Rex Nettleford contributes to book on violence

A new book published by Rutgers University Press on Violence and Aggression in the History of Ideas, contains a chapter on “Containment and Eruption in the Jamaican History of Protest” by Rex Nettleford, Director of Extra-Mural Studies at the University of the West Indies.

The volume, edited by Phillip Weiner and John Fisher, two American professors at Temple University, contains contributions by international scholars in different disciplines of history and the Social Sciences and deals with topics that range from “Violence in Plato’s Political World” and “Nietzschean Violence” to “Violence and Human Self-Realization” and “Fact and Myth in Interpretations of Marxism.”

The contributors are of diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds — British, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese as well as North American, Hispano-American and West Indian.

The contributions discuss violence in its varied manifestations: “in ancient philosophical and religious sense of the perpetual war between the forces of good and evil; in civil disobedience or violation of the laws; in violence committed in pursuit of utopias: in civil resistance to foreign domination; in paternal colonialism; in the conflict between spiritual values and human aggressiveness: and in the Marxist-Leninist ideas of revolutionary violence.”

The book follows on a conference convened by the International Society for the History of Ideas at the Sugar Loaf Centre of Temple University in 1972.

The conference was made possible by the financial assistance obtained from the American Council of Learned Societies and the International Council of Philosophy and Humanities and was sponsored by the Journal of the History of Ideas.