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To receive this newsletter, contact the CPAS at the email address above. There will be no more paper edition.

The University of Nijmegen has changed its name into Radboud University. All our e-mail addresses and web addresses have been changed as a result of this: the parts "kun" have become "ru".

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COMMUNICATION

On November 15, 2004, Jeremy Beckett wrote to the AASNet mailing list:

"Mervyn Meggitt, one of the first doctoral graduates from Sydney University, and successively, Lecturer in Anthropology at Sydney University, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, and finally Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the City University of New York, died today in New York. He was eighty.

Meggitt was author of the classic studies of the Wailbiri, *Desert People* and *Gadjari*, of the New Guinea Highlanders, *The Lineage System of the Mae Enga*, *Blood is their Argument*, and numerous other works.

Mervyn leaves a widow, Joan Meggitt, who accompanied him on all his field work.

An obituary will appear in TAJA in due course."

RELIGION AND IDENTITY IN WEST PAPUA

February 16, 2005, Louise Thoonen will defend her PhD thesis at the Radboud University in Nijmegen. The title of her book is: *The Door to Heaven: Female Initiation, Christianity and Identity in West Papua*. The text below is from the back sleeve of the book.

Based around the life history of Maria Baru, an influential leader in the spheres of both indigenous cultural practices and of local Christianity, this study explores how individual Papuan women experience and use female initiation and missionisation in relation to identity formation. Female initiation rites in the Northwest Ayfat area of West Papua are intended to transform individual novices into adult women who, especially by internalising ancestral rules, fit in the socio-cultural group and share a common identity. However, *The Door to Heaven* shows, despite the ritual's profound effects, initiated women can experience inconsistencies between the group identity they are supposed to have internalised during initiation, and their personal identity. They can also experience tensions between their 'traditional' and Christian identity. These tensions between the various conflicting identities form the focus of this study.

The book is based upon anthropological fieldwork conducted in Northwest Ayfat, located in the interior of the Bird's Head region. It offers a new understanding of initiation rituals - seen not as an isolated event but as part of a life experience and embedded within the changing socio-religious environment. It traces the arrival of the Catholic mission and the views of both missionaries and local people on the missionary process. Louise Thoonen convincingly demonstrates how Maria Baru succeeded in blending ritual elements derived from two religious spheres in the creation of a new identity, how people who have to deal with processes of rapid religious change cope with this at specific points in their lives, and how personal and social factors converge in managing processes of change.

The actor-oriented perspective of the study responds to the call for a new approach to initiation rituals. The author has integrated documentary history, oral history, and ethnographic information into a unified narrative that focuses on an individual life history.

RELIGION AND HEALING IN WEST PAPUA

February 16, 2005, Ien Courtens will defend her PhD thesis at the Radboud University in Nijmegen. The title of her book is: *Restoring the Balance: Performing Healing in West Papua*. The text below is from the back sleeve of the book.

Who has made Mama Raja ill? This question, buzzing around the village, forms the starting point of this anthropological study on healing performances within the context of religious change. *Restoring the Balance* presents a fascinating case of a seriously ill woman of high standing in the Northwest Ayfat area, located in the interior of the Bird's Head in West Papua. By unravelling the various explanations of the cause of the illness, and the path Mama Raja followed in search of healing, Ien Courtens demonstrates how, why, and when Papuan people make specific choices in their search for healing.

The study offers an ethnographically rich journey through the variety of healing methods in current Northwest Ayfat society: indigenous (such as obtained during female and male initiation rites), biomedical (the missionary hospital), and Christian (created by ritual healers within the missionary process). Likewise, the causes ascribed to illness range from sorcery, witchcraft, violating ancestral as well as Biblical rules, and biomedical explanations. The investigation into the multiplicity of healing methods and explanations exposes how this variety emerged within the process of religious change. Choices for, and the creation of, healing performances are perceived as dynamic processes that shape, reshape and respond to religious change.

At the core are the innovative contributions of local healers, particularly women, who chose to create new performances in reaction to, and for the purpose of, religious change. In taking an emic perspective, *Restoring the Balance* sheds new light on religiously informed approaches to healing. It traces an ongoing dialogue in Northwest Ayfat concerning the relations between indigenous and Christian religious notions and practices, that aims to bring both sides into balance.

RECEIVED

From **Waveland Press**, Long Grove, Illinois, USA:

Ward, Martha. 2005. *Nest in the Wind: Adventures in Anthropology on a Tropical Island*. Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press. Second edition. First published in 1989.

From **Berghahn Books**, New York, New York, USA:

Hoëm, Ingjerd. 2004. *Theatre and Political Process: Staging Identities in Tokelau and New Zealand*. New York, New York: Berghahn Books.

NEW BOOKS

GENERAL

Larmour, Peter. 2005. *Foreign Flowers: Institutional Transfer and Good Governance in the Pacific Islands*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. 224 pages. ISBN: 0-8248-2901-8 (cloth) and 0-8248-2933-6 (paperback).

"Wide ranging and cross-disciplinary in its approach, *Foreign Flowers* focuses on the process of policy transfer in the Pacific and the use of power to achieve it. Many governing institutions in the region have been borrowed, transplanted, or imposed by colonial rule or military intervention from the outside. The book attempts to answer several key questions: Where do the governing institutions originate and why are so many of them based on Western models? Why have some transfers succeeded while others have not? What are the effects of transfers? What have been the fate of a particular institution, 'the state'? How does 'culture' affect the transfer of (and resistance to) institutions?"

Early chapters identify institutional transfer as a persistent theme in the study of the Pacific, reflected in ideas like cargo cults, homegrown constitutions, invented traditions, and weak states. The author analyzes about forty cases of institutional transfer, beginning with Tonga's borrowing of institutions in the nineteenth century and ending with the current attempts to induce island states to regulate their offshore financial centers. He goes on to distinguish factors that determine whether transfer took place, including timing, social conditions, and sympathy with local values. He looks at the kinds of power and coercion being employed in transfer and at how transfers have been evaluated by their sponsors: domestic reformers, aid donors, international financial institutions, and their consultants and academic advisors."

AUSTRALIA

Fornasiero, Jean, Peter Monteath and John West-Sooby. 2004. *Encountering Terra Australis: The Australian Voyages of Nicolas Baudin and Matthew Flinders*. Kent Town, SA: Wakefield Press. 456 pages. ISBN: 1862546258.

"*Encountering Terra Australis* traces the parallel lives and voyages of the explorers Flinders and Baudin, as they travelled to Australia and explored the coastline of mainland Australia and Tasmania. Unusually, the book takes its lead from the voyages of Baudin, rather than Flinders, providing a rather different interpretation than those presently circulating. Furthermore the authors have worked using their own totally fresh translation of Baudin's journals, sourcing original accounts including material which has never before been available in English. Extensively illustrated in colour and black

and white.

Jean Fornasiero teaches French in the Centre for European Studies at Adelaide University, John West-Sooby is head of the centre and Peter Monteath is head of history at Flinders University."

Glowczewski, Barbara. 2004. *Rêves en colère avec les Aborigènes australiens: Alliances aborigènes dans le nord-ouest australien*. Paris: Plon. 436 pages. ISBN: 2-259- 19931-3.

"Au nord des grands déserts de l'Australie, des Anciens racontent la Terre désormais violentée, menacée de mort par une humanité de 'progrès'. Barbara Glowczewski les écoute. Elle a dédié toute sa vie d'anthropologue à la compréhension de la singularité des Aborigènes d'Australie dont l'extraordinaire créativité avait captivé André Breton et d'autres grands artistes occidentaux. Elle livre ici un très beau livre qui met en scène vingt années de dialogue avec ces hommes 'dont les pratiques et les savoirs répondent aux grands chantiers d'étude du psychisme, de l'inconscient et de la signification des forces culturelles des peuples premiers'."

Shnukal, Anna, Yuriko Nagata and Guy Ramsay. 2004. *Navigating Boundaries: The Asian Diaspora in the Torres Strait*. Canberra: Pandanus Books, Australian National University. 330 pages. ISBN: 1-74076-089-1.

"*Navigating Boundaries* belongs to a new generation of Asian-Australian historical studies. The essays presented here draw on an extensive, widely dispersed body of information, including much unpublished material, in order to narrate stories of the Asian diaspora communities of Torres Strait, north Queensland.

Early chapters give an overview of Torres Strait Islander/Asian/European interaction, documenting the experiences of people from the five major Asian communities in the Torres Strait: Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Japanese and Sri Lankan. Later chapters inspect the early authorities of Torres Strait, including the former Government Resident, Hon. John Douglas (who admired Torres Strait and Pacific Islanders but was a strong supporter of the White Australia Policy), and the Protector of Aborigines (who sought to prevent contact between Asian and Indigenous people). Other chapters examine the contributions to Torres Strait culture made by Asian communities, from ethnic identity, clothing and cuisine to religion, funeral and burial practices, and with a strong focus on the rich musical culture of Torres Strait Islanders.

In the final chapter of the book, a variety of local voices narrate stories of Torres Strait people of Asian ancestry, providing a deeply personal insight into the Asian experience in Torres Strait. In this way, *Navigating Boundaries* brings together a range of voices to examine the history and socio-cultural dynamics of the major Asian communities in Torres Strait and, in so doing, brings light to bear on the multiculturalism of mainland Australia."

McConchie, Peter. 2003. *Elders: Wisdom from Australia's Indigenous Leaders*. Port Melbourne: Cambridge University Press Australia. 126 pages. ISBN: 0521539242 (paperback) and 0521831520 (hardback).

"It is about Indigenous peoples and their traditional and contemporary ways of living. *Elders* is a series of chapters authored by tribal elders from around Australia. Each chapter describes an important aspect of tribal life, and the elder speaks on behalf of his or her tribe explaining what rituals they hold to, what understandings of the world they have.

Peter McConchie has travelled to the far corners of the continent to listen and record what elders have to say. They speak simply and movingly, and visually stunning photography supports their words.

Elders is a book to appeal to the widest possible audience. It is the most representative account of Aboriginal people's lives, culture and beliefs in book form.

Contents: 1. Healing; 2. The Land; 3. Hunting; 4. Gathering; 5. Family; 6. Lore/Law; 7. Spirit; 8. The Sea; 9. Ceremony and Song.

Key features: 1. Beautifully illustrated with colour photographs by one of Australia's leading photographers; 2. Presents a unique union of the words and wisdom of many indigenous tribal groups; 3. Includes contributions by two leading Aboriginal figures, Mandawuy Yunupingu and Lowitja O'Donoghue."

MELANESIA

Errington, Frederick and Deborah Gewertz. 2004. *Yali's Question: Sugar, Culture, and History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 360 pages. ISBN: 0-226-21745-0 (cloth) and 0-226-21746-9 (paper).

"*Yali's Question* is the story of a remarkable physical and social creation - Ramu Sugar Limited (RSL), a sugar plantation created in a remote part of Papua New Guinea. As an embodiment of imported industrial production, RSL's smoke-belching, steam-shrieking factory and vast fields of carefully tended sugar cane contrast sharply with the surrounding grassland. RSL not only dominates the landscape, but also shapes those culturally diverse thousands who left their homes to work there.

To understand the creation of such a startling place, Frederick Errington and Deborah Gewertz explore the perspectives of the diverse participants that had a hand in its creation. In examining these views, they also consider those of Yali, a local Papua New Guinean political leader. Significantly, Yali features not only in the story of RSL, but also in Jared Diamond's Pulitzer Prize winning world history *Guns, Germs, and Steel* - a history probed through its contrast with RSL's. The authors' disagreement with Diamond stems, not from the generality of his focus and the specificity of theirs, but from a difference in view about how history is made - and from an insistence that those with power be held accountable for affecting history."

Fraenkel, Jon. 2004. *The Manipulation of Custom: From Uprising to Intervention in the Solomon Islands*. Canberra: Pandanus Books, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University. Published with financial assistance from the Pacific Cooperation Foundation. 256 pages. ISBN: 0-86473-487-5.

"This is the first full and comprehensive account of the crisis that has gripped the Solomon Islands since 1998.

The story begins with the 1998 Isatabu uprising on Guadalcanal and the eviction of thousands of Malaitan settlers from their homesteads on that island, continues by analysing the coup of June 2000 and the failure of the Townsville Peace Agreement of October 2000, and concludes with an investigation and assessment of the Australian-led Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

Jon Fraenkel addresses several critical questions about the crisis - how and why it started, why it escalated so rapidly and continued for several years, and why successive governments were unable to disarm the militias and end the violence.

The central theme of the book is a critical investigation of the usage of appeals to Melanesian kastom and 'compensation' demands throughout the crisis, and the way in which these were exploited by governments, failed politicians and militia leaders to bankrupt the Solomon Islands state.

The author, Dr Jon Fraenkel, is a Senior Research Fellow in Governance at the Pacific Institute of Governance & Development at the University of the South Pacific. His research and publications

focus on the economic history of Oceania and contemporary Pacific politics, and he regularly covers Pacific issues for international press and radio outlets."

Goddard, Michael. 2005. *The Unseen City: Anthropological Perspectives on Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. ISBN: 1-74076-134-0 (paper).

"This book is an anthropological examination of Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea. Michael Goddard presents an authoritative work, notable for its professional engagement with the subject: the hidden urban environment of a city unseen not only by the casual visitor but also by those residents affluent enough to dwell behind high walls topped with razor wire."

Hollinshed, Judith. 2004. *Innocence to Independence: Life in the Papua New Guinea Highlands, 1956-1980*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Distributed for Pandanus Books. 272 pages. ISBN: 1-74076-047-6 (paper)

"From 1956, Judith Hollinshed spent 20 years in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Working side by side with her husband, she helped establish a coffee plantation, gave birth to two children and lived without any of the amenities to which she was accustomed. This memoir charts her chance arrival in the Highlands, the trials and joys of building a household and a way of life, the people she came to know, the country's transition to independence, and her observations of the beautiful and treacherous landscape she inhabited.

For sale in North America and Asia Pacific (except Australia)"

Howes, David. 2003. *Sensual Relations: Engaging the Senses in Culture and Social Theory*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. 288 pages. ISBN: 0-472-09846-2 (Cloth) and 0-472-06846-6 (Paper).

"With audacious dexterity, David Howes weaves together topics ranging from love and beauty magic in Papua New Guinea (Massim and Sepik) to nasal repression in Freudian psychology and from the erasure and recovery of the senses in contemporary ethnography to the specter of the body in Marx. Through this eclectic and penetrating exploration of the relationship between sensory experience and cultural expression, *Sensual Relations* contests the conventional exclusion of sensuality from intellectual inquiry and reclaims sensation as a fundamental domain of social theory.

Contents: Part 1. Making Sense in Anthropology; Chapter 1. Taking Leave of Our Senses: A Survey of the Senses and Critique of the Textual Revolution in Ethnographic Theory; Chapter 2. Coming to Our Senses: The Sensual Turn in Anthropological Understanding; Part 2: Melanesian Sensory Formations; Chapter 3. On the Pleasures of Fasting, Appearing, and Being Heard in the Massim World; Chapter 4. On Being in Good Taste: Gustatory Cannibalism and Exchange Psychology; Chapter 5. The Visible and the Invisible in a Middle Sepik Society; Chapter 6. Comparison of Massim and Middle Sepik Ways of Sensing the World; Part 3. Libidinal and Political Economies of the Senses; Chapter 7. Oedipus In/Out of the Trobriands: A Sensuous Critique of Freudian Theory; Chapter 8. The Material Body of the Commodity: Sensing Marx."

Gorode, Dewe. 2004. *The Kanak Apple Season: Selected Short Fiction of Dewe Gorode*. Translated and edited by Peter Brown. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Distributed for Pandanus Books. 270 pages. ISBN: 1-74076-040-9 (paper)

"This collection is the first English translation of Déwé Gorodé's work, and is part of Pandanus' efforts to bring Francophone writing to the attention of readers worldwide. A remarkable collection reflecting the ethnic complexities of the colonial past of New Caledonia, the author's approach to language reveals an original voice that compels attention. Drawing on the heritage of blood-lines, family, cultural tradition and colonialism, Gorodé takes her reader on a journey into the Kanak world, providing fascinating insight into the culture of New Caledonia, at once both Pacific island and French

colonial possession.

For sale in North America and Asia Pacific (except Australia)."

Jones, Jennifer J. 2004. *The Theory and Practice of the Music in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Papua New Guinea*. Apwithihire: Studies in Papua New Guinea Musics No.8. Boroko: Music Department, Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies. 286 pages. ISBN 9980-60-049-0 (paper). Order from: Publications, IPNGS, Box 1432, Boroko 111, Papua New Guinea; Phone (675) 325-4644; Fax (675) 325-0531; Email ipngs@global.net.pg.

"This book provides background information on the worldwide Adventist Church and, in particular, the role that music plays in the church as a whole. From the beginnings of the mission in Papua New Guinea in 1908, a panoramic outline of Adventist missions in the country and their church music is presented. Noticeable are the attempts of the missionaries to introduce a foreign culture against the backdrop of the country's traditional musical heritage. This study examines the church music practices and the attitudes of members and leaders towards aspects of worship music, providing analytical material for the fruition of an indigenously-conceived church music style.

This book considers the music of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Papua New Guinea: the factors that led to such music, full coverage of all Adventist hymnals produced by the Church for Papua New Guinea, the relation between this music and traditional music, and attitudes towards Adventist music and whether it should remain as it is or change in some way or another. Consequently, the past, present, and possible future of music in the Adventist Church are explored."

Kühling, Susanne. 2004. *Dobu: Ethics of Exchange on a Massim Island, Papua New Guinea*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. 336 pages. ISBN: 0-8248-2731-7 (cloth).

"This is an ethnography of Dobu, a Massim society of Papua New Guinea, which has been renowned in social anthropology since Fortune's *Sorcerers of Dobu* (1932). Focusing on exchange and its underlying ethics, this book explores the concept of the person in the Dobu worldview. The book examines major aspects of exchange such as labor, mutual support, apologetic gifts, revenge and punishment, *kula* exchange, and mortuary gifts. It discusses in detail the characteristics of small gifts (such as betel nuts), big gifts (*kula* valuables, pigs, and large yams) and money as they appear in exchange contexts.

ISBN 0-8248-2731-7 was listed before in *Oceania Newsletter* 31/32 as published in 2003 as paperback with 36 pages less."

Lal, Brij V. (ed.). 2004. *Bittersweet: An Indo-Fijian Experience*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Distributed for Pandanus Books. 422 pages. ISBN: 1-74076-117-0 (paper).

"On May 14, 1879, the *Leonidas*, the first ship carrying indentured Indians, arrived in Fiji with 463 immigrants aboard. They were the answer to Fiji's dwindling supply of labor. From May 1879 until 1919, 87 shiploads of Indians traveled to Fiji to work out their five years of indentured slavery - the *girmity* (from the word agreement). Conditions on the cane plantations were miserable and the Indians called that part of their lives *narak* (hell). Once the five years of servitude were over, the Indians were given a certificate of residence. Only after another five years would they become eligible for a paid ticket back to India.

Bittersweet celebrates the 125th anniversary of the arrival of the first *girmityas* in Fiji and introduces the reader to Indo-Fijians. This collection crosses the generations. The writers tell of schooldays and festivals, family and village relationships, suffering and discrimination, sharing and achievements, education and psychology, sports and marriage. Illustrated with rich color photographs, the beauty of these images masks the turmoil that has marked the people of Fiji for generations.

For sale in North America and Asia Pacific (except Australia)"

MICRONESIA

Ward, Martha. 2005. *Nest in the Wind: Adventures in Anthropology on a Tropical Island*. Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press. Second edition. First published in 1989. 178 pages. ISBN: 1-57766-368-3 (paper)

" During her first visit to the beautiful island of Pohnpei in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, anthropologist Martha Ward discovered people who grew quarter-ton yams in secret and ritually shared a powerful drink called kava. She managed a medical research project, ate dog, became pregnant, and responded to spells placed on her. Thirty years later she returned to Pohnpei to learn what had happened there since her first visit. Were islanders still relaxed and casual about sex? Were they still obsessed with titles and social rank? Was the island still lush and beautiful? Had the inhabitants remained healthy? This second edition of Ward's best-selling account is a rare, longitudinal study that tracks people, processes, and a place through decades of change. It is also an intimate record of doing fieldwork that immerses readers in the sights, smells, tastes, sounds, and the sensory richness of Pohnpei. Ward addresses the ageless ethnographic questions about family life, politics, religion, traditional medicine, magic, and death together with contemporary concerns about postcolonial survival, the discontinuities of culture, and adaptation to the demands of a global age. Her insightful discoveries illuminate the evolution of a culture possibly distant from yet important to people living in other parts of the world."

POLYNESIA

Ashman, Mike. 2004. *Kauai: As It Was in the 1940s and '50s*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Distributed for the Kauai Historical Society. 280 pages. ISBN 0-8248-2904-2 (paper) and 0-8248-1766-4 (cloth).

"*Kauai As It Was In The 1940s and '50s* is a lively first-hand account of life on Kauai as it was lived in the radio days of the 1940s and 1950s. Author Mike Ashman, a popular radio announcer for KTOH, Kauai's first commercial radio station, takes readers back to the days when sugar plantations were the center of island life, and Honolulu was a far, faraway place. Ashman's cast of characters include 'Mr. Kauai,' Charlie Fern, the long-time editor of *The Garden Island* newspaper, the local musicians he shared a bandstand with, the famous, and the infamous. Ashman captures the pathos of Kauai's tight-knit community in the uncertain days prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, and the era when the island emerged from its rural isolation in the heady post-war years of the late 1940s and early 1950s."

Bernard, Rigo. 2004. *Altérité polynésienne, ou, Les métamorphoses de l'espace-temps*. Paris: CNRS Éditions. 350 pages.

"Polythéisme, sacré, ancestralité, interdit, don, clivage hommes/femmes... sont autant de notions clés utilisées par le discours savant pour décrire les sociétés traditionnelles. Pour autant ces notions n'ont de sens que rapportées à un questionnement préalable: qu'est-ce qu'une entité divine? qu'est-ce qui fait la sacralité d'une chose? quels rapports les ancêtres entretiennent-ils avec leurs descendants? comment articuler la fécondité féminine aux dieux et aux hommes? Cet ouvrage propose une réponse polynésienne car il n'y a pas de réponse universelle."

Craig, Robert D. 2004. *Handbook of Polynesian Mythology*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO. 289 pages. ISBN: 1-57607-894-9 (print) and 1-57607-895-7 (ebook).

"An accessible, concise reference source on Polynesia's complex mythology, product of a culture little known outside its home.

The Handbook of Polynesian Mythology captures the little known richness and scope of a culture that spread from a single mysterious source to encompass the lands of New Zealand, Easter Island, Hawaii, Samoa, and Tonga. It introduces the people, history, and languages behind the mythology, including the oral traditions that kept it alive for centuries.

Encounters with the West introduced Polynesian mythology to the world - and sealed its fate as a casualty of colonialism. But for centuries before the Europeans came, that mythology was as vast as the triangle of ocean in which it flourished, as diverse as the people it served, and as complex as the mythologies of Greece and Rome.

Students, researchers, and enthusiasts can follow vivid retellings of stories of creation, death, and great voyages, tracking variations from island to island. They can use the book's reference section for information on major deities, heroes, elves, fairies, and recurring themes, as well as the mythic implications of everything from dogs and volcanoes to the hula, Easter Island, and tattooing (invented in the South Pacific and popularized by returning sailors).

Title Features: 1. An annotated bibliography of the major introductory commentaries on Polynesian mythology and culture as well as an annotated listing of websites on a broad range of topics related to Polynesian mythology; 2. An extensive glossary focusing on English translations, equivalents, and interpretations of Polynesian words and phrases.

Highlights: 1. The only introductory guide available focused exclusively on the mythology of Polynesia; 2. Compares similar mythological stories found throughout the different island groups; 3. Provides expert help in understanding important aspects of Polynesian languages and spellings."

Grace, Patricia. 2004. *Tu*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. 288 pages. ISBN: 0-8248- 2927-1 (paper).

"In this new novel acclaimed Maori novelist Patricia Grace visits the often terrifying and complex world faced by men of the Maori Battalion in Italy during World War II.

Tu is proud of his name - the Maori god of war. But for the returned soldier there's a shadow over his own war experience in Italy. Three brothers went to war, but only one returned - Tu is the sole survivor.

For sale only in the U.S., its dependencies, Canada, and Mexico .

Patricia Grace has drawn on the war experiences of her father and other relatives and ventured into new territory by writing about the world of war and soldiers. The result is a novel of great authenticity and high drama from one of the Pacific's finest storytellers.

This is Patricia Grace's sixth novel and follows on from her success with *Dogside Story*, winner of the Kiriama Pacific Rim Book Prize in 2003 and longlisted for the Booker Prize.

Keywords: Pacific; Polynesia; literature."

Hoëm, Ingjerd. 2004. *Theatre and Political Process: Staging Identities in Tokelau and New Zealand*. New York, New York: Berghahn Books. 256 pages. ISBN: 1-57181-583-X (hardback).

" The Argonauts in the Pacific, famous through Malinowski's work, have not been exempt from general historical developments in the world around them. By focusing on two plays performed by the Tokelau Te Ata, a theater group, the author reveals the self-perceptions of the Tokelau and highlights

the dynamic relationship between issues of representation and political processes such as nation building, infrastructural changes and increased regional migration. It is through an analysis of communicative practices, which the author carried out in the home atolls and in the diasporic communities in New Zealand, that we arrive at a proper understanding of how global processes affect local institutions and everyday interaction."

Kawaharada, Dennis. 2004. *Local Geography: Essays on Multicultural Hawai'i*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Distributed for Kalamaku Press. 200 pages. ISBN: 0-9709597-2-9.

"*Local Geography* takes the reader on a journey through Hawai'i's multiethnic society during the second half of the twentieth century. In eight autobiographical essays, the author looks back at his colonial upbringing and education and his attempt to find a center from which to develop beliefs and values that fit the land, sea, community, and cultures in which he grew up."

Leather, Kay and Richard Hall. 2004. *Taatai Arorangi; Maori Astronomy: Work of the Gods*. Paraparaumu: Viking Sevensseas.

"Changes brought about by the introduction of a new religion and the effects of colonization resulted in much of the ancient knowledge being lost to view, with few being taught in the colleges of learning for chiefly children and those with special aptitudes. However, the elders were wise and were able to foresee a time when more would be lost. In the ancient way the knowledge was incorporated in stories and songs, then in more modern times they made use of the new art of writing. In this way the knowledge is there; some is lost, but much has been kept. Those who wish to access the learning to their ancestors may do so, but as the elders point out, to obtain knowledge is a privilege: the hinengaro or desire of those who wish to learn must be matched by the payment, the utu. Today that utu is the use of brain power in obtaining the knowledge; in making use of it, the principle of mana, respect applies. Whether the person is Maori or not there is a duty of respect to the elders of the past and the present, recognizing their ownership in the knowledge and in its use, so as not to diminish their mana or that of their descendants.

Kay Leather and Richard Hall have taken that learning and placed it beside star lore. Polynesian and Maori astronomical knowledge is separate from the ancient systems of Mesopotamia, Greece, the Moorish world, Europe, China, Yucatan or other places and cultures. However, all deal with the same phenomena and so may offer valid comparisons and insights to those who study them. Modern world astronomy is built on the knowledge of the past and the way in which the universe came to be and is ordered according to the theories or myths."

Pak, Gary. 2004. *Children of a Fireland: A Novel*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. 256 pages. ISBN: 0-8248- 2836-4 (paper).

"The inhabitants of sleepy old Kanewai town are rudely awakened when disturbing messages begin showing up on the wall of the abandoned movie theater. No one knows who's behind the mischief, but everyone is speculating as frantic attempts are made to cover up the graffiti and repair the damage done to the reputations of friends, family, and the 'victims' themselves. Is it the ghost of Casey Akana, the theater's original owner, come back to slander the people of Kanewai - in particular Hiram Ching, whose father had bankrupted him in the good old days after the war? Threats, armed vigilantes - nothing can stop the offensive remarks from appearing. After Ching mysteriously drops dead of a heart attack, even the town priest is baffled and gives into pleas for an exorcism. But when Father Fonseca falls to his death from the theater's roof, the townspeople lose their only savior - or so they think until more ugly secrets are revealed and further hypocrisy is exposed.

Author of the award-winning *The Watcher of Waipuna and Other Stories* and *A Ricepaper Airplane*, Gary Pak is on the creative writing faculty at the University of Hawai'i.

Keywords: Hawaii; literature."

Saura, Bruno. 2004. *La Société tahitienne au miroir d'Israël: Un peuple en métaphore*. Paris: CNRS Éditions. 304 pages. ISBN : 2-271-06218-7.

"L'arrivée du christianisme au début du XIXe siècle développa chez les Polynésiens (Polynésie française et Nouvelle-Zélande) l'idée d'une communauté d'origine et de destin avec les anciens Hébreux, au point qu'ils intégrèrent à leur société et à leur culture certains éléments de leur vie. Cette identification avec les Hébreux d'origine est particulièrement développée en milieu mormon. Plus généralement, ce lien 'métaphorique', cette reconstruction d'identité révèle sa force mobilisatrice dans les luttes contemporaines pour la décolonisation."

Silva, Noenoe K. 2004. *Aloha Betrayed: Native Hawaiian Resistance to American Colonialism*. Durham: Duke University Press. 272 pages. ISBN: 0-8223-3350-3 (cloth) and 0-8223-3349-X (paperback).

"In 1897, as a white oligarchy made plans to allow the United States to annex Hawai'i, native Hawaiians organized a massive petition drive to protest. Ninety-five percent of the native population signed the petition, causing the annexation treaty to fail in the U.S. Senate. This event was unknown to many contemporary Hawaiians until Noenoe K. Silva rediscovered the petition in the process of researching this book. Histories of Hawai'i, with few exceptions, have been written using only English language sources. They have not taken into account the thousands of pages of newspapers, books, and letters written in the mother tongue of native Hawaiians. By rigorously analyzing nineteenth-century Hawaiian-language texts, Silva fills a crucial gap in the historical record. In so doing, she refutes the long-held idea that native Hawaiians passively accepted the erosion of their culture and loss of their nation, showing that they actively resisted political, economic, linguistic, and cultural domination.

Silva demonstrates that throughout the nineteenth century, print media, particularly newspapers, functioned as sites for broad social communication, political organizing, and perpetuation of the native language and culture. The basis of her study is a large archive of more than seventy-five Hawaiian-language newspapers produced between 1834 and 1948. She brings to light not only overtly political articles and essays but also chants, stories, poems, quilts, songs, and hula performances. Silva is attentive to the subtleties of the Hawaiian language itself, pointing out how the native texts are rife with veiled meanings intended to elude deciphering by colonialists. Her readings illuminate the heretofore unacknowledged mass participation in politics by Hawaiian women. A powerful critique of colonial historiography, *Aloha Betrayed* provides a much-needed history of native Hawaiian resistance to American imperialism."

Testard de Marans, Alfred. 2004. *Souvenirs des îles Marquises, Groupe Sud-Est, 1887-1888*. Paris: Publications de la Société des Océanistes. 212 pages.

"Les témoignages de résidents aux îles Marquises dans la seconde moitié du XIXème siècle restent rares, peu accessibles ou inédits. Alfred Testard de Marans, dont les 'Souvenirs' font l'objet de cette publication de la Société des Océanistes, occupa le poste de Sous-administrateur des Marquises pour le groupe Sud-Est d'octobre 1887 à avril 1888.

Esprit curieux et généreux, il brosse un tableau vivant de l'archipel placé sous son autorité: brève histoire, géographie, administration, et surtout moeurs et coutumes des Marquisiens en cette période de paix retrouvée.

Précédé d'une 'Introduction' de Dominique Cadilhac, Chef de la Subdivision des Iles Marquises de 1994 à 1996, le texte est enrichi par les annotations de Marie-Noëlle Ottino-Garanger et des illustrations provenant des archives de Henri Testard de Marans."

Wendt, Albert. 2004. *The Songmaker's Chair*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. 140 pages. ISBN: 0-8248-2925-5 (paper).

"Auckland, one summer weekend. A family fused together by the energies of multicultural Aotearoa New Zealand faces meltdown as tensions build between migrant and New Zealand-born generations, and between Samoan, Maori, and Palagi family members.

Why is it we've strayed this far?
We think we've found a firm fit to this land.
To our children and mokopuna it's home.
That's good enough pe 'a o'o mai le Amen
and Papatuanuku embraces us ...

For sale only in the U.S., its dependencies, Canada, and Mexico.

Albert Wendt has been an influential figure in the developments that have shaped New Zealand and Pacific literature since the 1970s, writing numerous works of fiction and several volumes of poetry, and editing notable anthologies of Pacific literature. He is a professor of New Zealand literature at the University of Auckland. *The Songmaker's Chair* is his first full-length play.

Keywords: Pacific; Polynesia; literature."

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