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### “The Quality of Hurt”: African American Writerly Exile in Europe

My talk addresses the presence of African American expatriate writers in Europe in the 1960s. It examines the “New Breed’s” departure from the discourse of expatriation of earlier generations: diasporic displacement epitomized by ideas of Pan-Africanism and “modernist exile” symbolized by the Parisian sojourn of Richard Wright. It proposes to read exilic fiction of that time as a manifestation of both attraction and resistance to the European rhetoric of humanism in the wake of WWII and the Holocaust. The talk will set the context for the stories of expatriation of William Gardner Smith, James Baldwin, William Demby, Cecil Brown and Carlene Hatcher Polite. Special attention will be paid to the European travels of John A. Williams and his novel *The Man who Cried I Am*.