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Folklore/Cinema

Sharon R. Sherman, Mikel J. Koven

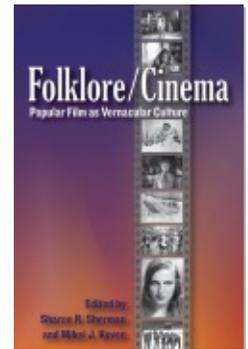
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Contributors

HOLLY BLACKFORD is assistant professor of English at Rutgers University-Camden. She teaches and publishes literary criticism on American, children's, and adolescent literature, as well as literatures in English. She has recently published articles on Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*, J. M. Barrie's *Peter and Wendy*, Carlo Collodi's *Pinocchio*, Anita Diamont's *The Red Tent*, Julia Alvarez's *In the Time of the Butterflies*, Shirley Jackson's *Haunting at Hill House*, and Margaret Atwood's *Alias Grace*. Her book *Out of This World: Why Literature Matters to Girls* (Teachers College Press, education division of Columbia, 2004) analyzes the empirical reader-responses of girls to literature. She currently holds an International Reading Association research award for the study of responses to *Huck Finn* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

GILLIAN HELFIELD is a film scholar and lecturer specializing in Canadian and Québec cinema. She wrote her Ph.D. dissertation on the cinéma vérité movement at the NFB, and has written articles on this subject for *Topia*, the *Encyclopedia of Documentary Film* and *Western Folklore*. Other areas of academic interest include genre studies, television studies, and national cinemas, which Dr. Helfield has taught at the University of Toronto, Trent, McMaster, the University of Warwick, and the University of Buckingham (UK). Her book on rural cinema, *Representing the Rural: Space, Place and Identity in Films about the Land* was published by Wayne State University Press in October 2006.

CAROL E. HENDERSON is associate professor of English and Black American studies at the University of Delaware, Newark campus, and teaches a number of courses on literature, popular culture, and art. She has edited and published *James Baldwin's Go Tell It on the Mountain: Historical and Critical Essays* (Peter Lang Publishers 2006), as well as her own study *Scarring the Black Body: Race and Representation in African American Literature* (U of Missouri Press 2002). In addition to numerous articles in professional journals and critical volumes, she has a forthcoming essay "King Kong Ain't Got Sh** On Me: Allegories, Anxieties, and the Performance of Race in Mass Media" in *The Journal of Popular Culture*. She is currently at work on an edited collection entitled *Imag(in)ing America: The African American Body in Literature and Culture*, and a monograph entitled *The Hottentot Venus Revisited: Visions, Revisions, and Literary Responses*.

MIKEL J. KOVEN is a folklorist and ethnologist with a specialization in film and television studies, as well as in urban legends. He is senior lecturer at the University of Worcester and head of the Film Studies Unit. He has published *Blaxploitation Films* (Pocket Essentials, 2001), *La Dolce Morte: Vernacular Cinema and the Italian Giallo Film* (Scarecrow Press, 2006), co-edited a special issue of *Western Folklore* on the topic of "Film & Folklore," a special issue of *Shofar* on the topic "Cool Jewz: Contemporary Jewish Identity in Popular Culture," and his forthcoming monograph, *Film, Folklore and Urban Legends* should be out early in 2008.

K. A. LAITY currently holds the position of assistant professor in the Department of English at the College of St. Rose in Albany, NY, where she teaches medieval literature and culture, film, popular culture and creative writing. She received a Ph.D. in medieval studies from the University of Connecticut in 2003. A multifaceted scholar and writer, Laity has recently won the Eureka Short Story Fellowship and a Finlandia Foundation grant. Her stories and essays have appeared in various academic journals and literary magazines. Her novel *Pelzmantel: A Medieval Tale* was nominated for several awards. Visit her website www.kalaity.com for up to date information.

MMARGARETE JOHANNA LANDWEHR is associate professor in German and the German Program coordinator at West Chester University near Philadelphia. She received her B.A. in German from Georgetown University and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in German language and literature from Harvard University. Her areas of expertise include postwar German and Austrian literature and film, psychology and literature, and turn-of-the-century Viennese literature. She has published articles on Heinrich von Kleist, Arthur Schnitzler, Josef Roth, and postwar German writers and filmmakers. Her present book project deals with the trauma narrative in postwar German literature and film.

JULIE M-A LEBLANC is a doctoral candidate in folklore at Memorial University of Newfoundland and a graduate student in management of cultural organizations at the École des hautes études commerciales (Montréal). Her thesis focuses on the commercialization of Québécois folklore as distributed by the micro-brewing industry. Other interests and works include the use of folklore in various media, the marketing of tradition, Québécois identity and folklore, Celtic studies, political and independence movements, popular culture, film studies, customs, legends, folklore in the tourism industry, and traditional storytelling events.

JAMES A. MILLER is assistant professor of film and cultural studies at Purdue University-Calumet in Indiana. He received his degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Research interests include religion and folklore in film and popular media, the aesthetics and politics of popular and experimental musics, and the impact of the new media on public discourse about ethics and community.

REBECCA PRIME is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Film, Television, and Digital Media at the University of California, Los Angeles, where she is writing a dissertation on blacklisted American filmmakers in Europe. Her other research interests include early ethnographic cinema and transnational cinema. Her work has appeared in the journals *Post Script* and *Film Quarterly* and will be included in the forthcoming publication *The Blacklist: Reviewing the Films of the Hollywood Left* (Rutgers University Press).

LUANNE ROTH teaches American folklore and film studies in the English Department at the University of Missouri, Columbia, where she also serves as associate editor for the Center for eResearch and SyndicateMizzou (SyndicateMizzou.org). Roth's research has primarily focused on foodways and material culture, her work appearing in *Western Folklore* and *Food, Culture and Society* as well as in *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Folklore* (2005) and *Of Corpse: Death and Humor in Folklore and Popular Culture* (2003). Particularly interested in how food is used to negotiate ethnicity, gender, and power, her present study interrogates cinematic representations of the Thanksgiving meal through a postcolonial lens.

MARK ALLEN PETERSON holds a joint appointment in anthropology and international studies at Miami University (Ohio). A former political journalist, his research centers around semiotic and ethnographic analysis of media and consumer culture, particularly the diverse ways in which media texts and consumer goods become part of people's everyday experience and practice. Peterson's interests also include political rhetoric about nation and language, modernity and global-local relations, and computer pedagogy. He has conducted fieldwork in Egypt, India, and the United States. Peterson is the author of *Anthropology and Mass Communication* (Berghahn 2003). He has published articles in *Anthropology Today*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Childhood*, *The New Review of Hypermedia and Multimedia*, *M/C: A Journal of Media and Culture*, *Teaching Anthropology*, and *Alif: the Journal of Contemporary Poetics*. He has authored chapters in

several books, including the *Encyclopedia of Anthropology* (Sage 2005), *At War With Words* (Walter de Gruyter 2003), and *Media Anthropology* (Sage 2005). He is currently working on a book entitled *Connected in Cairo: Transnational Popular Culture and the Making of the Cosmopolitan Class*.

SHARON R. SHERMAN is a folklorist and independent filmmaker. She is professor of English and former director of the Folklore Program at the University of Oregon where she teaches courses on film, folklore, fieldwork, video production, and popular culture. Her films and videos address the interconnection between tradition and the creative process. They include: *Inti Raymi*, an indigenous Andean celebration; *Kid Shoes*, on young men and music; *Tales of the Supernatural*, an analysis of storytelling events and urban legends; *Passover, A Celebration*; *Kathleen Ware, Quiltmaker*; and *Spirits in the Wood*. Sherman also served as a camera-woman for portions of Jorge Preloran's series, *Patagonia*. Most of Sherman's published work has concentrated on the relationship between film and folklore, and perceptions about traditional expressive behavior as revealed by filmmakers. In addition to numerous articles, she is the author of *Chainsaw Sculptor: The Art of J. Chester Armstrong* (1995) and *Documenting Ourselves: Film, Video, and Culture* (1998), the first in-depth study of folkloristic films as a genre of documentary film. She and Mikel Koven co-edited "Film and Folklore," a special issue of *Western Folklore*. Sherman has served on the Executive Board of the American Folklore Society and as the film and videotape review editor for *Western Folklore* and the *Journal of American Folklore*, and is on the board of Folkstreams (www.folkstreams.net), a website devoted to streaming folklore films.

TARSHIA L. STANLEY is an associate professor in the English Department at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. She teaches courses in film studies and visual imagery particularly as it pertains to images of women. She has authored several articles critiquing black women in African American, African, and Caribbean cinema as well as black female iconography in American popular culture. She received the A.B. from Duke University and the M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Florida where she was a McKnight Doctoral Fellow. She is at work on a book examining the black female body in Hollywood film and editing an encyclopedia of hip hop literature for Greenwood Press.