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Edited by **CHRISTINE MATZKE, LENA VAN DER HOVEN, CHRISTOPHER ODHIAMBO & HILDE ROOS**

This volume is dedicated to the emerging fields of opera and music theatre studies on the African continent and beyond. It highlights the diversity across the continent from a variety of perspectives - including those of genre, media, and historiography. Above all, it raises questions and encourages debate: What does “opera” mean in African and African diasporic contexts? What are its practices and legacies - colonial, postcolonial and decolonial? How do opera and music theatre reflect, change or obscure social, political and economic realities? And why are they contradictorily, at various times, perceived as both “grand” and “elitist”, “folk” and “quotidian”, “Eurocentric” and “indigenous”?

Contributors also address aesthetic transformation processes, and the role of space and place, with examples ranging from Egypt to South Africa, from Uganda to West Africa and the USA.

The playscript in this volume is *We Take Care of Our Own* by Zainabu Jallo

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£60.00/\$99.00, November 2020

978 1 84701 257 9

13 b/w illus.; 288pp, 21.6 x 14cm,
HB

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 JAMES CURREY

Offer Price
£39.00/\$64.35

eBook

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ISBN: 978 1 78744 950 3

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