

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| About the contributors | ix |
| Introduction | xi |
| Chapter 1 | |
| Rooted in the Oral Tradition: <i>Sundiata, an Epic of Old Mali</i> | 1 |
| ANNY WYNCHANK | |
| Chapter 2 | |
| Orality and Literacy in Narratives of Shaka | 16 |
| EMOVWO BIAKOLO | |
| Chapter 3 | |
| Narrative Design in the African Novel | 29 |
| FELIX MNTHALI | |
| Chapter 4 | |
| The Novel of Culture Conflict in Africa: Clashing Worlds in Novels by Achebe, Ngugi and Kane | 44 |
| DEVI SARINJEIVE | |
| Chapter 5 | |
| The Uses of History: Three Historical Novels from West Africa | 69 |
| AUGUSTINE MENSAH | |
| Chapter 6 | |
| The Francophone Anticolonialist Novel | 84 |
| MORADEWUN ADEJUNMOBI | |
| Chapter 7 | |
| Apartheid City Versus Country: A Literary Intepretation of the Rural-Urban Migration Theme in the Novels of Sibusiso Nyembezi | 107 |
| CLARA TSABEDZE | |
| Chapter 8 | |
| Mongane Serote's <i>To Every Birth its Blood</i> : Painting the True Colours of Apartheid | 122 |
| ANNIE GAGIANO | |

Chapter 9

Life Stories: Fiction and Autobiography in Bessie Head 141
ROSEMARY TOWNSEND

Chapter 10

Apartheid and E'sKia Mphahlele's Aesthetics in *The Wanderers* 155
LOKANGAKA LOSAMBE

Chapter 11

The Novel of Postindependence Disillusionment in Central Africa 169
T KITENGE-NGOY

Chapter 12

The Nigerian War Novel 184
KOKU AMUZU

Chapter 13

'Predicting the Past': Soyinka's *The Man Died* and The Fiction of Memory 199
HARRY GARUBA

Chapter 14

The West African Magical Realist Novel: Syl Cheney-Coker's *The Last Harmattan of Alusine Dunbar*, Ben Okri's *The Famished Road* and Kojo Laing's *Woman of the Aeroplanes* 209
BRENDA COOPER

Chapter 15

Unshackling the Tale: Perspectives on the Nature and Development of the Short Story in siSwati 243
ZODWA SITHEBE

Chapter 16

Some Controversies in the Criticism of the African Prose Narrative 260
LEKAN OYEGOKE