# Table of Contents

Acknowledgements 8  
Foreword  
*Ali Jimale Ahmed* 9  

Introduction: Broadening Thought on Contemporary East African Literary Criticism  
*J. K. S. Makokha, Egara Kabaji & Dominica Dipio* 11  

1. Body as Text: Theorizing Physiological Aesthetics in East African Literature  
*Jack O. Ogembo & Christine Ombaka* 27  

*Dominica Dipio* 41  

3. Nature, Religion and History: De/Mythologizing of the Romance of Ethiopia in “Abbay” and *Adefris*  
*Tewodros Gebre* 69  

*Alina Rinkanya* 85  

5. Symbolism and Subversion of the Tragic Form in Rebeka Njau’s *Ripples in the Pool* (1975)  
*John Mugubi* 101  

6. Margaret Ogola’s *Place of Destiny* (2005): Empowering Women through Narration  
*Jairus Omuteche* 121  

*Charles Kesero Tunai* 141  

8. Imagined (Dis)locations: Poetics of Setting in the Early Fiction of M. G. Vassanji  
*J. K. S. Makokha* 155  

*Lennox Odiemo-Munara* 177  

10. A Feminist Stylistic Approach to the Swahili Fiction of Ben Mtobwa  
*Beth Mutugu* 209
   Pamela Ngugi & Wendo Nabea
   223

12. Metaphor and the Economy of Hope in Jared Angira’s
    Lament of the Silent & Other Poems (2004)
    Godwin Siundu
    245

13. Kenyan Tunes of Change: Reform Discourse in Owino Misiani’s
    Benga Verbal Art
    James Odhiambo Ogone & John Obiero Ogone
    259

14. “Pakruok”: Gendered Style and Sexual Discourse in Dholuo
    Nyatiti Verbal Art
    Daniel Ochieng Orwenjo
    275

15. Women’s Bodies, Men’s Tongues: Masculinity, Femininity and Style
    in Borana Oral Poems
    Fugich Wako
    295

16. “Chewing Words Until They Are Soft”: Narrating Memory, Masculinities
    and Oral History in Bukusu After-Burial Verbal Art
    Chris Wasike
    317

17. Composition, Performance and Internalization of the Gender Ideology
    in Maragoli Folktale
    Egara Kabaji
    331

18. Stylistic Analysis of the Digo Women Verbal Art: The Example of
    Ngodya Dance Songs
    Sheila Ryanga
    347

19. Changing Face(s) of the Extended Metaphorical Frame of Taarab Lyrics
    Issa Y. Mwamzandi
    369

    Clara Momanyi
    387

21. Imagery as a Pervasive Feature of Style: The Case of Ebrahim Hussein’s
    Mashetani (1971)
    James Ogola Onyango
    399

22. A Comparative Study of Plays on AIDS from Tanzania and USA
    Aldin K. Mutembei
    415
23. From Cathartic Function to Confronting Stigma: Theorizing the Conscietization Efficacy of Theatre-Against-AIDS Interventions in Kenya
   *Mahiri Mwita*  
   435

24. Style and Childcenteredness in Five Kenyan Plays
   *Emmanuel Shikuku Tsikhungu*  
   469

25. Opposing Influences of Tradition and Modernity in Somali Drama
   *Maxamed Daabir Afraa*  
   493

Contributors  
508