

Contents

Acknowledgements	vii
Introduction	1
1. Commitment or Reaction? The Writings of the Mission-educated Elite and other Early Black Writers	5
Colonial Penetration and its Aftermath	5
Industrialization and Problems of Urbanization	15
2. From Sophiatown to Robben Island: Protest in the Writings of the 1950s and 1960s	29
Legislated Segregation and Discrimination: The Portrayal of the Township	29
Urban Violence	33
Non-violent Politics and Prison Literature	38
Exile and Autobiographical Writings	45
3. Conflict or Surrender? The Theme of Political Revolution in the Literature of the Post-Sharpville Era	51
The Transition from Non-violent Politics to Militant Politics	51
Literature and Revolution	52
4. Ideas under Arrest: Direct and Indirect Protest in the Poetry of the Late 1960s and Early 1970s	71
After Sharpeville: A 'New' Wave of Poetry	71
Profundity beneath Apparent Simplicity: Oswald Mtshali and his Contemporaries	71
Anger and Beyond: The Poetry of James Matthews	86
5. Black is Beautiful: Black Consciousness and the Poetry of Affirmation in the 1970s	95
Political Alternatives after Sharpeville	95
NUSAS and the Failure of Liberal Politics	95
The Emergence of the Black Consciousness Movement	96
The BCM and the Literature of Assertion	98
6. The People's Cause: Popular Theatre and the Political Ferment of the 1970s	124

Non-radical Musical Drama	125
Radical Drama	128
Drama as a Necessary Instrument of Politicization	142
7. Recent Trends in Black Writing	146
After Soweto: 'New' Trends in Black Writing	146
Stylistic and Thematic Parallels in Athol Fugard's Drama	159
Conclusion	161
Bibliography	164
Index	174