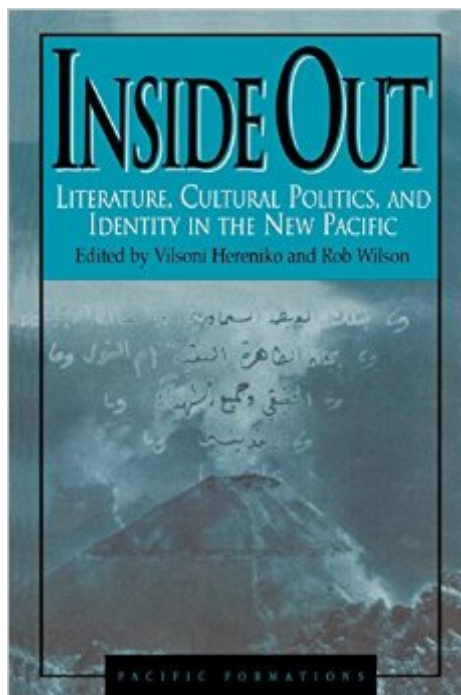


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Inside Out: Literature, Cultural Politics, And Identity In The New Pacific (Pacific Formations: Global Relations In Asian And Pacific Perspectives)



Synopsis

In a time of dynamism and contradiction in Pacific cultural production, a time of 'turning things over' and 'writing from the inside out,' this far-reaching volume provides a comprehensive set of essays and interviews on the emergent literatures of the New Pacific. With its dynamic combination of important position papers, polemics, and decolonizing critiques by noted authors and of analysis by new and established post-colonial scholars, this volume exposes 'the maze and mix of literatures and cultural identities breaking down and building up across the Pacific Ocean.' This pioneering work will be the definitive resource for anyone researching or teaching Pacific literature and will be invaluable for bringing Pacific culture to readers outside the region.

Book Information

Series: Pacific Formations: Global Relations in Asian and Pacific Perspectives

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (June 24, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0847691438

ISBN-13: 978-0847691432

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 1.2 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (1 customer review)

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Customer Reviews

Rob Wilson and Vilsoni Hereniko are the editors of a book that provides probing insight to the politics of identity and creativity across the Pacific. Highly theoretical but more than worth it, the sometimes post-modernist essays elucidate the complex realm of contradictions which are the meat of Pacific consciousness and literature. With a chapter by Hawaiian sovereignty leader Haunani-Kay Trask and an insightful interview with acclaimed author Albert Wendt (of Samoa), this book will open your mind to the depth and humanity of Pacific issues. Especially stimulating is the chapter on Gaugain's NuaNua, in which Gilbertese/African American poet Teresia Teaiwa critically analyzes the role of his work in "shaping...the Polynesian body." All of the contributors to this groundbreaking

work offer a fresh re-thinking of even the most ingrained Pacific archetypes, while openly challenging the reader to engage new modes of analysis with respect to post-colonial (and in many cases, neo-colonial) art and literature. More penetratingly, the contributors look to the dynamic between this body of work and the Pacific "self"--how art and literature have shaped, and been shaped by indigenous and settler Pacific peoples' perceptions of themselves. This book, like the Field Symposia's "Poet's Reading", is an anthology of anthologies. A dense read with a lot of knowledge therein, and not for the faint of heart. Truly the "inside" story on the politics of identity in Pacific art and literature.

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