

# Contents

EDITORIAL	1
ARTICLES	5
The Female Writer and Her Commitment <i>Molara Ogundipe-Leslie, Ogun State University, Nigeria</i>	5
Women Without Men: The Feminist Novel in Africa <i>Katherine Frank, Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria</i>	14
Mother Africa on a Pedestal: The Male Heritage in African Literature and Criticism <i>Mineke Schipper, Free University, Amsterdam</i>	35
Feminist Issues in the Fiction of Kenya's Women Writers <i>Jean F. O'Barr, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA</i>	55
The Didactic Essence of Efua Sutherland's Plays <i>Adetokunbo Pearce, University of Sheffield, England</i>	71
Bessie Head, A Question of Power and Identity <i>Charles Ponnuthurai Sarvan, University of Zambia</i>	82
Contemporary Society and the Female Imagination: A study of the Novels of Mariama Bâ <i>Mbye B. Cham, Howard University, Washington, DC</i>	89
Dreams of a Common Language: Nadine Gordimer's <i>July's People</i> <i>Jennifer Gordon, Harvard University, USA</i>	102

vi *Contents*

<b>Ama Ata Aidoo and the Oral Tradition: A Paradox of Form and Substance</b> <i>Arlene Elder, University of Cincinnati, USA</i>	<b>109</b>
<b>Images of Women in Wole Soyinka's Work</b> <i>Sylvia Bryan, University of the West Indies</i>	<b>119</b>
<b>Women and Resistance in Ngugi's <i>Devil on the Cross</i></b> <i>Jennifer Evans</i>	<b>131</b>
<b>The House of Slavery</b> <i>Adewale Maja-Pearce</i>	<b>140</b>
<b>The Afro-American–West African Marriage Question: Its Literary and Historical Contexts</b> <i>Brenda F. Berrian, University of Pittsburgh, USA</i>	<b>152</b>
<b>Index</b>	<b>160</b>