Record Nr. UNINA9910790261703321 Islanded identities [[electronic resource]]: constructions of **Titolo** postcolonial cultural insularity / / edited by Maeve McCusker and **Anthony Soares** New York, : Rodopi, 2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-49705-X 9786613592286 94-012-0693-7 Descrizione fisica xxviii, 243 p., [4] p. of plates : ill. (some col.) Cross/cultures;; 139 Collana Altri autori (Persone) McCuskerMaeve SoaresAnthony Disciplina 809/.9332142 Soggetti Islands - Social aspects Group identity Postcolonialism Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Preliminary Material -- Island Theory: The Antipodes / Matthew Boyd Goldie -- Writing Against the Tide?: Patrick Chamoiseau's (Is)land Imaginary / Maeve Mccusker -- A Distinctive Disaster Literature: Montserrat Island Poetry under Pressure / Jonathan Skinner --Rethinking Identity and Belonging: 'Mauritianness' in the Work of Ananda Devi / Ritu Tyagi -- From Slave to Tourist Entertainer: Performative Negotiations of Identity and Difference in Mauritius / Burkhard Schnepel and Cornelia Schnepel -- "Amid the Alien Corn": British India as Human Island / Ralph Crane -- Journalism and Identity: The Red-Top Hangover and Erosions of 'Island Mentality' in Postcolonial Ireland / Mark Wehrly -- Western Blood in an Eastern Island: Affective Identities in Timor-Leste / Anthony Soares -- "No Man is an Island": National Literary Canons, Writers, and Readers / Lyn Innes -- Impure Islands: Europe and a Post-Imperial Polity / Paulo de Medeiros -- Notes on Contributors -- Index.

The island, because of its supposed isolation, and its apparent small scale, has historically been a privileged site of colonial aggression and

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acquisitiveness. Yet the island has also been imagined as a uniquely sovereign space, and thus one in which the colonial enterprise can be seen as especially egregious. 'Islandedness' takes on a particular charge in the early twenty-first century, in the supposedly postcolonial period. While contemporary media offer a simulacrum of proximity to others, the reality is that we are ever more distant, inhabiting islands both real and conceptual. Meanwhile migrants from today's 'postcolonial' islands are routinely denied access to the perceived 'mainland'. And, in islands freed from overt colonialism, but often beset by neocolonial forces of domination and control, identities are constructed so as to differentiate insider from outsider – even when the outsider comes from within. This is the first volume devoted explicitly to the postcolonial island, conceived in a broad geographical, historical, and metaphorical sense. Branching across disciplinary parameters (literary studies, anthropology, history, cultural studies), and analyzing a range of cultural forms (literature, dance, print journalism, and television), the volume attempts to focus critically on three areas: the current realities of formerly colonized island nations; the phenomenon of 'foreign' communities living within a dominant host community; and the existence of (local) practices and theoretical perspectives that complement, but are often critical of, prevailing theories of the postcolonial. The islands treated in the volume include Ireland, Montserrat, Martinique, Mauritius, and East Timor, and the collection includes more broadly conceived historical and theoretical essays. The volume should be required reading for scholars working in postcolonial studies, in island studies, and for those working in and across a range of disciplines (literature, cultural studies, anthropology). Contributors: Ralph Crane, Matthew Boyd Goldie, Lyn Innes, Maeve McCusker, Paulo de Medeiros, Burkhard Schnepel, Cornelia Schnepel, Jonathan Skinner, Anthony Soares, Ritu Tyagi, Mark Wehrly