

CHINA IN TWENTIETH- AND TWENTY-FIRST- CENTURY AFRICAN LITERATURE

China in Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century African Literature unpacks the long-standing complexity of exchanges between Africans and Chinese as far back as the Cold War and beyond. This scope encompasses how China, which emerged as a main engine of the world economy by the end of the twentieth century, has transformed patterns of globalization across the continent. In this groundbreaking work on cultural representations, Duncan M. Yoon examines the controversial symbol of China in African literature. He reads acclaimed authors like Kofi Awoonor, Henri Lopes, and Bessie Head, as well as contemporary writers, including Ufrieda Ho, Kwei Quartey, and Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor. Each chapter focuses on a genre such as poetry, genre fiction, memoir, and the novel, drawing out themes like resource extraction, diaspora, gender, and race. Yoon demonstrates how African creative voices grapple with and make meaning out of the possibilities and limitations of globalization in an increasingly multipolar world.

DUNCAN M. YOON is an assistant professor at New York University. He was a Kluge Fellow at the Library of Congress and a Fulbright Scholar to South Korea. He chaired the forum, African Literature to 1990, at the Modern Language Association.

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DUNCAN M. YOON

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Whereas the Western nation is first of all an “opposite,” for colonized peoples, identity will be primarily “opposed to” – that is, a limitation from the beginning. Decolonization will have done its real work when it goes beyond this limit.

Édouard Glissant, *The Poetics of Relation*

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