



WULF

by Hamish Clayton

'Wulf's imaginative derring-do blew my mind. It is easily the most impressive debut I've read in a long time.'

—Lloyd Jones, author of *Mister Pip*

FROM A FRESH AND TALENTED NEW VOICE COMES AN AMBITIOUS, INVENTIVE AND ENTHRALLING WORK OF NEW ZEALAND FICTION BASED ON HISTORICAL EVENTS.

Set in early nineteenth-century New Zealand, *Wulf* tells of the great chief Te Rauparaha who has conquered tiny Kapiti Island, from where Ngati Toa launches brutal attacks on its southern enemies. Off the coast

of Kapiti, English trader John Stewart seeks to trade with Te Rauparaha, setting off a train of events that forever changes the course of New Zealand history.

Narrated by two English sailors on board Stewart's ship, these events are also eerily resonant of a more distant memory, stretching back into mythology, of the charismatic leader Wulf and an ancient lament. History, it seems, may be repeating itself.

Successfully marrying pre-colonial New Zealand with a famously cryptic tenth-century British poem, *Wulf* provides an intriguing insight, not only into early nineteenth-century New Zealand but also into the experiences of this country's early explorers.

Written with complex and eloquent prose, *Wulf*, Hamish Clayton's inventive, brilliant first novel, explores a subject little covered in New Zealand fiction, and marks the emergence of a startlingly assured, exciting new voice.

HAMISH CLAYTON was born in Hawke's Bay in 1977 and educated at Hastings Boys' High School. He holds degrees in Art History and English Literature from Victoria University of Wellington, where he is currently working on a PhD in English Literature. A talent on the rise, beyond writing fiction, Hamish Clayton is an art commentator and critic for a range of publications. *Wulf* is his first novel.

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To schedule an interview with Hamish Clayton, request an extract or a review copy, or for more information, please contact: Freelance Publicist Hannah de Valda | mobile 021 265 6655 | hannah@devalda.com



Photograph by Philip O'Brien