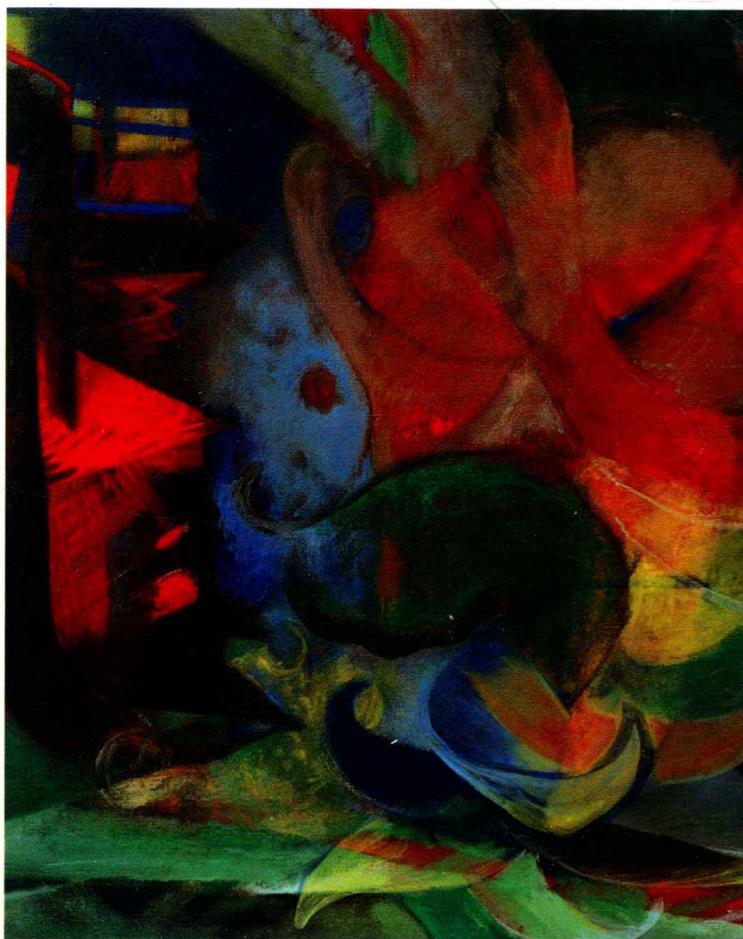


The Handbook of
**Language
Contact**



Edited by
Raymond Hickey

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Preface

Contact studies is a field of linguistics which has been the subject of increasing interest in the past few decades and the present volume is intended to reflect this interest by gathering together contributions by leading authors in the field. The volume deals with both individual cases of language contact and more general issues of the relationship of contact studies to other areas of linguistics. The individual studies are exemplary illustrations of a range of contact scenarios while the more general chapters deal with the interface of language contact with such areas as typology, language history, dialectology, sociolinguistics, and pidgin and creole studies.

The genesis of this volume was marked by a fruitful collaboration between the editor and the colleagues who contributed. This congenial experience was unfortunately overshadowed by the death of one of the scholars in the project, Michael Noonan (1948–2009) of the University of Wisconsin, known affectionately as “Mickey” to his friends. His sudden departure was an unexpected and painful loss to all who knew him.

The work on this project was greatly facilitated by the efficiency, professionalism, and helpfulness shown by the staff of Wiley-Blackwell, in particular by Danielle Descoteaux, Julia Kirk, and Anna Oxbury. To them I would like to express my sincere thanks for all that they have done in the production of this volume.

Raymond Hickey

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