Dance of Life

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About this Publication:

Focusing on the narrative strategies of Mda, Fincham proffers an original reading of his text from 1995 which connects the visual, the performative and History. Prof. Wendy Woodward, University of Western Cape.

Fincham manages the critical discourse so that the book can serve both as a work for the literary specialist as well as an introduction to Mda for the newcomer. It will make an important and necessary contribution to Mda studies. Prof. Johan Jacobs, University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal.

There is an energy and creativity in the writing that answers to Mda. One looks forward to seeing more work of his kind, where reader and text are working together in a productive catalogue. Prof. David Attwell, University of New York

Contents Include:

• Chapter One: Zakes Mda’s construction of the ‘cross-border’ reader
• Chapter Two: ‘Appropriating urban space’: Ways of Dying
• Chapter Three: From ‘the speaking voice’ to intertextuality in
• Chapter Four: Towards a new ontology of postcolonial vision: The Madonna of Excelsior
• Chapter Five: Art, landscape and identity in She Plays with the Darkness, The Madonna of Excelsior and Cion
• Chapter Six: Imaginary homelands: Diaspora and identity in Cion
• Chapter Seven: ‘Our only physical and psychic home’: Ecology and community in The Whale Caller
• Chapter Eight: ‘The trenches are the boardrooms of South Africa’: Black Diamond
• Chapter Nine: Some concluding thoughts
Academics and students of African and postcolonial studies in Britain, America, Europe, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, as well as the general reader interested in Mda's work.