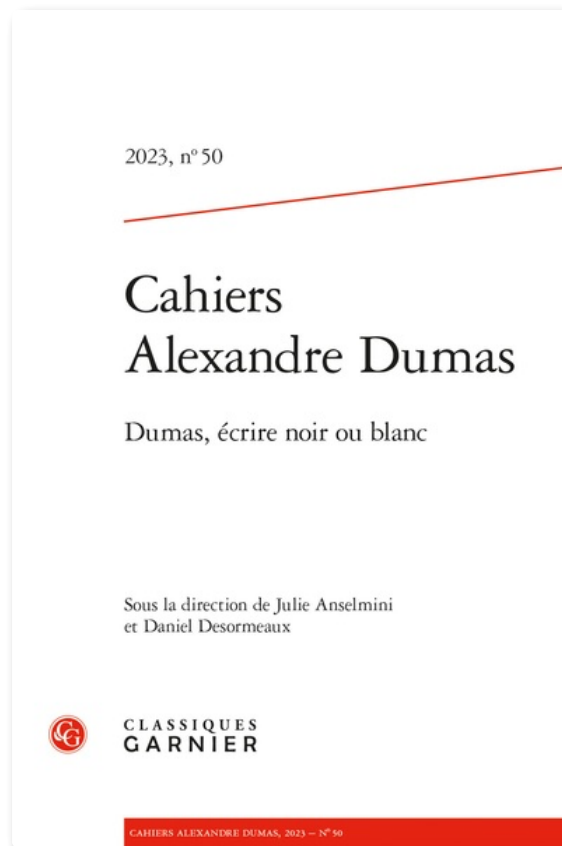




## **“A singular mixture of original vulgarity and acquired elegance”**

Portrait of a “socio-economic métis” in *Gabriel Lambert*

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [Cahiers Alexandre Dumas](#)  
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Author: Cooper (Barbara T.)

**Abstract:** This article examines both the narrative and dramatic versions of Dumas’s *Gabriel Lambert* in light of those texts many allusions to Guadeloupe and the notion of socioeconomic *métissage*. By proposing a colonial source as the explanation for a fortune and an aristocratic name whose origins are unknown in metropolitan France, Dumas links these texts to others of the period, among which one can point to his novel *Georges*. The eponymous character of this latter text, a man of mixed race from the Île de France/Réunion, provides a black and white contrast to Gabriel. Moreover, the juxtaposition of these two works shows how Dumas can recycle his material to create new stories.

Pages: 117 to 133

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