



unrest
in the
nebulæ

gitan
djeli

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BUY

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DUKE

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shaping ground together

gratitude to writers and poets who craft
oceanspheres of understanding one can rest in
and absorb the magnitude

i hope the lines reach you like they arrived
in waves in urgency in moments of clarity in
times when everything collapses

this murmuration of poems was written through
the lens of an oceanic historymaking and a
visualsonic archive of the kreol oceanlands in
Ziwa Kuu the deep waters—disnamed indian
ocean by coloniser-enslavers

unrest in the nebulae slow reads the everyday
geography of history—marked by *post-1492*
extractive logics of colonisation it draws from
anticolonial writings Black study queer loving
and from

*stories in tongues of ancestors from lands continents stories that do not
discover voyage arrive and settle*

the book of poetic utterances as method
experiments with the materiality of an
atmospheric worldmaking plausible living
through the wounds of this human epoch it halts
genocidal narratives of exploration conquering
possession ownership and weaves in a cosmo-
geological historiography

it attempts to disrupt the vocabulary and
grammar of war and economy that characterise
narratives of nationalist history writing

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the nebulae situate five hundred years of unrest
exploitative colonisation ecocide extinction
militarisation and deportation slavery indenture
negotiated nationhood postcolonial plantation
structures and apologist histories

a collection in conversation with a lineage of
Caribbean poetics and philosophy from Kamau
Brathwaite to Sylvia Wynter it underlines the
afterlives of slavery with postindependence
prison institutions from another sea it unrests
with languaging as a possible process of
performing the future of abolition on the page

the nebulae also radiate a certain opacity and
tenderness of voice to create space for repair—
tending to our frequency restoring broken
histories holding safe moments from
generational hurt geographies of harm
surveillance profiling and policing structures of
distress

it is guided by and guides towards the sonic
resonance of a reciprocal rhythm a kreol call-and-
response poetics and sea shanties to situate rituals
flows occurrences and practices

most tenderly it is a wave of prose poems about
tongues and songs and conversations on
archipelagoes of lands and peaks that witness life
and living through the catastrophe of our times

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