



## The Native American Renaissance: Literary Imagination and Achievement (American Indian Literature and Critical Studies Series)

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**The Native American Renaissance: Literary Imagination and Achievement (American Indian Literature and Critical Studies Series)** From University of Oklahoma Press

The outpouring of Native American literature that followed the publication of N. Scott Momaday's Pulitzer Prize-winning *House Made of Dawn* in 1968 continues unabated. Fiction and poetry, autobiography and discursive writing from such writers as James Welch, Gerald Vizenor, and Leslie Marmon Silko constitute what critic Kenneth Lincoln in 1983 termed the Native American Renaissance. This collection of essays takes the measure of that efflorescence.

The contributors scrutinize writers from Momaday to Sherman Alexie, analyzing works by Native women, First Nations Canadian writers, postmodernists, and such theorists as Robert Warrior, Jace Weaver, and Craig Womack. Weaver's own examination of the development of Native literary criticism since 1968 focuses on Native American literary nationalism. Alan R. Velie turns to the achievement of Momaday to examine the ways Native novelists have influenced one another. Post-renaissance and postmodern writers are discussed in company with newer writers such as Gordon Henry, Jr., and D. L. Birchfield. Critical essays discuss the poetry of Simon Ortiz, Kimberly Blaeser, Diane Glancy, Luci Tapahonso, and Ray A. Young Bear, as well as the life writings of Janet Campbell Hale, Carter Revard, and Jim Barnes. An essay on Native drama examines the work of Hanay Geiogamah, the Native American Theater Ensemble, and Spider Woman Theatre.

In the volume's concluding essay, Kenneth Lincoln reflects on the history of the Native American Renaissance up to and beyond his seminal work, and discusses Native literature's legacy and future. The essays collected here underscore the vitality of Native American literature and the need for debate on theory and ideology.

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About the Author

**Alan R. Velie** is David Ross Boyd Professor in the English Department at the University of Oklahoma. He is the author of more than forty articles and three books and the editor of eight books, including the anthology *American Indian Literature*.

**A. Robert Lee** is retired as Professor of American Literature at Nihon University, Tokyo, Japan, and is the author or editor of numerous books, including *Native American Writing* and *Multicultural American Literature: Comparative Black, Native, Latino/a, and Asian American Fictions*, which won the 2004 American Book Award.

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