

Striding Both Worlds illuminates European influences in the fiction of Witi Ihimaera, Aotearoa New Zealand's foremost Maori writer, in order to question the common interpretation of Maori writing as displaying a distinctive Maori world-view and literary style. Far from being discrete endogenous units, all cultures and literatures arise out of constant interaction, engagement, and even friction. Thus, Maori culture since the 1970s has been shaped by a long history of interaction with colonial British, Pakeha, and other postcolonial and indigenous cultures. Maori sovereignty and renaissance movements have harnessed the structures of European modernity, nation-building, and, more recently, Western global capitalism, transculturation, and diaspora - contexts which contest New Zealand bicultural identity, encouraging Maori to express their difference and self-sufficiency. Ihimaera's fiction has been largely viewed as embodying the specific values of Maori renaissance and biculturalism. However, Ihimaera, in his techniques, modes, and themes, is indebted to a wider range of literary influences than national literary critique accounts for. In taking an international literary perspective, this book draws critical attention to little-known or disregarded aspects such as Ihimaera's love of opera, the extravagance of his baroque lyricism, his exploration of fantasy, and his increasing interest in taking Maori into the global arena. In revealing a broad range of cultural and aesthetic influences and inter-references commonly seen as irrelevant to contemporary Maori literature, Striding Both Worlds argues for a hitherto frequently overlooked and undervalued depth and complexity to Ihimaera's imaginary. The present study argues that an emphasis on difference tends to lose sight of fiction's capacity to appreciate originality and individuality in the polyphony of its very form and function. In effect, literary negotiation of Maori sovereign space takes place in its forms rather than in its content: the uniqueness of Maori literature is found in the way it uses the common tools of literary fiction, including language, imagery, the text's relationship to reality, and the function of characterization. By interpreting aspects of Ihimaera's oeuvre for what they share with other literatures in English, Striding Both Worlds aims to present an additional, complementary approach to Maori, New Zealand, and postcolonial literary analysis.

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akaiho.com: Striding Both Worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's Literary Traditions. (Cross/Cultures: Readings in Post/Colonial Literatures and Cultures in . Thus, Maori culture since the s has been shaped by a long history of interaction with Striding Both Worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's Literary Traditions Cross/Cultures - Readings in the Post/Colonial Literatures in English ,

Striding both worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's literary traditions by Melissa Kennedy, Cross Cultures , Amsterdam and New York.

Striding Both Worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's Literary Traditions. Melissa Kennedy "Striding both worlds" the transitive use of the verb may appear somewhat solecistic, but of a culture and believes he has a role in articulating their concerns and not his own into a cross-cultural impetus. Ihimaera, her.

Illuminating cross-cultural influence in Ihimaera's works calls into question . The New Zealand literary community, understood as predominantly Pakeha . the Maori writer employs Western cultural references and literary traditions. At times. Striding both worlds; Witi Ihimaera with New Zealand's literary traditions. Link/ Page Citation Cross cultures; PR Witi Ihimaera became the first Maori. Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's Literary Traditions Melissa Kennedy outside his fiction the Maori writer is positive about potential cultural transformations that problematize cross-cultural interaction by emphasizing singularity: "How do. Striding both worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's literary traditions, Amsterdam New York, Rodopi, 1 Items in the Series Cross/cultures, The Hardcover of the Striding Both Worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's Literary Traditions by Melissa Kennedy at Barnes & Noble. Thus, Maori culture since the s has been shaped by a long history of interaction with colonial British, Pakeha, and other Series: Cross/Cultures Series, # New York: New Press: Distributed by W.W. Norton, Print. Striding Both Worlds: Witi Ihimaera and New Zealand's Literary Traditions. Cross Cultures

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