

1990

Kunapipi 12 (2) 1990, Contents, Editorial

Anna Rutherford

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Kunapipi 12 (2) 1990, Contents, Editorial

Abstract

Contents and Editorial

KUNAPIPI

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father.

Special Issue in Celebration of

Chinua Achebe



KUNAPIPI

VOLUME XII NUMBER 2
1990

Kunapipi is a tri-annual arts magazine with special but not exclusive emphasis on the new literatures written in English. It aims to fulfil the requirements T.S. Eliot believed a journal should have: to introduce the work of new or little known writers of talent, to provide critical evaluation of the work of living authors, both famous and unknown, and to be truly international. It publishes creative material and criticism. Articles and reviews on related historical and sociological topics plus film will also be included as well as graphics and photographs.

The editor invites creative and scholarly contributions. Manuscripts should be double-spaced with footnotes gathered at the end, should conform to the MHRA (Modern Humanities Research Association) Style Sheet, and should be accompanied by a return envelope.

All correspondence - manuscripts, books for review, inquiries - should be sent to:

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VOLUME XII NUMBER 2, 1990

Special issue

IN CELEBRATION OF CHINUA ACHEBE

Edited by

KIRSTEN HOLST PETERSEN & ANNA RUTHERFORD

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We are grateful to the Commonwealth Foundation for its support in providing subscriptions to *Kunapipi* for Third World countries.



We would like to thank the South Bank Show and London Weekend Television for their permission to publish Chinua Achebe's lecture.

Cover: Photograph by George Hallett
Cover design: Anna Rutherford

Kunapipi refers to the Australian Aboriginal myth of the Rainbow Serpent which is the symbol both of creativity and regeneration. The journal's emblem is to be found on an Aboriginal shield from the Roper River area of the Northern Territory in Australia.

Foreword

In January 1990 one of us went to the South Bank lecture to hear Chinua Achebe. After the lecture and questions there was a reception, and over a glass of wine we got Chinua Achebe's permission to publish the talk he had just given. This was an unexpected piece of luck and it gave rise to the idea of devoting an entire issue of *Kunapipi* to the writing of Chinua Achebe, using his own contribution as the centre piece.

The present volume, then, is to celebrate Chinua Achebe's 60th year. The best way to honour a great writer is not simply to heap praises on him – they get repetitive after a while; a much better way is to show the scope, the variety and the depth of the scholarship which concerns itself with his writing, and this is what we have tried to do. The contributors range from fellow writers like Ama Ata Aidoo and Gabriel Okara to young academics around the world like Rosemary Colmer from Australia and Margaret E. Turner from Canada. The range is not just wide geographically, but also in terms of theme and approach. There are post-colonial interpretations, Marxist interpretations, feminist interpretations and linguistic approaches.

However, behind the literature which gave rise to all those approaches is the man, and apart from writing Chinua Achebe has contributed greatly to the development of African literature through his editorial work and his encouragement of young writers. This aspect is discussed in the interview with the editors of the African Writers Series.

Chinua Achebe, we have put together this tribute to show our appreciation of the great contribution you have made to African and world literature; we hope that it will give you pleasure to read and that you will continue to let your voice be heard in the large and growing and diversifying body of African literature.

KIRSTEN HOLST PETERSEN
ANNA RUTHERFORD

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