

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
Baudelaire, Charles, 98
Beckett, Samuel, 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
 Chinese folkways, 154–55, 159, 165,
 169, 172–76, 180, 182, 188
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
 ecocriticism, 4–7, 101, 103, 106
 ecopoetry, 2, 7, 114, 118, 120, 131–32
 definition of, 115
 Ee Thiang Hong, 67, 87
 “Effect of a Good Dinner, The”, short
 story, 162, 168, 172–76
 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

environ, definition, 7
 environmental literature, 131
Essay on Criticism, 174
 ethnic identity, 19
 Ethnic Integration Policy, 87
 eugenics, 187
 Evernden, Neil, 7

F

Faber Book of Modern Short Stories, 9
Fall of Icarus, The, 62
 Federation of Malaysia, 84–85, 152, 168
 female sexuality, 161
 filial piety, 80, 173, 177–78
 “fire off Kim Seng Bridge”, poem, 78
Flowering Tree: Selected Writings from Singapore/Malaysia, The, 80, 84, 168
Focus, 78, 152, 156
 folkways, 78, 82, 86, 91–93, 154–56, 171, 178, 180, 183, 188
 see also Chinese folkways
 Formalism, 74
 Foucault, Michel, 18, 74, 137, 138
 Frankham, Steve, 140
 Frost, Robert, 115

G

“gaudy turnout”, poem, 139, 143–48, 161
 gay promiscuity, 144
 globalization, 6, 111, 169
 Goh, Robbie B. H., 76, 79, 100
 Gordon, Jan B., 19–20
 Graduate Mother Scheme, 187
 Greenblatt, Stephen, 74
 Gris, Juan, 64
 “group dynamics I”, poem, 88
 “group dynamics II”, poem, 87–91, 93

H

Haskell, Dennis, 87–88

HDB (Housing Development Board), 77, 79, 81, 86, 90, 103–4, 174, 176–77, 183
 Heidegger, Martin, 109–10
 Helen of Troy, 186
 Hesse, Herman, 42
 “heteroglossia”, 31–33, 35, 39
 historicism, 74–75
 historicity, 6–7, 111
 history, as narrative, 6
 Hokkien Mee, and poetry, 3
 Holden, Philip, 92
 home for the aged, 173, 178
 homoeroticism, 143, 148
 homophobia, 136–38, 142
 “Homosexuality and the Problem of Scale”, article, 134
 Housing Development Board, *see* HDB
 humanism, 114, 153

I

identity politics, 8–9
IndigNation, event, 8
 “in passing”, poem, 84–86
 “in the quiet of the night”, poem, 99
 Ismail Talib, 88
 “i think (a book of changes)”, poem, 104
 “it rains today”, poem, 56
Ivanhoe, 160

J

James, Henry, 137
 Japanese occupation, 175
 Jeffers, Robinson, 115
 “Jobweek 1992”, poem, 104
 Jones, David, 42
Journeys, Words, Home and Nation, 76
 Joyce, James, 158
 “june morning”, poem, 56

K

Kandinsky, Wassily, 43

- 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 and Other Poems, 2, 10, 29, 64–66, 98–99, 116, 135, 147
 “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

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

"recurrent 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
 separation 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
 "Story of a Mask, The", short story,
 154, 165, 168, 173, 180–83
 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
Talentine, 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

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