Index

“1-2 MIN.POEM”, poem, 90
“2 mothers in a HDB playground”, poem, 35, 45–46, 104
“10th floor song”, poem, 82–83, 105
“12-Times Table”, poem, 69
1984, novel, 110
50,000 Up: Homes for the People, 81
“& the tide”, poem, 50, 87

A
“A 5-Year Plan”, short story, 152, 164–66, 170
“absolute”, poem, 58
abstraction as resistance, 43–47
“aesthetic experience”, 7, 163
“afternoon nap, an”, poem, 35–36
Aichele, Kathryn, 57, 62
Alfian bin Sa’at, 97, 99, 104, 111
Anglo-American modernist poetry, 15, 23
Ang Siang Hill, 80–81
“another look”, poem, 61
anthropocentrism, 7, 114, 116, 125
anti-establishment, and poetry, 97
antiromantics, 115, 125, 132
Arnold, Matthew, 20
Ashbery, John, 137
Asian identity, 19–20
“at nagoya”, poem, 123
Au, Alex, 134, 136, 142–43, 148

Auden, W. H., 61–62
authoritarianism, 169, 186

B
Bakhtin, Mikhail, 31, 33, 35
Barisan Socialis, 166
Barlow, Adrian, 84
Barrell, John, 74
Barthes, Roland, 8
Beckett, Charles, 100
Bedok, residential area, 87–92
“Beggars All”, poem, 78
“Beginning and a Middle Without an End, A”, short story, 157, 168, 183–87
Bellow, Saul, 155
Benjamin, Walter, 98
Beowulf, 115
Bhabha, Homi, 116
bigotry, 88
Bishop, Ryan, 6, 111
black & white paintings, 57, 60, 62
“black and white”, poem, 63
Blake, William, 42
Blunt, Alison, 101
Boey Kim Cheng, 5, 9, 77, 134
Book of Genesis, 116–17
Bowen, Elizabeth, 9
Braque, Georges, 64
Brennan, Frank, 175, 179
Brewster, Anne, 80, 92, 131, 146, 152
Brown, Bill, 15, 17, 26, 28, 30–31, 39
Brueghel, Pieter, 62
Bryson, J. Scott, 115, 118, 132
Bryson, Norman, 65, 68
Buell, Lawrence, 131
“Building Dwelling Thinking”, essay, 109
Bukit Ho Swee fire, 78

C
camp, 138–39, 141–42
censorship, 136, 169, 188
Cézanne, Paul, 64–65
Chakrabarty, Dipesh, 5
Chinatown, 76, 78–82, 84, 86, 155, 166–67
Chinese diaspora, 155, 166
see also folkways
Chinese opera, 85, 181–83
Chinese painting, 67–68
Chinese University of Hong Kong, 97
Chinese wayang, 181–82
Chior Hong, see under Yap, Arthur
Chua Beng Huat, 103
Chulia Street, 78
“citizen journalism”, 148
CNN, 140
code-switching, 35
colonialism, 6, 10, 19, 111
Commonplace, 2, 44, 48–49, 57, 60, 67, 82–83, 87, 91, 135, 147
Zen and the art of, 63–71
“commonplace”, poem, 66, 127, 129, 146–47, 152
communism, 166
“conceptual art”, poem, 53
cosmopolitanism, 76, 123, 178
Cotán, Juan Sánchez, 68
critical theory of objects, 15
Cubist, 55–56, 64–65

“Cultural Dances of Malaysia”, mural, 85
cultural identity, 4–5, 39
cultural geography, 96, 101
Cultural Medallion, award, 2
cultural places, 82–86
Culture and Anarchy, 20
Cummings, E.E., 21, 23
Cuscaden House Hotel, 82, 89

D
Davies, W.H., 84
de Certeau, Michel, 101
defenestration, 28
delaunay, Robert, 55, 57
de Souza, Dudley, 76
Dickens, Charles, 137
disability, 170–72
Doctor Faustus, 186
Down the Line, 2, 48, 54, 57, 98, 104, 147
“down the line”, poem, 22, 57, 104, 108
“dramatis personae”, poem, 54–55, 103, 126

E
East Coast Reclamation Scheme, 87
eco-criticism, 4–7, 101, 103, 106
ecopoetry, 2, 7, 114, 118, 120, 131–32
definition of, 115
Ee Thiang Hong, 67, 87
Elden, Stuart, 107
elite civic spaces, 82–86
Eluard, Paul, 43
English language
economic mobility, and, 19–20, 29–30
function of, 34
multiculturalism, and, 18–21
registers of, 31
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>193</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>environ, definition, 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>environmental literature, 131</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay on Criticism, 174</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ethnic identity, 19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Integration Policy, 87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eugenics, 187</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evernden, Neil, 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faber Book of Modern Short Stories, 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall of Icarus, The, 62</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federation of Malaysia, 84–85, 152, 168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>female sexuality, 161</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filial piety, 80, 173, 177–78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“fire off Kim Seng Bridge”, poem, 78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowering Tree: Selected Writings from Singapore/Malaysia, The, 80,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84, 168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus, 78, 152, 156</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>folkways, 78, 82, 86, 91–93, 154–56, 171, 178, 180, 183, 188</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>see also Chinese folkways</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formalism, 74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foucault, Michel, 18, 74, 137, 138</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankham, Steve, 140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frost, Robert, 115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>G</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“gaudy turnout”, poem, 139, 143–48, 161</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gay promiscuity, 144</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>globalization, 6, 111, 169</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goh, Robbie B. H., 76, 79, 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon, Jan B., 19–20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Mother Scheme, 187</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenblatt, Stephen, 74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gris, Juan, 64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“group dynamics I”, poem, 88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“group dynamics II”, poem, 87–91, 93</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>H</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haskell, Dennis, 87–88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDB (Housing Development Board), 77, 79, 81, 86, 90, 103–4, 174,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>176–77, 183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heidegger, Martin, 109–10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen of Troy, 186</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hesse, Herman, 42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“heteroglossia”, 31–33, 35, 39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>historicism, 74–75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>historicity, 6–7, 111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>history, as narrative, 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hokkien Mee, and poetry, 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holden, Philip, 92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>home for the aged, 173, 178</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>homoeroticism, 143, 148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>homophobia, 136–38, 142</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Homosexuality and the Problem of Scale”, article, 134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Development Board, see HDB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>humanism, 114, 153</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identity politics, 8–9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IndigNation, event, 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“in passing”, poem, 84–86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“in the quiet of the night”, poem, 99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ismail Talib, 88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“i think (a book of changes)”, poem, 104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“it rains today”, poem, 56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivanhoe, 160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>J</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James, Henry, 137</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese occupation, 175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffers, Robinson, 115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Jobweek 1992”, poem, 104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jones, David, 42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journeys, Words, Home and Nation, 76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce, James, 158</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“june morning”, poem, 56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kandinsky, Wassily, 43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kantor, Martin, 144
Keats, John, 68
*kiasu* mentality, 162, 184
Kim Seng Bridge, 78–82
Klee, Paul, 42–44, 46, 51–52, 55, 57, 62
Koh Tai Ann, 75, 80, 156

L
landmarks, demolition of, 75
land reclamation, 50–51, 106
“landscapes”, poem, 47–48
Langbaum, Robert, 115
language, and cultural values, 19
language policy, 19, 25, 36
“late-night bonus”, poem, 98, 106
Lawrence, D.H., 42, 156
Leeds University, *see* University of Leeds
Lee Kuan Yew, 140, 155, 169, 183
Lee Tzu Peng, 75, 97, 99
Lefebvre, Henri, 7, 97, 107–8, 112
“lesson on the definite article, a”, poem, 98
“letter from a youth to his prospective employer”, poem, 33
Lim, Shirley Geok-lin, 20–21, 35, 77, 82, 88, 116, 169, 188
Lim Yew Hock, 170
linear motif, 49, 53–55
“list of things: A MARKET AT UENO, a”, poem, 124, 139, 141
“local colour”, poem, 46
local spaces, and poetic map, 77–78
“location”, poem, 24, 26, 29
Lo, Joseph, 139
Loke Wan Tho, 85

M
Malayan Five Year Plan, 164
“Malayness”, 90
“Malaysian Rural Scenes: Occupations, Pastimes, Conveyances”, mural, 85
“Man of Few Words, A”, article, 134
“man, snake, apple”, poem, 116–21, 126, 131
Mao Zedong, 166
Marina Bay waterfront, 6
Marlowe, Christopher, 186
“mensnakesapples”, 121, 123, 125, 131
migration, mandatory, 79
“mixed shots”, poem, 83
modern art, 45
Modernist, 43, 58, 64
Montague, William Pepperell, 154
Montblanc-NUS Centre for the Arts Literary Award, 2
Moon Festival, 174
*Moonrise at St Germain*, 52
“Mother and Child”, sculpture, 83
“mother tongue”, 18–20, 37
Motherwell, Robert, 46
multiculturalism, and English language, 18–21
multiracialism, 18, 169
Mundy, William P., 85–86
mural, 84–86, 93
“Musée de Beaux Arts”, poem, 62
“My Country and My People”, poem, 97

N
Nagaoka, Miyuki, 66
narcissism, 144
National Book Development Council, 2
national identity, 4–5, 134, 169
nationalism, 3–4, 92, 154, 175
National University of Singapore, 2, 97
nativism, 4
“nature poetry”, 115
“nature study” poem, 48, 106
“nature writing”, 131
Index

New Criticism, 74
New Historicism, 74
Newspeak, 110
“new year ‘75 leeds”, poem, 60
Ng Eng Teng, 83
No. 1, 61
No. 12, 61
No. 15, 61
“None the Wiser”, short story, 168, 173, 176–81
“Noon at Five O’clock”, short story, 152, 156–65, 172, 174
“north hill road, leeds”, poem, 59, 61

O
objectification, 16–17, 26, 29, 32, 34, 38
objects and things, distinction between, 17, 22
“Ode to a Grecian Urn”, 68
“old house at ang siang hill”, poem, 2, 37, 45–46, 80, 82, 86, 105–8, 110
One Fierce Hour, 104
Ong Sor Fern, 134
Only Lines, 2, 10, 15, 24, 46, 49–50, 80, 84
“open road”, poem, 53
Orwell, George, 110

P
“paired stills”, poem, 69, 98
“Panoramic View of Singapore Skyline in the Evening”, mural, 85–86
Pang, Alvin, 77
Papineau Studios Advertising, 85
“paraphrase”, poem, 98, 101, 105
“pastoral poetry”, 131
Patke, Rajeev, 21–22, 92, 98–99
penal code, 139–40
“peony display, ueno park, a”, poem, 123
People Like Us (PLU), lobby group, 139

People Like Us: Sexual Minorities in Singapore, 8
People’s Action Party (PAP), 85, 175
Peranakan, 81
Perloff, Marjorie, 23–24
personification, 27, 30
Philips, John, 6, 110
Picasso, Pablo, 43
pink dollar, 140
poetic map, and local spaces, 77–78
“poetic painting”, 46
poetics of “indeterminacy”, 23
poetry
anti-establishment, and, 97
Hokkien Mee, and, 3
perceptions of, 5
spaces and places in, 101–7
poetry prize, 2
poets who paint, 42
politics of the closet, 136
Pope, Alexander, 174
postcolonial criticism, 4–5, 10
postcolonialism, 6, 111
Pound, Ezra, 43
Pratt Lecture, 52
“precedence”, poem, 56
Production of Space, The, 97, 107
public housing, see HDB
Puroshotam, Nirmala, 18–20

Q
Quarterly Literary Review Singapore, 83
queer community, 8
queer literary theory, 9

R
Radio Television Singapore, 169, 184
racism, 88, 142
Raffles Village, 83, 89
rapidizing, 31
Raya Art Gallery, 83
realism, 153, 156–58
“recurrrent event, a”, poem, 79
Rothko, Mark, 47, 51–53, 60–61, 63, 69

S
Sago Lane death houses, 79–80
Said, Edward, 4–5
Saint Andrew’s School, 2, 156, 161
“samson & delilah”, poem, 104
SATA (Singapore Anti Tuberculosis Association), 157
Savage, Victor, 77, 79, 87
Scott, Walter, 160
“seasonal”, poem, 122–23
“Second Coming, The”, poem, 14
Second Tongue, The, 19
Section 377, penal code, 139–40
Sedgwick, Eve, 137–38
sexism, 142
Shamsuddin H. Akib, 85
“Silly Little Story, A”, short story, 152, 165–68, 172, 175, 180
Singapore
airport, 84–86
colonial past, 6
English language and
multiculturalism in, 18–21
ethnic identity in, 19
immigrants to, 154
Japanese occupation, 175
language policy, 19, 25, 36
penal code, 139–40
seperation from Malaysia, 169, 181
social engineering policies, 155–56, 171, 183, 187
street names, 77
Singapore Anti Tuberculosis Association, see SATA
Singapore English, see Singlish
“Singapore Night”, 83
Singapore Short Stories, 168, 172
Singapore University, 2
Singer, Isaac Bashevis, 155
Singlish, 31, 35, 46, 88, 170 187
social engineering policies, 155–56, 171, 183, 187
“sociality”, 8, 10
social satire, 3–4, 161
Sontag, Susan, 141
“Soo Meng”, short story, 168–72
Southeast Asia Write Award, 2
Space of City Trees, The, 2, 50, 87, 90, 102, 131, 135, 146
spaces and places in poetry, 101–7
Standard English, 4
“statement”, poem, 32, 34
Stein, Gertrude, 14, 21, 23–24, 43
Stevens, Wallace, 42–43, 49, 64, 115
still life, 64–66
“still life I”, poem, 66
“still life II”, poem, 99
“still life IV”, poem, 109
“still life V”, poem, 108
“still life VII”, poem, 110
“still life: woman with birds at Richmond”, poem, 64
straits born, 81, 105
Straits Times, 79, 83, 85, 134
“street scene I”, poem, 98, 109, 127–28
“street scene II”, poem, 98, 127–28
“subject-object relation”, 18
Sullivan, Kevin, 77, 154
Sumner, William Graham, 154
“Sunday”, poem, 56
“sunny day”, poem, 56
SQ21: Singapore Queers in the 21st Century, 8

T
Tagore, Rabindranath, 5
Talentime, talent show, 184
Tan, Kevin, 172
Tan, Paul, 77
Tay, Eddie, 7
“Tender Buttons”, poem, 23
*Tenggara*, journal, 168
“The Eye”, club, 83
“the grammar of a dinner”, poem, 98
“The Shisen-Do”, poem, 97, 123, 125
“there is no future in nostalgia”, poem, 58, 106, 107
“thing-like” approach, 15–16, 31, 33
“things”, poem, 27–28, 58
“thing theory”, 5, 15–18, 31–32
Thrift, Nigel, 102
Thumboo, Edwin, 4, 10, 21, 45, 51, 75–76, 80, 97, 99, 111, 134, 168
Toh Chin Chye, 85
“traffic”, poem, 127, 129–30
travel poems, 65
Troika, restaurant, 89, 92
“tropical paradise”, poem, 29–30, 116, 121

**U**
“Ulysses by the Merlion”, poem, 97, 111
United Overseas Bank, 84
University of Hong Kong, 97
University of Leeds 2, 58, 172
University of Singapore, 78, 89, 152, 156, 168
*Unnamable, The*, 100
*Untitled*, 51–52
*Untitled No. 3*, 47–48
upward mobility, 170
urban studies, 4–7, 10, 107

**V**
*View from a Window*, 57
Vincent, John Emil, 137
“Void Deck”, poem, 104

**W**
Watson, Keith, 8, 134–36, 148
Wei Wei Yeo, 76
“Western” language, 20
Williams, William Carlos, 43, 58
*Window*, 57
window motif, 57, 59–60
Women’s Charter, 173
Wong, Cyril, 8
“words”, poem, 66
Wordsworth, William, 167
World War I, 4, 22
World War II, 175
Writing for an Endangered World: Literature, Culture, and Environment in the U.S. and Beyond, 131
Wu, Daven, 84

**Y**
Yap, Arthur
abstraction, and, 43–49
awards, 2
born, 2
childhood home, 78
Chior Hong, also known as, 155
death, 133
growing-up environment, 155
literary trademark, 15
modernist poetry, and, 21–24, 43–44
paintings, and, 2, 43–44, 51–54, 57, 60–62, 64, 67, 70–71
published works, 2
reclusive, as, 73
sexual identity, 8–9
short stories (1962–64), 156–64
short stories (1969–82), 168–87
Singaporean space, and, 76–93
social commentary, 31–39
solipsism and reflexivity, and, 97–101
“thing-like” perspective, and, 24–31
windows, and, 55–62
work, analyses of, 3
Yawning Bread, website, 134, 148
Yeats, William Butler, 14, 21
Index

Yeoh, Brenda, 77, 79, 87
Yeo, Robert, 10, 45–46, 75–76, 147, 156, 172
Yeo Wei Wei, 6, 111
“your goodness”, poem, 140, 146, 148, 161

Z
Zen aesthetic, 69, 124
Zen, and the art of Commonplace, 63–71
Zhou dynasty, 182
Zhou Xiaojing, 7–8