Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction. Audacious Fusion: Thinking About Singaporean Cuisine 1

Chapter 1. A Brief History of Singapore 10

Chapter 2. Making the Past the Present: Food in a Multiracial Port City 24

Chapter 3. Public Spaces, Public Bodies 39

Chapter 4. The Kitchen: Invariably Offstage 59

Chapter 5. Jam Tarts, Spottedicks, and Curry 77

Chapter 6. The Pizza of Love 92

Chapter 7. Picked in Their Fresh Young Prime 116

Chapter 8. Food Sluts and the Marketing of Singaporean Cuisine 137

Conclusion. More Than Just Food 160

Notes 173

Index 199