

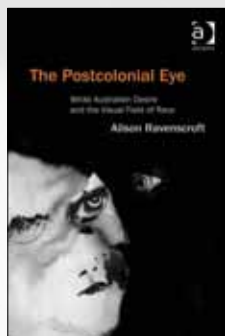
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## The Postcolonial Eye

### White Australian Desire and the Visual Field of Race



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*The Postcolonial Eye* is about the 'eye' and the 'I' in the contemporary Australian scene of race, specifically the subjectivity of vision and the troubled project of knowing one another across the cultural divide between white and Indigenous Australia. Though located in Australian Studies, Ravenscroft's book, in its interrogation of race and whiteness and engagement with European and American literature and criticism, has far-reaching implications for understanding the important question of race and vision.

**Contents:** Introduction: scenes of race; PART I 'THERE IS AND CAN BE NO BRUTE VISION': The eye and the 'I'. PART II WHEN THE OTHER DISAPPEARS FROM MY LINE OF SIGHT: Coming to matter: the grounds of our embodied difference; What falls from view? On re-reading Plains of Promise; Dreaming of others: Carpentaria and its critics; A postcolonial uncanny. PART III THE IMAGE OF MY OWN DESIRE: White men as hidden spectators; White women looking on; 'Matron always carried a small whip'. PART IV WHITENESS AND ITS VEILS: Darkness casts its light: Australian blackface; Resisting a white spectator's enjoyment: Benang's aesthetics; Bibliography; Index.

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