

THE LITERARY
POLITICS OF
Scottish
Devolution



Scott Hames

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Scottish Devolution

Voice, Class, Nation

Scott
Hames

EDINBURGH

'A major contribution to our understanding of Scottish cultural politics. In a rich and perceptive study, Scott Hames examines the disjunction between the literary Dream and the political Grind over the past half century.'
Colin Kidd, University of St Andrews

'Brilliant, trenchant, at times disconcerting, Scott Hames's critical history of devolution offers an exemplary analysis of the interplay between cultural nationalism and practical politics. It's essential reading for anyone who cares about the current state of Scotland.'
Ian Duncan, University of California

Provides a cultural history and political critique

This book is about the role of writers and intellectuals in shaping constitutional change. Considering an unprecedented range of literary, political and archival materials, it explores how questions of 'voice', language and identity featured in debates leading to the new Scottish Parliament in 1999. Tracing both the 'dream' of cultural empowerment and the 'grind' of electoral strategy, it reconstructs the influence of magazines such as *Scottish International*, *Radical Scotland*, *Cencrastus* and *Edinburgh Review*, and sets the fiction of William McIlvanney, James Kelman, Irvine Welsh, A. L. Kennedy and James Robertson within a radically altered picture of devolved Scotland.

Scott Hames is Lecturer in Scottish Literature at the University of Stirling.

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