

About the contributors

Siseko H. Kumalo is a lecturer at the University of Fort Hare's Department of Philosophy, currently completing his PhD (at the University of Pretoria) in which he interrogates belonging and national identity in South Africa. He is the recipient of the Harvard South African Fellowship 2022/2023. Kumalo received his formative training at Rhodes University, where he read in Political and International Studies, Anthropology and Philosophy. His research and teaching interests centre around themes of education decolonisation in the South African academy. He served as the founding Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Decolonising Disciplines* and has presented his research at world-leading institutions, having spoken at Duke University's (USA) Center for International and Global Studies and lectured at Karolinska Institutet (Sweden) in their master's in global health programme, teaching on the subject of decolonising global health. Kumalo's most recent edited collections include *Decolonisation as Democratisation: Global Insights into the South African Experience* (HSRC Press, 2021), *Decolonising Curricula and Pedagogy in Higher Education: Bringing Decolonial Theory into Contact with Teaching Practice* (with Shannon Morreira, Kathy Luckett and Manjeet Ramgotra, Routledge, 2021) and *University on the Border: Crisis of Authority and Precarity* (with Lis Lange and Vasu Reddy, SUN PReSS, 2021). He serves on the Editorial Collective of *Stilet*, the *Tydskrif vir Letterkunde* Association and the Literary Association of South Africa's Executive Committee.

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Gabi Mkhize is a senior lecturer in the School of Social Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). She is also an Academic Leader for the Development Cluster, where she is an HoD of Economic History, History, Gender Studies and Information Studies. She holds a PhD in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies from the Ohio State University, USA. She has several peer-reviewed journal and book chapter publications on gender and sexuality. Her publications and research interests include gender and development, gendered violence, identity politics, gender and disability, gender and tourism, intersectionality and critical Black feminist thought.

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Queer in Africa: LGBTQI Identities, Citizenship and Activism (with Zethu Matebeni and Surya Monro, Routledge, 2018); *Queer Kinship: South African Perspectives on the Sexual Politics of Family-Making and Belonging* (with Tracy Morison and Ingrid Lynch, UNISA Press and Routledge, 2018); *State of the Nation: Poverty and Inequalities—Diagnosis, Prognosis, Responses* (with Crain Soudien and Ingrid Woolard, HSRC Press, 2019); *The Fabric of Dissent: Public Intellectuals in South Africa* (lead editor with Narnia Bohler-Muller, Greg Houston, Maxi Schoeman and Heather Thuynsma, HSRC Press, 2020); *State of the Nation: Ethics, Politics, Inequalities: New Directions* (with Narnia Bohler-Muller and Crain Soudien, HSRC Press, 2021), *University on the Border: Crisis of Authority and Precarity* (with Lis Lange and Siseko Kumalo, SUN PReSS, 2021) and *Texture of Dissent: Defiant Public Intellectuals in South Africa* (with Narnia Bohler-Muller, Greg Houston, Maxi Schoeman and Heather Thuynsma, HSRC Press, 2022).

Nompumelelo (Mpume) Zondi is a professor and Head of the Department of African Languages at the University of Pretoria. She holds a PhD from UKZN. An NRF-rated scholar, Zondi is also a recipient of the Fulbright South African Researcher Scholar Program (2022–2023) hosted by The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. She is also a qualified teacher from Eshowe College of Education where she passed a Secondary Teachers' Diploma with Distinction. Zondi's research focus area is traditional and modern literature. She is particularly passionate about advocating for women's and children's rights and alleviating gender-based inequalities, using literary tools to address social ills. She has written and delivered papers on these subjects in both locally and internationally acclaimed and accredited journals. Her recent monograph, *Bahlabelelelani—Why Do They Sing? Gender and Power in Contemporary Women's Songs* (2020), deconstructs her doctoral thesis (2008), which uniquely contributed to unlocking women's agency in rural KwaZulu-Natal. Published by UKZN Press and financially supported by the NIHSS, the book contributes to gender discourse while nuancing the meaning of Zulu womanhood in a patriarchal society.

Evangeline B. Zungu is an associate professor at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. An NRF-rated scholar, her research interests are in sociolinguistics, onomastics, Indigenous knowledge systems and literature. She has published in local and international journals in these thematic areas within the discipline(s) of linguistics and sociolinguistics. Her recent monograph, published by UKZN Press and titled *Zulu Names, Polygyny and Gender Politics in Traditional Societies* (2021), brings to the fore a number of challenges facing rural women and how they turn to anthroponyms to vent their pent-up emotions.

Mafemani J. Baloyi is a senior lecturer in language practice in Social Sciences and Education, at the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Venda. He holds a PhD in African Languages, with his doctoral thesis entitled ‘A comparative analysis of stylistic devices in Shakespeare’s plays, Julius Caesar and Macbeth and their Xitsonga translations’. He teaches translation, editing and lexicography. His research interest in translation and applied language studies focuses mainly on terminology development, semantics and language and communication. His research interest overlaps with folklore and onomastics. He has published articles in accredited journals, as well as grammar books and literary works currently prescribed for secondary schools.

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Tsoaledi D. Thobejane holds a doctoral degree in international education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (USA). He obtained his MSc (cum laude) in community development at Southern New Hampshire University (USA) in 1998. Professor Thobejane has published extensively in the areas of gender, patriarchy and feminism, and education. He is presently the coordinator of the Unit for Gender Studies in the Department of Gender and Youth Studies at the University of Venda. He is the author of the following books: *The Fight for an Egalitarian Society: Towards Politics of Racial Harmony and Equity in South Africa* (Nova Science Pub Inc., 2010), *The Fight for an Egalitarian South Africa/Azania* (Nova Science Pub Inc., 2013) and *Post-Apartheid Education in South Africa: Towards Liberation or Equity?* (VDM Verlag Dr. Müller, 2010). As a human rights activist, he was detained at Nylstroom Prison under a state of emergency from 1984 to 1988. His work on gender-based violence includes (but is not limited to): 'Language and the Perpetuation of Patriarchy, Gender Based Violence on Men: A Muted Reality' and 'Gender Expectations within the Modern Institution of Marriage: A Case for South Africa'.
