

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AUSTRALIAN LITERATURE

# CROSSING LINES

FORMATIONS OF AUSTRALIAN CULTURE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1998



FR

8003

.A8

1995



FRY



3 4067 01977 201 0

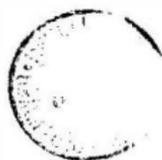
# **CROSSING LINES**

## **FORMATIONS OF AUSTRALIAN CULTURE**

**Proceedings of the  
Association for the Study of Australian Literature Conference,  
Adelaide, 1995**

**Edited by  
Caroline Guerin, Philip Butterss and Amanda Nettelbeck**

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARIES



Acc. no. 960826-1

UQL DON  
1997

FRY

ISBN: 0 646 28182 8

Published in 1996 by the Association for the Study of Australian Literature Ltd.

© Copyright in individual papers remains with the authors.

Printed by the Educational Technology Unit, University of Adelaide.

## FOREWORD

The 1995 annual conference of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature was held in Adelaide from 2-7 July. The following is a record of the formal proceedings of the conference, published by ASAL for its members.

Our title, 'Crossing Lines', is derived from the keynote address by Paul Carter, 'Crossing the Line: Space as Colonialism', which begins the proceedings. Almost all the papers given during the conference and a number of the panel presentations have been included in this collection. Not included here is Drusilla Modjeska's Dorothy Green Memorial Lecture, '*Drawn from Life: A Portrait of Stella Bowen*', which has been reworked to become a long chapter in a book Drusilla is writing on love and art, tentatively titled *Stravinski's Lunch*, to be published by Pan Macmillan in late 1997.

The conference included readings by Paul Carter, Helen Demidenko, Fotini Epanomitis, Peter Goldsworthy, Geoff Goodfellow, Aileen Kelly, Tom Keneally, Jeri Kroll, Sudesh Mishra, Drusilla Modjeska, Dorothy Porter, Matt Rubinstein, Gig Ryan, Rosemary Van den Berg, Ania Walwicz, Maureen Watson, and Barry Westburg. There was also a highly successful parody night, a trip to a McLaren Vale winery, numerous book launches, and a conference dinner.

The papers are arranged here in the order in which they were given, grouped under session titles. Editing has been kept to a minimum, and papers remain close to the form in which they were delivered.

We would like to thank Cally Guerin for her work on these proceedings, and the many people whose efforts made the conference a success, including Michael Deves, Shirley Ball, Shirley Bowbridge, and Bernard Wilson. In particular we would like to thank the members of the conference organising team: Giselle Bastin, Mandy Dyson, Rick Hosking, Sue Hosking, Lyn Jacobs, Yvonne Miels, Rob Sellick, and Maria Sloggett.

Phil Butterss  
Amanda Nettelbeck  
(ASAL 95 Convenors)

# CONTENTS

## Keynote Address

Paul Carter

Crossing the Line: Space as Colonialism ..... 1

## Cartographies

Simon Ryan

Deane Fergie

Cartographic Eyes: Maps and Ideology ..... 13

Evanescent, Oscillating, Never Quite Settled Upon: The

Outback as Cultural Mirage ..... 19

Imagining 'Australia': Paul Carter's Migrantology ..... 25

Ian McLean

## Gender and Geography

Susan K. Martin

Gender, Genera, Genre and Geography: Colonial Women's

Writing and the Uses of Botany ..... 30

'One Woman's Testimony': Louisa Anne Meredith's

*Notes and Sketches of New South Wales* ..... 40

Judith Johnston

## Regional Landscapes

Ruth Barcan

Natural Histories: Gender, Race and Regional

Consciousness on the Gold Coast ..... 46

Footnoting: Landscape and Space in the Exploration Diary

of Emily Caroline Creaghe ..... 52

Space Exploration: Catherine Martin, Australia, the

World, the Universe and Whatever ..... 61

Allison Cadzow

Kevin Gilding

## Sites of Desire

Ivor Indyk

Robert Dixon

The Place of Desire ..... 71

Unfamiliar Selves: Ion L. Idriess' Torres Strait Trilogy

..... 78

Playing with Dolls: Masculinity and Desire in *Summer of*

*the Seventeenth Doll* ..... 84

Catherine Pratt

## Panel: Fictocriticism

Anne Brewster

Heather Kerr

Simon Robb

..... 89

..... 93

..... 97

## Representations of Aboriginality

Lyn McCredden

Kay Torney

Debjani Ganguly

Filling Religious Belief in Australian Culture ..... 102

Filling *Terra Nullius*: Bony in the Deathspace ..... 108

The Literature of Dispossession: Subversion of Elitist

Nationalism in Dalit and Aboriginal Texts ..... 113

## Metaphors of Spatiality

Kerryn Goldsworthy

The Space of Spinsterhood: Letters to the Female Middle

Class Emigration Society 1862-1882 ..... 123

Australian Autobiography: The Politics of Making

Postcolonial Space ..... 130

House Arrest: Domestic Space in Christina Stead's

*Fiction* ..... 136

Anna Johnston

Jennifer McDonell

**Culture/Identity/Nation**

- Mandy Dyson 'Near the heart of the imperial ethic': The Boarding School as Apparatus of Patriarchy and Imperialism in *The Getting of Wisdom*..... 144
- Meg Tasker Francis Adams: The Dilemma of the Radical Intellectual .....149
- Manfred Mackenzie Christina Stead and the 'Natural Uncanny'.....154

**Panel: Rewriting the Mainstream**

- Rosemary Van den Berg .....159
- Ania Walwicz .....162

**Captured/Captivity Narratives**

- Gerry Turcotte Mrs Fraser's Ravenous Appetite: The Taste for Cannibalism in Captivity Narratives.....165

**Re-Figuring Sexuality**

- Carol Merli and Paul Salzman Imprinting/Erasing Woman.....175
- Deborah Hunt 'Basic Bullshit': Lesbian Detective Fiction and the Australian Lesbian and Gay Press.....182

**Globalisation/Regionalism**

- McKenzie Wark Virtual Geography: Living with Global Media Events .....188
- John Salter Colonisation/Globalisation: An Argument in Support of Regional Literatures.....197

**Feminist Readings**

- Rose Lucas Tracking the Body: Dorothy Porter's *The Monkey's Mask*.....202
- Cath Ellis Rewriting Feminism in Katharine Susannah Prichard's *Intimate Strangers* .....208