

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
1. Theoretical Premises	19
1.1 Counter-Canonical Discourse: Criticism and Expansions	19
1.2 Adaptation Theories, Transnation(alism), Diasporas	26
1.3 Settler Cultures.....	30
2. The Convict's Return: Peter Carey's <i>Jack Maggs</i>.....	35
2.1 An Australian Novel.....	36
2.1.1 London: Imperial Centre and Hell.....	36
2.1.2 Maggs's Returns: Cultural Cringe and Emancipation	40
2.1.3 The Ending	43
2.2 Dysfunctional Families	45
2.3 The Ethics of Writing	49
2.3.1 The Author within the Text	49
2.3.2 <i>The Death of Maggs</i>	52
2.3.3 Fiction as Theft.....	54
2.3.4 "a different type of story": Jack Maggs as Writer	56
2.4 References to Australian Literature	58
2.5 Writing Back to Dickens?	60
3. Pacific Dickens: Lloyd Jones's <i>Mister Pip</i>	66
3.1 Border Crossings: Towards Transnational Readers.....	67
3.1.1 Versions 1 and 2: Cultural and Generational Borders	67
3.1.2 Version 3: Retrieving Dickens	70
3.1.3 Version 4: Mr Watts's Story.....	72
3.1.4 Version 5: Matilda's Story	78
3.2 Functions of Literature	81
3.2.1 Escape and Immersion.....	81
3.2.2 "lazybone dogs": Reading as Instruction.....	85
3.3 Migration.....	87
3.4 Conclusion	92

4. Appropriating History: Richard Flanagan's <i>Wanting</i>	94
4.1 Challenging Official Memory	98
4.1.1 The Victorian Age Revisited	98
4.1.2 Victorian Heroes Rewritten	100
4.1.3 Retrieving Forgotten Histories	105
4.2 The Power of Words	106
4.2.1 Dickens.....	106
4.2.2 Mathinna	118
4.3 "a rigid programme of improvement": Mathinna's Education	123
4.4 Reason and Desire	127
4.4.1 "'her future is bright indeed'" :	
George Augustus Robinson and Mathinna	129
4.4.2 "the love of a mother for her child": Lady Jane and Mathinna	132
4.4.3 "an exotic object of amusement": Sir John and Mathinna	134
4.4.4 The Image of the Black Swan: Leda and Rowra	137
4.4.5 "neither white nor black": Mathinna	140
4.4.6 "his undisciplined heart": Dickens and Ellen Ternan	142
4.5 Othering Places: North and South	144
4.6 Conclusion	148
5. Female Artists: Carmel Bird's <i>The Bluebird Café</i> and Gail Jones's <i>Sixty Lights</i>.....	150
5.1 Carmel Bird's <i>The Bluebird Café</i>	150
5.1.1 Copperfield and Other Curiosities	152
5.1.2 Virginia and Dickens.....	156
5.1.3 The Lost Child.....	158
5.1.4 Tasmanian Dickens – Dickensian Tasmania	165
5.2 Gail Jones's <i>Sixty Lights</i>	165
5.2.1 Orphanhood	167
5.2.2 Migration: Australia, England, India	169
5.2.3 "this metaphysical meeting space": Reading and Storytelling	172
5.2.4 References to Dickens	176
5.3 Conclusion	179
6. Strategies of Appropriating Dickens: A Comparison.....	181
Bibliography	187