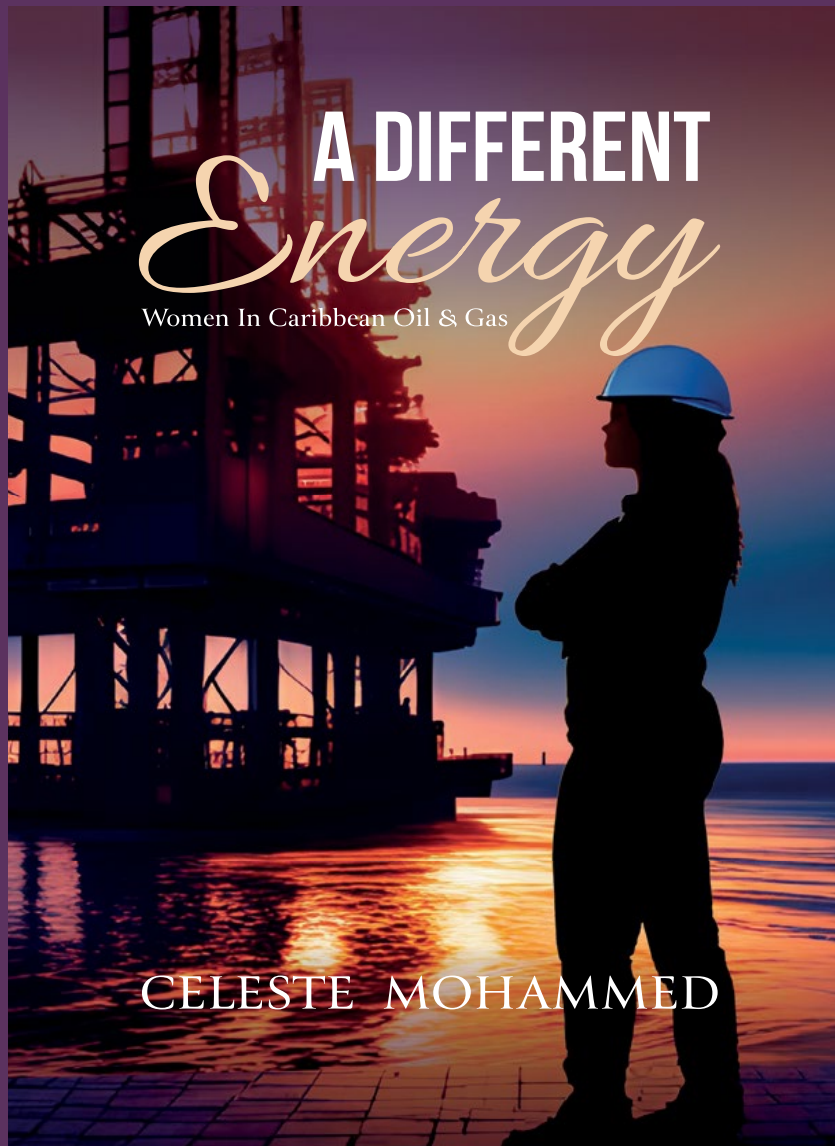


PRESS KIT



COMMUNICATIONS

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PRAISE



“Sobering and illuminating. A must-read for anyone wondering where the women are in oil and where they could be.”

- Myriam J.A. Chancy, author of *Harvesting Haiti: Reflections on Unnatural Disasters*

“A brilliant and necessary book that deftly crisscrosses between academia, essay, storytelling and journalism.”

- Ira Mathur, 2023 Winner of the Bocas Prize for Literature (Non-Fiction), author of *Love the Dark Days*



“This book should be required reading in women’s studies classes.”

- Cindy House, author of *Mother Noise: A Memoir*

ABOUT THE BOOK

A close-up, profile view of a woman wearing a white hard hat and a grey work jacket. She is smiling broadly and looking upwards and to the right. The background is blurred, suggesting an industrial or construction setting.

A Different Energy stands as a testament to the enduring wisdom and strength of Caribbean women. It sounds a call for a more diverse, inclusive and equitable development of one of the world's most male-dominated domains: the oil and gas industry.

Over the last decade, as global energy has become hyper-focused on the Southern Caribbean, the role and opinions of local women have too often been overlooked. In this compelling, first-of-its-kind book, award-winning lawyer-turned-writer Celeste Mohammed remedies that omission.

In powerful, eye-opening portraits of eight Trini, Surinamese and Guyanese women who are employed in the Caribbean oil and gas industry, Mohammed uses a range of styles to keep the gender conversation refreshingly candid, often humorous, and always thought-provoking.

With a voice both earnest and confiding, intellectual and intimate, this book's commentary and analysis extract from the women's stories lessons for any woman seeking to defy odds, shatter stereotypes, and forge paths in a business culture which underestimates her.

FEATURED WOMEN

My mother never wanted me to be a geologist. She said, “That’s man wuk,” and, in truth, I learnt, early o’clock, that part of the job description for a woman in this industry, is having to constantly prove that you *can* do the job as well as a man.

Arlene Chow

**Retired CEO of Heritage
Petroleum, Trinidad and Tobago**



It was very rare to find a female Project Manager or Operations Leader – those technical roles. We are seeing more of them now, though, and that’s great.

Giselle Thompson

**VP Corporate Operations, BP
Trinidad and Tobago**

FEATURED WOMEN

Emotion is what misogynists want to see. They want to see you hang up. They want to see you get scared. They want to see you break down. But when you challenge them back technically, they don't know if to move left or right after that.

Deborah Benjamin

**Managing Director for ASCO,
Trinidad and Tobago**



Engineering itself has quite a competitive culture, which I see as linked to capitalism, to patriarchal masculinity, to our economic systems at large. Women who make it into engineering, they tend to be very academically qualified: top of their class.

Satira Maharaj

**Engineer and Gender Relations
Scholar, Trinidad and Tobago**

FEATURED WOMEN

If we don't make mistakes, then we don't learn. And when you meet a challenge for the first time, don't think it's the end of the world. There's no dead end, there's always another path. So, don't panic. Get over it, and keep moving forward.

Marny Daal

**Retired Director of the Staatsolie
Hydrocarbon Institute, Suriname**



Personality is a strong force which you cannot change in the core of who you are. You must take feedback, but you should put more focus on using your strengths than on changing your weakness – those, you work on them in the margin. The energy comes from within.

Vandana Gangaram Panday
**Director of the Staatsolie
Hydrocarbon Institute, Suriname**

FEATURED WOMEN

It is important for me that the qualifications and the competence is the thing driving hiring decisions, not gender.

Sharista Kisoensingh

**Team Lead of Deepwater
Exploration Contracted Acreage at
Suriname's Offshore Directorate**



It is important to have supportive connections with other women to whom we can turn for advice, without ever having to question their intention.

Grace Hutson

**Account Manager for Landmark
Software Services at Halliburton,
Guyana**

THE AUTHOR

Celeste Mohammed is a Trinidadian lawyer-turned-writer and the author of “Pleasantview” (Ig, Jacaranda, 2021; Ouida, 2022) which won the 2022 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, the 2022 CLMP Firecracker Award for Fiction, and was a finalist for the UK Society of Authors McKitterick Prize for Fiction.

Celeste holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Her short stories have won numerous awards including a 2018 PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize.

A Different Energy is Celeste’s Non-Fiction debut.



THE PUBLISHER



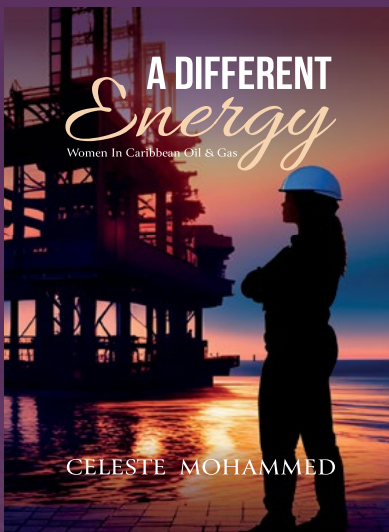
COMMUNICATIONS

Led by Deborah Benjamin, Words Matter Communications is committed to helping Caribbean women surmount the challenges posed by gender discrimination.

As a member of the United Nations Global Compact, the company champions sustainability principles and supports UN goals.

“A Different Energy” by Celeste Mohammed is Words Matter Communication’s first publication, aimed at amplifying the underrepresented voice of women in the Caribbean Oil and Gas Industry.

BOOKINGS & INFORMATION



COMMUNICATIONS



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