



## Dumas or the carnival of identities

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Author: Frigerio (Vittorio)

Abstract: This article focuses on the relations between identity and the individual's place in society in Dumas' works. Its hypotheses: identity is built through distancing oneself from one's original nature; only he who moves away from hereditary, biological or social conditioning truly prospers; the *nègre* (or the *other*) who remains unchanged succeeds only within a failing society, dominated by appearances; real success comes from escaping the prison of identity. And finally: positive values belong to those who know how to grasp them regardless of their skin colour.

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