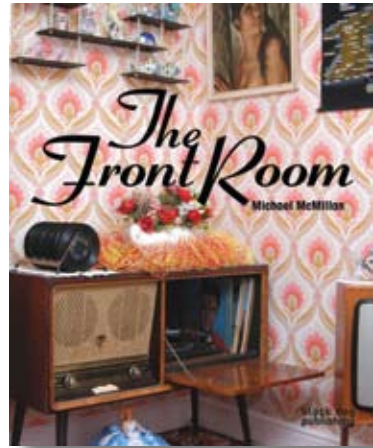


# THE FRONT ROOM



**SEPTEMBER 2009**  
 Paperback • ISBN: 978 1 906155 85 8  
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 28 x 23 cm / 9 x 11 in  
 120 colour and b/w ills • 144 pages

Author: Michael McMillan

*The Front Room* is a unique study by author Michael McMillan of the position of the home in different migrant groups. McMillan draws upon memories of his relatives' homes in the 1960s and 1970s to show a representation of his vision of the traditional 'West Indian' 'front room' or living room. McMillan examines how these rooms raise the issues of class, migration, aspiration, religion, alienation, family and the transition from the colonial to the post-colonial. The front room often provides an outlet to respond to the feelings of displacement, exile and alienation and the rebuilding of a home in a strange land.

*The Front Room* discusses the groundings of the front room in Victoriana and colonialism, with memories from first-generation West Indians and second-generation Black British. Primarily concerned with the West Indian front room the book expands to Moroccan, Surinamese, Antillean and Indonesian migrant groups and diasporas, the decoration of their interiors and their position throughout decolonisation.

With text from leading cultural theorist Stuart Hall and photographs from living rooms/lounges of the time, installations by artists on the theme of the living room and photos of associated objects, this book presents a unique discussion of cultural studies.

