

*An Illustrated History of the Treaty of Waitangi*. By Claudia Orange. Bridget Williams Books, Wellington, 2004. 345 pp. NZ price: \$39.95. ISBN 1-877242-16-0.

THIS EXCELLENT BOOK follows Claudia Orange's similarly excellent *The Treaty of Waitangi* (1987) and her populist *The Story of the Treaty* (1989). Orange's new work mixes the scholarly qualities of her 1987 book with the populist focus of her 1989 offering. It is up to date, comprehensive and informative. Readers might be forgiven for thinking they are reading a new Anne Salmond's *Two Worlds* (1991), the style of which this book follows with multiple maps, tables and illustrations. This is refreshing given the penchant most historians have for dense text. The book is less scholarly than *The Treaty of Waitangi*, which is to be expected given that the illustrated edition is aimed at a broader audience.

*An Illustrated History of the Treaty of Waitangi* is an interesting book at a time when multiple publications on the Treaty flood the market. The strength of this one is the way it acquaints readers with the myriad happenings, entities, processes and issues that have arisen around the Treaty over the last three decades. These include subjects such as the Office of Treaty Settlements, settlement processes, land banks, the West Coast Reserve Lands and the Te Whanau-o-Waipareira Report (1989) that most other Treaty publications neglect.

The comprehensiveness makes it a good text for undergraduate teaching — an advantage it will enjoy over many recent publications. David Round's *Truth or Treaty* (1998) is a factually incorrect, ideologically distorted anti-Treaty tirade. Robert and Joanna Consediene's *Healing our History* (2005) attempts ideological balance by challenging both Maori and Pakeha, and although useful lacks the detail of Orange. Michael Belgrave, Merata Kawharu and David Williams's edited volume *Waitangi Revisited* (2005) has better case study analysis, particularly at the community and macro-political level, as does Janine Hayward and Nicola R. Whéen's *The Waitangi Tribunal* (2004). However, none matches the broad historical and contemporary coverage of Orange's work.

If there is a weakness, it is the lack of a critical analysis of some key issues. This was a feature of Giselle Byrnes's *The Waitangi Tribunal and New Zealand History* (2004), which challenged the Tribunal's objectivity on historical evidence. The impact of this courageous work is yet to be determined. Similar in-depth analysis was also a feature of Alan Ward's *An Unsettled History* (1999), although one has the feeling Ward was too closely involved with Treaty research and processes and somewhere lost his objectivity. Richard Dawson's *The Treaty of Waitangi and the Control of Language* (2001) scrutinized the way in which language, underpinned by relations of power, was used in Treaty politics. However, Dawson's brave analysis fell short by failing to consider two issues: the drafting and signing of the Treaty, and the subsequent debates about the principles of the Treaty, where the interplay between language and hegemony was most important.

*An Illustrated History of the Treaty of Waitangi* falls short in some areas. There is no critical analysis of the principles of the Treaty, or of the Maori Reserved Lands Settlement where, for example, \$47 million was paid to 4000 Maori beneficiaries as 50% of losses for sub-market rentals and over \$100 million paid to about 400 farmers in full compensation for loss of equity on land as the result of the phasing in of market rentals. Such issues are perhaps destined for consideration in some future publication and not the purpose of this book. There is no denying Orange's undoubted historical credentials, and the comprehensive updating of her earlier publications makes this a useful and informative book without peer.

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