

# Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	viii
<i>Note on the Text</i>	x
<b>Part I Epistemologies of Historical Realism</b>	
1 The Contemporary Postcolonial Historical Novel: Beyond Anti-Realism	3
2 Allegorical Realism: Toward a Poetics of the Postcolonial Historical Novel	13
<b>Part II Allegories of Settlement</b>	
3 Typification and Frontier Violence: Kate Grenville's <i>The Secret River</i>	45
4 The Gender of Settler Realism: Fiona Kidman's <i>The Captive Wife</i>	70
<b>Part III Narrating Transnational Histories</b>	
5 Deterritorialising Allegorical Realism: Witi Ihimaera's <i>The Trowenna Sea</i>	97
6 Aesthetics of Absent Causality: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's <i>Half of a Yellow Sun</i>	121
<b>Part IV Melancholy Realisms</b>	
7 Spectres of Civil War Trauma: Chris Abani's <i>Song for Night</i>	149
8 Metafictional Realism and the Dialectic of Allegory: Richard Flanagan's <i>Gould's Book of Fish</i>	171
9 Conclusion: the Historical Novel, from Postcolonial Reconciliation to Environmental Crisis	197
<i>Notes</i>	205
<i>Works Cited</i>	207
<i>Index</i>	222