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Introducing the perspective of 'writing madness' into African literature means seeing that literature from a different angle, through the lenses of writers who have written the novel as a form of mental expression and have explored issues and styles that exposed and revealed the undercurrents of societies introducing an element of risk and reality.

This study follows the transformation from oral narratives projecting events in the 'limit of darkness': the African body and mind, to African writers' interaction with these narratives and their own projections of what constitutes madness in a colonial and postcolonial world. The regional focus is on novel writers from Southern Africa: Dambudzo Marechera, Louis Raphenokwakgwe, Denis Head and Tendai Dzvizesi, but also includes writers from Francophone and West Africa: Sozinho Louro Teme and Rebecca Njila, and an analysis of writing methods that depict the hallmark of madness in postcolonial Africa. "Flora Veit-Wild: Emeritus Professor of Modern French & African Literature at the University of Kent, Canterbury"

Flora Veit-Wild is Professor of African Literature at Humboldt University, Berlin.

**Guest Editor: Michael Etherton**

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This volume presents studies of theatre that young Africans have made and performed across the continent. It shows a wide range of work, much of which depicts the crises that young Africans face in contemporary Africa. The contributors, both adults who are deeply involved in the theatre of young Africans, recount the inspiration and encouragement that has led to the artistic achievement and powerful creativity of this work. Michael Etherton's introduction analyses the artistic scope and political impact. What emerges from the voices of the young people themselves is how they are using theatre and performance to struggle for their rights and for positive changes in their lives.

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