



# The City of Women

*Ruth Landes*

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## **The City of Women** Ruth Landes

First published in 1947, the second edition of *The City of Women* was published in 1994 with a new Introduction by anthropologist Sally Cole. That second edition is now available again after being out of print for several years.

"[The City of Women] works on many levels: it is a study of *candomblé*, the Afro-Brazilian religion of Bahia, of the role of women in *candomblé*, and of race relations in Brazil. . . . *The City of Women* has much to offer anyone interested in Brazilian history, comparative race and gender relations, the history of anthropology, and the relationships between researcher and subject in anthropology and oral history. . . .

"Because of the importance of women in traditional *candomblé*, this Afro-Brazilian religion was incompatible with patriarchy. Possession by the gods, the central component of the religious practice, was the domain of women: men supported the *candomblé* temples financially, but did not run them. . . .

"*The City of Women* ought to be on the 'must read' list of anyone preparing to do field research, especially in ethnography or oral history, in a culture different from his or her own."--H-Net, Mary Ann Mahony, Associate Professor of History at Central Connecticut State University.

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