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The Cambridge History of Black and Asian British Writing

Susheila Nasta

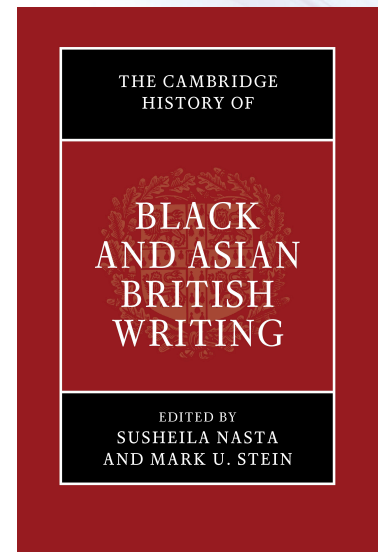
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The Cambridge History of Black and Asian British Writing provides a comprehensive historical overview of the diverse literary traditions impacting on this field's evolution, from the eighteenth century to the present. Drawing on the expertise of over forty international experts, this book gathers innovative scholarship to look forward to new readings and perspectives, while also focusing on undervalued writers, texts, and research areas. Creating new pathways to engage with the naming of a field that has often been contested, readings of literary texts are interwoven throughout with key political, social, and material contexts. In making visible the diverse influences constituting past and contemporary British literary culture, this Cambridge History makes a unique contribution to British, Commonwealth, postcolonial, transnational, diasporic, and global literary studies, serving both as one of the first major reference works to cover four centuries of black and Asian British literary history and as a compass for future scholarship.

Introduction; Part I. New Formations: The Eighteenth to the Early Twentieth Century: Preface; 1. Narratives of resistance in the literary archives of slavery; 2. Writer-travellers and fugitives: insider-outsiders; 3. Exoticisations of the self: the first 'Buddha of Suburbia'; 4. Black people of letters: authors, activists, abolitionists; 5. Engaging the public: photo- and print-journalism; Part II. Uneven Histories: Charting Terrains in the Twentieth Century: Preface; Section 1. Global Locals: Making Tracks at the Heart of Empire: 6. Between the wars: Caribbean, Pan-African, and Asian networks; 7. Mobile modernisms: black and Asian articulations; 8. Establishing material platforms in literary culture in the 1930s and 1940s; 9. Transnational cultural exchange: the BBC as contact zone; 10. Political autobiography and life-writing: Gandhi, Nehru, Kenyatta, and Naidu; 11. Staging early black and Asian drama in Britain; Section 2. Disappointed Citizens: The Pains and Pleasures of Exile: 12. Looking back, looking forward: revisiting the Windrush myth; 13. Double displacements, diasporic attachments: location and accommodation; 14. Wide-angled modernities and alternative metropolitan imaginaries; 15. Forging collective identities: the Caribbean artists movement and the emergence of black Britain; 16. Breaking new ground: many tongues, many forms; 17. The lure of postwar London: networks of people, print, and organisations; 18. Looking beyond, shifting the gaze: writers in motion; Section 3. Here to Stay: Forging Dynamic Alliances: 19. Sonic solidarities: the dissenting voices of dub; 20. Vernacular voices: fashioning idiom and poetic form; 21. Narratives of survival: social realism and civil rights; 22. Black and Asian British theatre taking the stage: from the 1950s to the millennium; 23. The writer and the critic: conversations between literature and theory; 24. Forging connections: anthologies, collectives, and the politics of inclusion; 25. Reading the 'black' in the 'Union Jack': institutionalising black and Asian British writing; Part III. Writing the Contemporary: Preface; Section 4. Looking Back, Looking Forward: 26. Diasporic translocations: many homes, multiple forms; 27. Reinventing the nation: black and Asian British representations; 28. Reclaiming the past: Black and Asian British genealogies; 29. Expanding realism, thinking new worlds; 30. Writing lives, inventing selves: Black and Asian women's life-writing; 31. Black and Asian women's poetry: writing across generations; Section 5. Framing New Visions: 32. Through a different lens: drama, film, new media, and television; 33. Children's literature and the construction of contemporary multicultures; 34. Redefining the boundaries: black and Asian queer desire; 35. Prizing otherness: black and Asian British writing in the global marketplace; 36. Frontline fictions: popular forms from crime to grime; 37. Reimagining Africa: contemporary figurations by African Britons; 38. Post-secular perspectives: writing and fundamentalisms; 39. Post-ethnicity and the politics of positionality; Select bibliography; Index.



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