

MEDIA RELEASE

Contrary Rhetoric: Lectures on Landscape and Language

John Kinsella

This gathering of John Kinsella's writings about the intersections of location and writing is a rich contribution to the project of a new language for country ... John Kinsella's mind starts with a convention and then proceeds to investigate it, testing a settled term like the pastoral, for instance, against his deep knowledge of the inner veins of Australian poetry, and his memory of wheatbins and Nyungar stokers. In an age when monolingualism and monoculturalism have become the watchwords of the powerful, it is a liberation to read these essays in passionate individualism.

Philip Mead

About the book

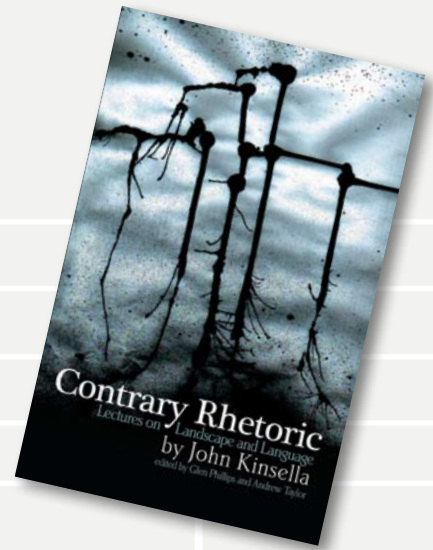
John Kinsella's essays are concerned with culture, place, and poetic language. From the 'city' to the 'bush', and with 'prospect' and 'refuge' of landscape in mind, his focus is up close. Looking at the region through an international lens, he examines subjects as diverse as the pastoral tradition, the flag, forest protests, the meanings of the letterbox, the Western Australian wheatbelt, racism and opera. Describing himself as an international regionalist, in contradistinction to a nationalist, he is always willing to challenge his audience.

About the Author

John Kinsella's many volumes of poetry include the prize-winning collections *Shades of the Sublime & Beautiful* (Fremantle Press, 2008), *Peripheral Light: New and Selected Poems* (Fremantle Press, 2003) and *The New Arcadia* (Fremantle Press, 2005).

Media Notes

- John Kinsella is a major international poet, whose work is published by major US and UK publishers.
- In 2008 the author was awarded the Christopher Brennan Award for Poetry, the Glenna Luschei Prairie Schooner Award and was appointed as an Extraordinary Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge University.



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