German occupiers. In the following four years, the German army retaliated and killed between 60,000 and 100,000 Herero.

Jeremy Sarkin is Chairperson-Rapporteur of the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, and is at present Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. He is also an Attorney of the High Court of South Africa and of the State of New York.

In this exclusive article on his new book, **Germany's Genocide of the Herero: Kaiser Wilhelm II, His General, His Settlers, His Soldiers** (James Currey, March 2011), Jeremy Sarkin explains how his involvement in Transitional Justice first brought him into contact with the Herero people, and how his book traces the events of the genocide back not to rogue or out of control forces on the ground, but instead to Germany's national goals, specifically the ruthless acquisition of colonies around the world in a very short space of time.

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*Germany's Genocide of the Herero...* [read more](#)

## WHITE STATE, BLACK SECURITY

### AFRICAN POLICE AND SOLDIERS

Timothy Stapleton, professor of history at Trent University in Ontario, recently spoke to us about his forthcoming book **African Police and Soldiers in Colonial Zimbabwe, 1913-80** (URP, June 2011), which explains how the security of Southern Rhodesia's ruling white population came to depend upon arming and training ever greater numbers of black Africans.

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*Professor Stapleton, would you kindly tell us a little something about your work and career to date?*

*I am a Canadian who became interested in African History when I was an undergraduate student in the 1980s. I did a PhD in...* [read more](#)



### INTERVIEW

**Zimbabwe's Land Reform** (James Currey, November 2010) by Ian Scoones and co-authors Nelson Marongwe, Blasio Mavedzenge, Jacob Mahenhene, Felix Murimbarimba and Chrispen Sukume, has generated a great deal of media coverage. In fact, the chances are that you've already read at least one article or heard an interview based on it.

Here Ian Scoones explains the scope of his team's lengthy research and highlights some of their key findings. He also considers some of the immediate reactions to the book.

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*This book is very topical, but also very detailed. How long has the research taken you and your co-authors?... [read more](#)*

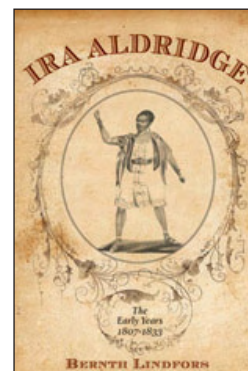
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## THE AFRICAN ROSCIUS

### IRA ALDRIDGE

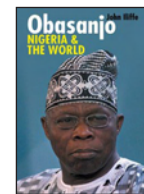
Three years ago Bernth Lindfors, professor emeritus of English and African literatures at the University of Texas at Austin, edited a collection of essays, **Ira Aldridge: The African Roscius** (URP, 2007), which we have just published in its first paperback edition. Later this year we will publish the first two volumes of his new biography: **Ira Aldridge's Early Years, 1807-1833** and **Ira Aldridge's Vagabond Years: 1833-1852**.

Professor Lindfors kindly agreed to discuss his work with us, to outline Aldridge's life and career, and to explain the significance of his many achievements. [read more](#)



## NEW AND FORTHCOMING

### OBASANJO, NIGERIA AND THE WORLD



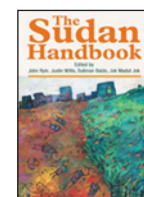
This first full account of Obasanjo's life from 1937 to 2010 combines an analysis of an exceptionally vital and complicated man with a history of his country.

### NIGERIA, NATIONALISM, AND WRITING HISTORY



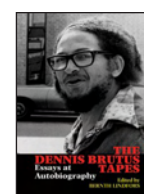
Traces the history of writing about Nigeria since the 19th century, with an emphasis on the rise of nationalist historiography and the leading themes.

### THE SUDAN HANDBOOK



A compact and useable introduction to the understanding of contemporary Sudan, and a convenient reference work.

### THE DENNIS BRUTUS TAPES



Tapes recorded by poet and anti-apartheid activist Dennis Brutus in the 1970s, and edited here by Bernth Lindfors, give valuable insights into his life and works.

### MEN IN AFRICAN FILM AND FICTION



Fills a gap in the international literature by offering new insights into the heterogeneous ways in which African men are performing, negotiating and experiencing masculinity.

The next issue of the **AFRICAN GRIOT** will be published in September 2011