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“By providing a necessary, original, and substantial contribution to modern scholarship, this book has the potential to transform the fast-growing fields of ecocriticism and environmental literary studies.”

—Kevin Hutchings, University of Northern British Columbia

ECOCRITICAL THEORY

New European Approaches

One of the more frequently lodged, serious, and justifiable complaints about ecocritical work is that it is insufficiently theorized. **ECOCRITICAL THEORY (October 2011; UVA Press)** puts such claims decisively to rest by offering readers a comprehensive collection of sophisticated but accessible essays that productively investigate the relationship between European theory and ecocritique. With its international roster of contributors and subjects, it also militates against the parochialism of ecocritics who work within the limited canon of the American West. Bringing together approaches and orientations based on the work of European philosophers and cultural theorists—Walter Benjamin, Martin Heidegger, Luce Irigaray, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Mikhail Bakhtin, and D. H. Lawrence among them—this volume is designed to open new pathways for ecocritical theory and practice in the twenty-first century and to establish its place within the larger framework of intellectual history.

Axel Goodbody, Professor of German Studies and European Culture at the University of Bath, is the author of *Nature, Technology, and Cultural Change in Twentieth-Century German Literature: The Challenge of Ecocriticism* and associate editor of the journal *Ecozon@*.

Kate Rigby, Associate Professor in the Centre for Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies at Monash University, is the author of *Topographies of the Sacred: The Poetics of Place and European Romanticism* (Virginia) and coeditor of the journal *Philosophy Activism Nature*

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