

# *Contents*

*List of contributors* viii

*Acknowledgements* x

Introduction 1

PETER PIERCE

## FROM EUROPEAN IMAGININGS OF AUSTRALIA TO THE END OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD

1 · Britain's Australia 7

KEN STEWART

2 · The beginnings of literature in colonial Australia 34

ELIZABETH WEBBY

3 · Early writings by Indigenous Australians 52

PENNY VAN TOORN

4 · Australian colonial poetry, 1788–1888: Claiming the future,  
restoring the past 73

VIVIAN SMITH

5 · No place for a book? Fiction in Australia to 1890 93

TANYA DALZIELL

6 · Romantic aftermaths 118

RICHARD LANSDOWN

## FROM THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY TO 1950

7 · Australia's Australia 137

PETER PIERCE

8 · The short story, 1890s to 1950 156

BRUCE BENNETT

9 · Australian drama, 1850–1950 180

PETER FITZPATRICK

10 · ‘New words come tripping slowly’: Poetry, popular culture and  
modernity, 1890–1950 199

PETER KIRKPATRICK

11 · Australian fiction and the world republic of letters, 1890–1950 223

ROBERT DIXON

12 · Australia’s England, 1880–1950 255

PETER MORTON

TRAVERSES

13 · Australian children’s literature 282

CLARE BRADFORD

14 · Representations of Asia 303

ROBIN GERSTER

15 · Autobiography 323

DAVID MCCOOEY

16 · Riding on the ‘uncurl’d clouds’: The intersections of  
history and fiction 344

BRIAN MATTHEWS

FROM 1950 TO NEARLY NOW

17 · Publishing, patronage and cultural politics: Institutional changes in  
the field of Australian literature from 1950 360

DAVID CARTER

18 · Theatre from 1950 391

KATHARINE BRISBANE

19 · The short story since 1950 419

STEPHEN TORRE

20 · Scribbling on the fringes: Post-1950 Australian poetry 452

DENNIS HASKELL

21 · Groups and mavericks 473

JOHN KINSELLA

22 · The challenge of the novel: Australian fiction since 1950 498

SUSAN LEVER

23 · The novel, the implicated reader and Australian literary  
cultures, 1950–2008 517

RICHARD NILE AND JASON ENSOR

24 · Nation, literature, location 549

PHILIP MEAD

*Select bibliography* 568

*Index* 585