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The Last Colonial: Stuart Hall's Art of Living

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SYNOPSIS

Stuart Hall is best known as one of the founders in the 1960s of Cultural Studies, an interdisciplinary field that has globally transformed the humanities and social sciences. It is less well-known that he was also a founder, at the end of the 1950s, of the "first" New Left and of the first *New Left Review*. But who was Stuart Hall? How are we to understand his trajectory? Hall referred to himself as the "last colonial" and urged that his "work" be seen in relation to his "life." What might this mean? My presentation will consider him in relation to the decolonizing Jamaica from which he came and think about how this helped to inform an intellectual orientation that I will call his "art of living."