Record Nr. UNINA9910373939103321 Autore Hemer Oscar Titolo Contaminations and Ethnographic Fictions: Southern Crossings / / by Oscar Hemer Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Palgrave Macmillan, , 2020 **ISBN** 3-030-34925-X Edizione [1st ed. 2020.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (231 pages) Collana Palgrave Studies in Literary Anthropology Disciplina 301 809 Soggetti Ethnology Social structure Equality Cultural studies Literature Social Anthropology Social Structure, Social Inequality **Cultural Studies** Postcolonial/World Literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato**

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Sommario/riassunto

"The form that Oscar Hemer has created in Cape Calypso allows a multi-perspectival treatment of the subject—a great improvement on linear narrative." —J.M. Coetzee, Professor of Literature, University of Adelaide, Australia, and recipient of the 2003 Nobel Prize in Literature In an unusual merging of academic and literary practices, this volume attempts to identify a form (or forms) that is congenial with the subject of interrogation: the world in transition, with South Africa as the main focal point. Approaching anthropology from the position of the literary writer, Oscar Hemer here takes the reader through a kaleidoscope of perspectives—a stream-of-consciousness understanding of "writing the city" of Johannesburg, embedding ethnography in subjectivity; a

challenge to binaries both temporal and gendered in examining the growth of the IT metropolis Bangalore to a combusting mega-city; an auto-ethnographic interweaving of fictional reportage with a close-reading of anthropological and philosophical treatises, including Mary Douglas's Purity and Danger and Edouard Glissant's Poetics of Relation, among others—to interrogate themes of transition, identity, purity and variation in the Western Cape. As the form transcends boundaries to create a methodological hybrid, creolization comes to the fore as a theoretical concept and as cultural practice.