

**Literature, modernity, and the practice of resistance; Japanese and Taiwanese fiction, 1960-1990.**

Hillenbrand, Margaret. (China studies; v.11)  
BRILL, ©2007 357 p. \$134.00  
Hillenbrand (Chinese studies, U. of Oxford) moves beyond the East-West framework that has traditionally dominated comparative enquiry by exploring contemporary East Asian literature on its own terms. In comparing the literature of Japan and Taiwan in 1960 to 1990, she combines close readings of paradigmatic texts with in-depth analyses of the historical, social and ideological contexts in which these works are situated and investigates the form and function of literary practice within the "miracle" societies of industrialized East Asia. Hillenbrand discusses the role of the city and sexuality as metaphoric modes for authors writing in these modern contexts. Her study includes literary representations of the geopolitical hegemony exercised by the US in cold war East Asia.

PLA758 2006-485259 978-3-447-05335-8  
**Literary techniques in Old Tamil Cankam poetry; the Kuruntokai.**

Wilden, Eva. (Beitrage zur Kenntnis sudasiatischer Sprachen und Literaturen; 15)  
Harrassowitz, ©2006 447 p. \$126.64  
Cankam literature is an imprecise but common term for the earliest, classical poetry in Old Tamil and the corresponding texts of grammar and poetics. Tamil, now spoken in southern India, is thought to have been the language—or at least a major one—spoken in India when Sanskrit speakers arrived. Eva Wilden weaves through the still not completely understood Old Tamil language, the several poetic traditions within it, and the modern categories of interpretation, to identify the techniques the poets used. She is a member of EFEO in Pondicherry.

PL7001 2006-034600 978-3-11-019079-3  
**The habitat of Australia's aboriginal languages; past, present, and future.**

Title main entry. Ed. by Gerhard Leitner and Ian G. Malcolm. (Trends in linguistics; studies and monographs; 179)  
Mouton de Gruyter, ©2007 389 p. \$132.30  
Mostly Australian, but also European and North American scholars of linguistics and related disciplines offer a broad view of Australian Aboriginal languages that is missing from the many studies focusing on a particular language or a particular aspect. Their topics include transitions from the past to the present, pidgins and creoles as linguistic responses to European contact, language habitat and cultural continuity, issues and policies in school education, and Aboriginal English in the criminal justice system.

PL8843 978-0-7734-5450-7  
**The Zulu novels of C.L.S. Nyembezi; a critical appraisal.**

Kunene, Daniel P.  
Edwin Mellen Pr., ©2007 204 p. \$109.95  
This is a textual and linguistic analysis of the three Zulu-language novels of Cyril Lincoln Sibusiso Nyembezi (1919-2000), *Mntanami! Mntanami!* (1950), *Ubudoda abukhulelwa* (1953), and *Inkinsela yase Mgungundlovu* (1961). Much of the analysis by Kunene (emeritus, African Languages and Literature, U. of Wisconsin) is concerned with the challenges the African-language writer faces in attempting to move from oral traditions to narrative forms introduced largely by European missionaries. He examines how "oral residuals" exist in Nyembezi's writings in the context of characters, dialogue, the use of Zulu dialogic conjunctions that subsume a speaker and an addressee in a relationship to each other, narrative time, and "extreme realism in circumstances of political and social inequality."

PM664 978-0-7748-1382-2  
**Witsuwit'en grammar; phonetics, phonology, morphology.**

Hargus, Sharon. (First nations languages)  
U. of British Columbia Press, ©2007 837 p. \$150.00  
Witsuwit in a language of the Athabaskan family that is spoken in western central British Columbia along the Bulkley and Morice Rivers and some other major bodies of water of the British Columbia Lakes District. Hargus (linguistics, U. of Washington) does not deal with syntax, focusing instead on word-base grammar partly because of the complexity of Witsuwit'en morphology and partly because of disagreements among prior researchers over aspects of the segmental phonology, necessitating an instrumental approach. Appendices survey writing systems, set out verb paradigms, and present two texts. Distributed in the US by University of Washington Press.

**Words of the Huron.**

Steckley, John L. (Aboriginal studies series)  
Wilfrid Laurier U. Press, ©2007 259 p. \$29.95 (pa)  
Steckley (Aboriginal languages, culture, and history; Humber College) strives to give a voice to the Huron people of Canada by exploring terms and phrases in the language for such matters as the Huron nations, kinship, material culture, warfare, and medicine and disease. He draws from French-Huron dictionaries compiled by Jesuit missionaries a century ago.

PM1995 978-0-8020-4475-4  
**Screening gender, framing genre; Canadian literature into film.**

Dickinson, Peter.  
U. of Toronto Pr., ©2007 280 p. \$45.00  
Dickinson (English, Simon Fraser U.) offers a field guide to reading the history and theory of films adapted from modern Canadian literature, through the lens of gender studies. Introducing this genre, in which adaptations are often an "open-ended process" such as Ondaatje's *The English Patient* (1992) and the Academy Award-winning 1997 film based on it, he explores issues of national identity, sexual identity, and gender in adaptations from *Rachel, Rachel*, Paul Newman's 1968 adaptation of Margaret Laurence's *A Jest of God* (1966), to Bruce McDonald's 1996 adaptation of *Hard Core Logo* about a Vancouver punk band. Movie stills and a filmography complement the text.

**CRITICISM, THEATER, FILM, JOURNALISM, ETC.**

PN44 978-0-404-63566-4  
**Symbolism; an international annual of critical aesthetics; v.6.**

Title main entry. Ed. by Rüdiger Ahrens and Klaus Stierstorfer. (Series: title)  
AMS Press, ©2006 519 p. \$132.50  
This sixth volume returns to the fundamentals underlying the studies of symbolism in the previous five, with a special section on representation and mimesis. The seven essays consider such aspects as encoded representations in modern drama and fiction, representation and composition in Joyce's *Ulysses*, and opera and representation. Eight other essays look at Alexander Kinglake's *Eothen* (1844) and the discourse of eastern travel, the notion of death in the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Tao Yuanming, spatial designs and meaning-slides in Charles Palliser's *The Quincunx*, and other topics. Seven book reviews are also included. The computer ate the index; it will be combined with the next one.

PN45 2006-019315 978-1-4051-0719-8  
**Literary theory; a practical introduction, 2d ed.**

Ryan, Michael.  
Blackwell Publishing, ©2007 238 p. \$64.95  
This text introduces students to contemporary approaches to the study of literature and culture, from formalism, structuralism and historicism to ethnic studies, gender studies and post-colonial studies. Ryan (American literature, culture and film, Northeastern U.) explains each approach before applying it to the same selection of texts, which include *King Lear*, Alice Munro's short stories and Elizabeth Bishop's poetry. In this second edition, Ryan has included films, such as *The Matrix* and *Run, Lola, Run*.

PN49 2006-002860 1-59102-411-0  
**Th: head & the heart; philosophy in literature.**

Porter, Burton F.  
Humanity Books, ©2006 177 p. \$32.00  
Philosophers may turn to the arts—in this case literature—to discover unique insights, fresh answers to stale questions, and their intellectual theories transfigured by gifted artists into song, says Porter (philosophy, Western New England College). He emphasizes that philosophers must not deceive themselves into thinking that art is nothing more than its cognitive parts, else by dissecting they will murder it. He demonstrates with several modern works of literature.