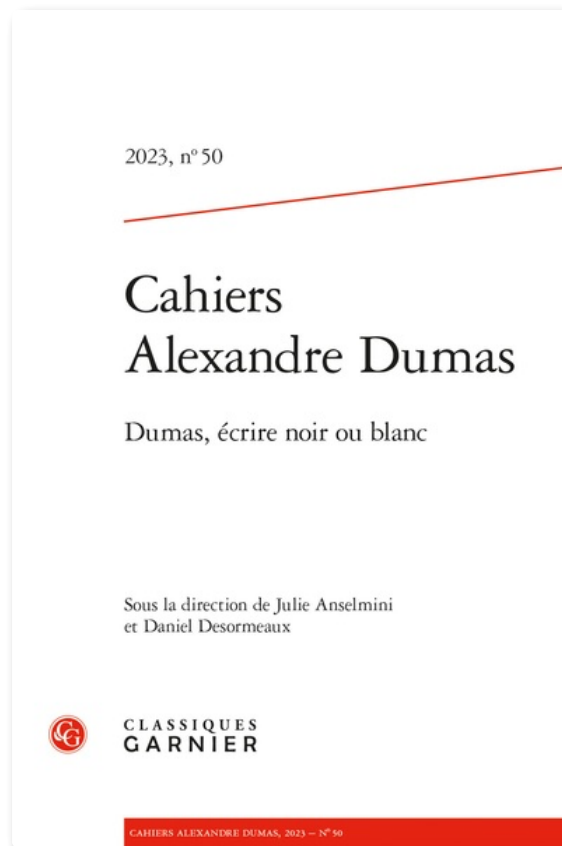




Quadroon servants: Alexandre Dumas and his "negroes"

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Abstract: This contribution arises from a preliminary finding: the choice made by Dumas, himself a quadroon, of colored servant people who, as opposed to the common servants who are usually reduced to being only first names, are full-fledged characters. This article aims to analyze chapters that stage the two black valets Alexis, so-called Caramel in *Histoire de mes bêtes*, and Paul, so-called Water from Benzoin, in *De Paris à Cadix* and *Le Vélode*. It focuses therefore, by avoiding the traps of ideology, on defining the way Dumas looks at those he calls his "race brothers and colored friends".

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