

# Contents

MAKEDA SILVERA

Introduction

UMA PARAMESWARAN

Names Resonant and Sweet — An overview  
of South Asian Canadian Women's Writing 3

JOY KOGAWA TALKS TO KARLYN KOH

The Heart-of-the-matter Questions 19

FREDERICK IVOR CASE

Babylon and the Spirit Lash 42

ISABELLE KNOCKWOOD

I have to write whatever happened 63

AHDRI ZHINA MANDIELA

the true rhythm of the language 81

RAMABAI ESPINET TALKS TO ELAINE SAVORY

A Sense of Constant Dialogue — Writing, Woman  
and Indo-Caribbean Culture 94

RITA WONG

Jumping on hyphens — a bricolage  
receiving "genealogy/gap," "goods,"  
"east asian canadian," "translation" & "laughter" 117

CAROL TALBOT

It's important to write from your soul 155

HIMANI BANNERJI

Writing was not a decision 180

CARMEN RODRÍGUEZ	
I live in a language that's not mine	208
LENORE KEESHIG-TOBIAS	
Keepers of the Culture	220
LILLIAN ALLEN	
Poems are not meant to lay still	253
MARIA CAMPBELL TALKS TO BETH CUTHAND	
It's the job of the Storyteller to create chaos	264
SALONI MATHUR	
bell hooks called me a "Woman of Colour"	271
AFUA COOPER	
If you're true to your voice	293
BEATRICE CULLETON	
I decided to go with reality	311
LIEN CHAO	
Constituting Minority Canadian Women and our Sub-Cultures — Female Characters in Selected Chinese Canadian Literature	333
DIONNE BRAND	
In the company of my work	356
SKY LEE TALKS TO C. ALLYSON LEE	
Is there a mind without media any more?	382
MAKEDA SILVERA	
The characters would not have it	405
ARUN P. MUKHERJEE	
Canadian Nationalism, Canadian Literature and Racial Minority Women	421
Contributors' Notes	446
Selected works by contributors	452