



Mardi Gras, Gumbo, and Zydeco: Readings in Louisiana Culture

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The detectable identity of southern Louisiana's one-of-a-kind culture has been expressed in numerous descriptive phrases--"south of the South," "the northern tip of the Caribbean," "this folklore land." A strange, piquant, and savory mixture, it also has been likened to one of the region's signature dishes, gumbo.

Capturing this elusive culture and its charm has challenged many authors, anthropologists, and anthologists. Coming perhaps closest of any book yet published, this new anthology of readings affords reflections on southern Louisiana's distinctive traditions, folklore, and folklife. Crystalizing its rich diversity and character, these sharply focused essays are a precise introduction to aspects that too often are diffused in sundry discussions of general Deep South culture. Here, each is seen distinctly, precisely, and uniquely.

Written by leading scholars, the thirteen essays focus on many subjects, including the celebration of Mardi Gras and of Christmas, Louisiana foodways, the delineation between Cajun and Creole, the African Americans and Native Americans of the region, Zydeco music, and Cajun humor.

The essays show great range and are reprinted from hard-to-find publications. They include a description of Cajun Country Mardi Gras on the prairies of southwestern Louisiana, an analysis of the social implications of the New Orleans Mardi Gras parades, a study of the Houma Indians of coastal Louisiana, and an analysis of the devotion given to a young Cajun girl whom many regard as a saint.

Collected here, the essays portray a land and a people that are unlike any other.

Marcia Gaudet, a professor of English at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, is the author of *Tales from the Levee: The Folklore of St. John the Baptist Parish* and *Porch Talk with Ernest Gaines: Conversations on the Writer's Craft*.

James C. McDonald, a professor of English at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, is the editor of *The Allyn and Bacon Sourcebook for College Writing Teachers*.

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Judith Joiner:

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Luisa Johnson:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a book. The book Mardi Gras, Gumbo, and Zydeco: Readings in Louisiana Culture it is very good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book provides high quality.

Brandi Anderson:

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Kathryn Botello:

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