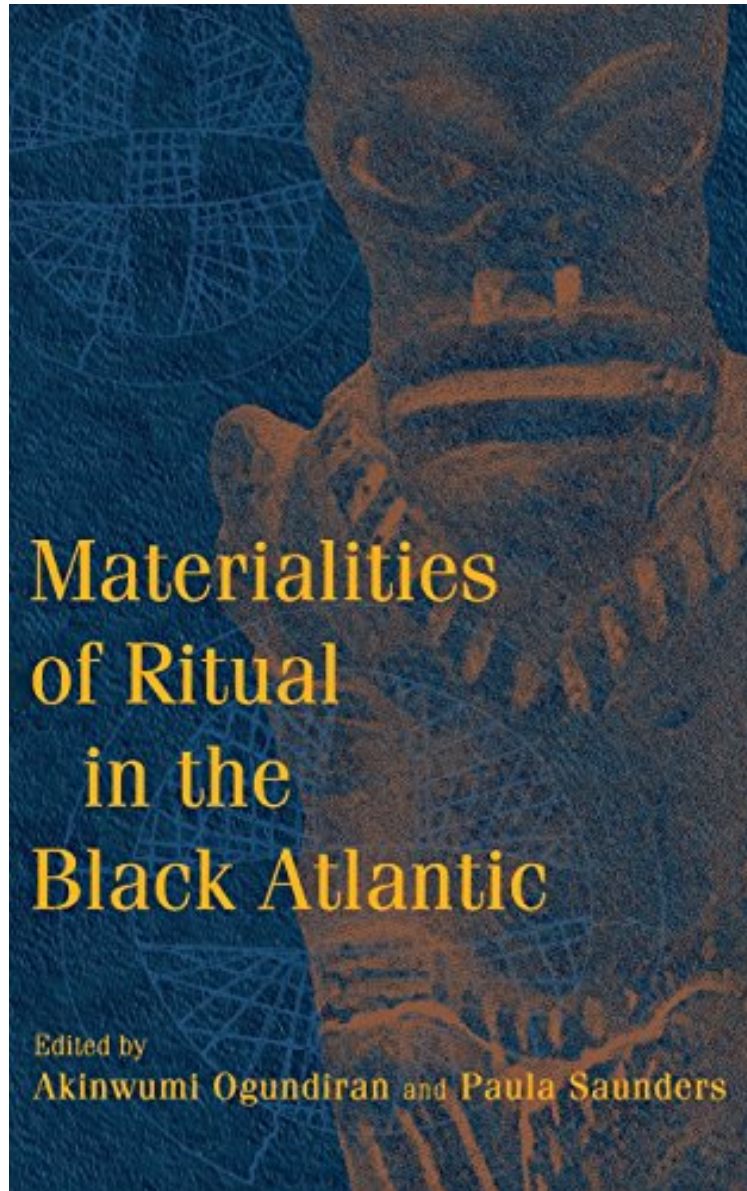


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Materialities of Ritual in the Black Atlantic (Blacks in the Diaspora)

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From Indiana University Press : Materialities of Ritual in the Black Atlantic (Blacks in the Diaspora) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Materialities of Ritual in the Black Atlantic (Blacks in the Diaspora):

Focusing on everyday rituals, the essays in this volume look at spheres of social action and the places throughout the Atlantic world where Africandescended communities have expressed their values, ideas, beliefs, and spirituality in material terms. The contributors trace the impact of encounters with the Atlantic world on African cultural formation, how entanglement with commerce, commodification, and enslavement and with colonialism, emancipation, and self-rule manifested itself in the shaping of ritual acts such as those associated with birth, death, healing, and protection. Taken as a whole, the book offers new perspectives on what the materials of rituals can tell us about the intimate processes of cultural transformation and the dynamics of the human condition.

This book marks an important advance in research on the archaeology of the black Atlantic; that is, the archaeological study of contacts, parallelisms, and ruptures that marked Old and New World communities during the era of the Atlantic slave trade. . . . Highly recommended. (Choice) Promises to become an essential work for Black Atlantic/African Diaspora scholars from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds. Unique in its singular focus on both spiritual-religious and quotidian ritual practices and actions. (Walter Rucker University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) With its focus on the materiality of ritual, this volume addresses a topic of considerable current interest within archaeology and anthropology. It is a timely effort to connect this work with studies of ritual and materiality in the African Diaspora. (Ann Stahl University of Victoria) About the Author Akinwumi Ogundiran is Professor of Africana Studies, Anthropology, and History and Chair of the Africana Studies Department at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte. He is editor (with Toyin Falola) of *Archaeology of Atlantic Africa and the African Diaspora* (IUP, 2007). Paula Saunders is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the City University of New York.