

The Dube Train

"Acclaimed home-grown photographer, Jodi Bieber has created an open-ended essay which is a celebration and a portrait of life in Soweto today. The importance of Soweto in the collective consciousness is hard to overstate. It registers as a place born of resistance, perhaps even embodying the South African struggle for freedom. But the birth of Kwaito is attributed to Soweto too. And beyond the grand narratives, there is and always was a proliferation of dancing, art and fashion in this place defined by its energy and cosmopolitan nature. Labelling and un-labelling, claiming and discarding, Sowetans have created Soweto anew - a phenomenon that is celebrated in this photographic publication which contemplates daily lived realities where here, as elsewhere, South Africans are continually reinventing themselves and their urban space."--Publisher's website.

Apartheid as legislated racial separation substantially changed the South African urban scene. Race group areas' remodelled the cities, while the creation of homelands', mini-states and the pass laws' controlling population migration constrained urbanization itself. In the mid-1980s the old system - having proved economically inefficient and politically divisive - was replaced by a new policy of orderly urbanization'. This sought to accelerate industrialization and cultural change by relaxing the constraints on urbanization imposed by state planning. The result was further political instability and a quarter of the black (or African) population housed in shanty towns. Negotiations between the Nationalist government and the African National Congress are working towards the end of the old apartheid system. Yet the negation of apartheid is only the beginning of the creation of a new society. The vested interests and entrenched ideologies behind the existing pattern of property ownership survive the abolition of apartheid laws. Beyond race, class and ethnicity will continue to divide urban life. If the cities of South Africa are to serve all the people, the accelerating process of urbanization must be brought under control and harnessed to a new purpose. The contributors to this volume draw on a broad range of experience and disciplines to present a variety of perspectives on urban South Africa.

Lewis Nkosi is one of South Africa's foremost writers and critics, and one of the few survivors of the exile generation dating from the Drum era. Up until now, however, no full length study has been done on his work. This is a gap in South African literary history and criticism that this book is intended to fill. Besides his well known earlier works, Nkosi is still very much an active writer as the publication in 2002 of his novel, *Underground People*, shows, with his latest novel due out in 2005. The timing of *Still Beating the Drum*, a book which intends to highlight and evaluate his extensive and varied oeuvre, is thus appropriate. Given Lewis Nkosi's life trajectory, this volume will appeal to readers interested in South African and African literature, both in South Africa and abroad. Intended as an important critical resource on Lewis Nkosi, the book is divided into three parts: Part One collects papers from scholars around the world currently working on Nkosi's work in various genres; Part Two reprints key articles from different moments in Nkosi's critical writing, together with hitherto unpublished recent interviews with Nkosi; and Part Three provides the reader with a timeline and extensive bibliography for Lewis Nkosi, both invaluable resources for scholars working on Nkosi given the scattered nature of much of his more ephemeral writings in the past. Lewis Nkosi is an important figure in South African

literature whose voice has been heard far and wide – this book aims to collect for critical consideration some of the echoes and reverberations his voice has generated.

South Africa's Alternative Press *Voices of Protest and Resistance, 1880-1960* Cambridge University Press

Provides critical and biographical essays on English writers from parts of the former British Empire.

Collection of essays on the South African alternative press from the 1880s to the 1960s.

A collection of short stories from Africa covering a range of subjects, from the conflict between traditional and new ways of life and values, to the role of women in society. The main introduction provides a background for discussion, as well as ideas for students to use in their own writing.

This book demonstrates the insights that literature brings to transdisciplinary urban studies, and particularly to the study of cities of the South. Starting from the claim staked by mining capital in the late nineteenth century and its production of extractive and segregated cities, it surveys over a century of writing in search of counterclaims through which the literature reimagines the city as a place of assembly and attachment. Focusing on how the South African city has been designed to funnel gold into the global economy and to service an enclaved minority, the study looks to the literary city to advance a contrary emphasis on community, conviviality and care. An accessible and informative introduction to literature of the South African city at significant historical junctures, this book will also be of great interest to scholars and students in urban studies and Global South studies.

"A bibliographical survey".

This collection of stories from South Africa is conceived as a companion to *Broken Strings*, the anthology of South African poetry.

Apartheid and Beyond offers trenchant, historically sensitive readings of writings by Coetzee, Gordimer, Fugard, Tlali, Dike, Magona, and Mda, focusing on the intimate relationship between place, subjectivity, and literary form. It also explores the way apartheid functioned in its day-to-day operations as a geographical system of control, exerting its power through such spatial mechanisms as residential segregation, bantustans, passes, and prisons. Throughout the study, Rita Barnard provides historical context by highlighting key events such as colonial occupation, the creation of black townships, migration, forced removals, the emergence of informal settlements, and the gradual integration of white cities. *Apartheid and Beyond* is both an innovative account of an important body of politically inflected literature and an imaginative reflection on the socio-spatial aspects of the transition from apartheid to democracy.

The author, a Black journalist, shares her views on apartheid and the best way for Black South Africans to gain a voice in their own government

In this stunning work of historical fiction, LR Penn has concocted a breathtaking epic adventure that begins in 1890 in a small Zulu village in South Africa but spans three centuries and two continents. It is also a personal memoir that tells the story of a family torn apart by a racist totalitarian regime. The book examines a series of powerful conflicts: the cultural clash between ancient ethnic traditions and encroaching Western values; the political battle between the underground resistance movement and the repressive military strength of a modern nation state; and stirring personal conflicts, as

illustrated by the impossibly difficult choices that the novel's heroes are forced to make - between the quest for liberation and the pursuit of love, between a family's security and a people's freedom. *Diamonds on a River of Tears* presents an in depth portrait of day-to-day life in a society altogether out of balance, playfully juxtaposing its comic absurdities and tragic injustices, but ultimately handing down a moral indictment that all of contemporary civilization will have to face.

Much recent critical practice, sharpened by an engagement with theory, has questioned conventional notions about literature. This title includes essays that reveal the complex and arguably inevitable politicization of South African literary culture.

A fast-paced romp through apartheid-era South Africa that exemplifies the creative human capacity to overcome seemingly omnipotent enemies and overwhelming odds. The picaresque hero of this novel, Duggie, is a dispossessed black street kid turned con man. Duggie's response to being confined to the lowest level of South Africa's oppressive and humiliating racial hierarchy is to one-up its absurdity with his own glib logic and preposterous schemes. Duggie's story, as one critic puts it, offers "an encyclopedic catalogue of rip-offs, swindles, and hoaxes" that regularly land him in jail and rely on his white targets' refusal to admit a black man is capable of outsmarting them. Duggie exploits South Africa's bureaucratic pass laws and leverages his artificial leg every chance he gets. As "a worthless embarrassment to the authorities and a bad example to the convicts," Duggie even manages to get himself thrown out of jail. From Duggie's Depression-era childhood in urban Johannesburg to World War II and the rise of the white supremacist apartheid regime to his final, bitter triumph, Boetie's narrative celebrates humanity's relentless drive to survive at any cost. This new edition of Boetie's out-of-print classic features a recently discovered photograph of the author, an introduction replete with previously unpublished research, numerous annotations, and is accompanied by Lionel Abrahams' haunting poem, "Soweto Funeral," composed after attending Boetie's interment, all of which render the text accessible to a new generation of readers.

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