

# SALEM PRESS

Published & Distributed by Grey House Publishing

## For Immediate Release

January 16, 2015

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## **Salem Press Announces New Addition to Critical Insights Series; *Critical Insights: Political Fiction***

*Critical Insights: Political Fiction* presents a variety of essays and stories that not only deal with events that occurred throughout the nation, but are also fable-like, allegorical, or manically metafictional to the genre. Topics range from Jakob Lothe's, *Joseph Conrad: The Art of Political Fiction* to Michael Trussler's "*Who Is the Enemy?*": *Waste and Violence in Deborah Eisenberg's Short Fiction*.

Edited by Mark Lavene, from the University of Toronto, this new volume begins with two introductory essays from the editor ("About This Volume" and "On Political Fiction") that detail the contributing writers and their essays that explore the political fiction genre. *Critical Insights: Political Fiction* is then split up into two sections of essays. The first section, **Critical Contexts**, presents four original essays by current scholars, investigating the cultural and historical pieces of political fiction works, and offering close and comparative readings of key texts. This volume's Critical Contexts essays include:

- Philip Beidler *In Search of the Great American Political Novel of the Vietnam War*.
- *From the Stricken Community to the Solitary Night Mind: The Politics of Time, Space, and Otherness in American Fiction After 9/11* by Lucy Bond.
- *Wounded Nations: Politics and Postcolonial Literature* by Chelva Kanaganayakam.
- Robert Boyers, *The Retreat from Political Fiction*.

Readers seeking a deeper understanding can then move on to **Critical Readings** that explore essays through a variety of critical approaches. Among the contributors are Jakob Lothe, Patrick Hayes, John Thieme, Patricia Rae, Margaret Scanlan, Alice Ridout, and many more.

Thoughtful yet accessible to high school and college students, all *Critical Insights* essays open the door to critical thinking and analysis that is a cornerstone for Common Core state standards, as well as for success at the college level. This popular series distills the best of both classic and current literary criticism of the world's most studied literature. Each volume in the series focuses on an individual author's entire body of work, on a single work of literature, or on a popular literary theme. *Critical Insights* provides authoritative, accessible, and in-depth insights and analysis suitable for students and teachers alike.

Each volume of the *Critical Insights* series contains 10-14 essays offering the following critical analysis of the author, work, or theme. Each essay is 2,500-5,000 words in length, and most essays conclude with supporting bibliographic information.

**Free Online with Print Purchase**

In addition, *Critical Insights: Political Fiction* comes with complimentary online access via <http://online.salempress.com>. A single purchase of the printed version is all it takes to gain access to this important title on the web.

The *Critical Insights* Series distills the best of both classic and current literary criticism of the world's most-studied literature. Featuring essays by some of academia's most distinguished literary scholars, *Critical Insights: Political Fiction* provides authoritative, in-depth scholarship that students and researchers will rely on for years to come.

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*Critical Insights: Political Fiction*

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-61925-411-4

300 pages

\$85.00

Ebook ISBN: 978-1-6925-412-1

Publisher: Salem Press