

Towards a Grammar of Race

In Aotearoa New Zealand

Edited by Arcia Tecun, Lana Lopesi and Anisha Sankar

A search for new ways to talk about race in Aotearoa New Zealand brought together this powerful group of scholars, writers and activists. For these authors, attempts to confront racism and racial violence often stall against a failure to see how power works through race across our modern social worlds. The result is a country where racism is all too often left unnamed and unchecked, voices are erased, the colonial past is ignored and silence passes for understanding.

By 'bringing what is unspoken into focus', *Towards a Grammar of Race* seeks to articulate and confront ideas of race in Aotearoa New Zealand – an exploration that includes racial capitalism, colonialism, white supremacy, and anti-Blackness. A recurring theme across the book is the inescapable entanglement of local and global manifestations of race. Each of the contributors brings their own experiences and insights to the complexities of life in a racialised society, and together their words make an important contribution to our shared and future lives on these shores.

Contributors to this book: Pounamu Jade Aikman, Faisal Al-Asaad, Mahdis Azarmandi, Simon Barber, Garrick Cooper, Morgan Godfery, Kassie Hartendorp, Guled Mire, Tze Ming Mok, Adele Norris, Nathan Rew, Vera Seyra, Beth Teklezgi, Selome Teklezgi and Patrick Thomsen.

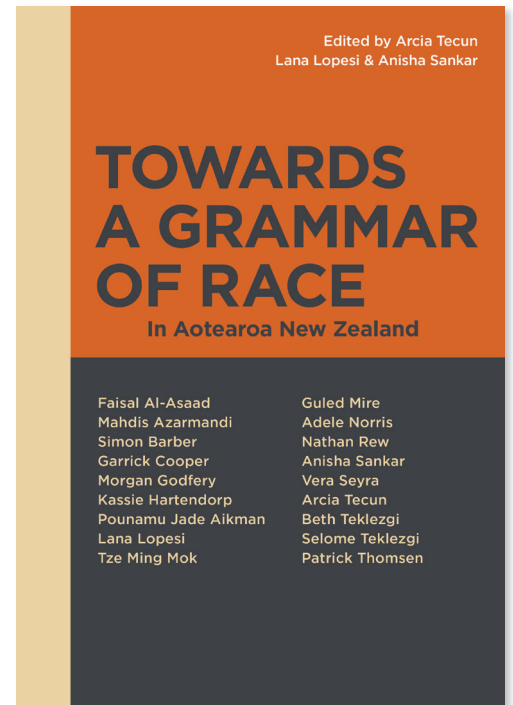
Arcia Tecun (a.k.a. Daniel Hernandez) is a storyteller (film maker, podcaster) and Pouako (Lecturer) at Waipapa Taumata Rau (University of Auckland) in ethnomusicology and social-cultural anthropology. His research and teaching interests include Indigeneity, race, class, gender, religion, food, and popular culture/music in Oceania and the Americas.

Lana Lopesi is an author, art critic, editor and multidisciplinary researcher based in Tāmaki Makaurau. In September, she will commence as Assistant Professor Pacific Islander Studies in the department of Indigenous, Race and Ethnic Studies at the University of Oregon.

Anisha Sankar is a Chennai-born, Te Awakairangi-raised South Indian Tamil living in Pōneke. She is currently working on her PhD, which studies the contradictions of colonial capitalism.

KEY POINTS

- Arrives at a time of burgeoning questions around race, identity and power
- Provides readers with new ways of thinking and talking about race in Aotearoa New Zealand
- Addresses New Zealand's local connections to global and international discussions of race



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