



A Melvin Dixon Critical Reader

By -

University Press of Mississippi. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 192 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.5in. x 0.6in. Over the course of his brief career, Melvin Dixon (1950-1992) became an important critical voice for African American scholarship as well as a widely read chronicler of the African American gay experience. His novels *Trouble the Water* and *Vanishing Rooms* still receive considerable attention, as do his collections of poetry and his major work of criticism, *Ride Out the Wilderness: Geography and Identity in Afro-American Literature*. In *A Melvin Dixon Critical Reader*, scholars Justin A. Joyce and Dwight A. McBride have collected, for the first time in a single volume, the eight critical essays Dixon published during his lifetime. The volume divides Dixon's critical output into three categories: Writing Black Diaspora Theory, Writing African American Cultural Theory, and Writing African American Literary Criticism and closes with a speech Dixon gave to the queer writers conference, *OutWrite*, in 1992, just months before he succumbed to an AIDS-related illness. What emerges from the essays collected here is the voice of a confident, engaging scholar, who tackles a wide range of literary and cultural topics. Dixon examines the trickster characters of Charles W. Chesnutt, the friendship between the Haitian...



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