

This book investigates contemporary Australia through the prism of remoteness. The prism reveals how contemporary nationhood reproduces itself through the segregation of central and peripheral preoccupations derived from settler colonial touchstones. The book argues these touchstones are not fully formed and finally determined as recalcitrant conservative and emergent parochialist nationalists maintain. Nor, however, are they being reshaped by an evolving more just configuration of nationhood formation as subscribers to the nation conceptualised as a progressive society maintain. Rather the touchstones are reshaped by a series of challenges posed by interconnected deep-rooted burning issues that have been smouldering since the beginning of settler colonialism. These issues have given shape to five chapters – on environment, migrancy, Indigenous sovereignty, nation-(re) building and rim. Each chapter examines high profiled cases as illustrations of crisis as an acute phenomenon, but also crisis as the long-term consequence of systemic societal failure to deal with it. The remoteness prism then points to ways out of the stalemate by identifying how what is cast as remote might in fact offer sustainably configured renewal.

Lars Jensen is Associate Professor at Cultural Encounters, Roskilde University. He has worked in Australian Studies from a postcolonial angle since the 1990s. He is also a specialist on postcolonial Europe.

LARS JENSEN

REMOTELY AUSTRALIAN



# REMOTELY AUSTRALIAN

Environment, migrancy, sovereignty,  
nation (re)-building and rim

LARS JENSEN

ISBN: 978-87-991721-1-5