The Imaginary and Its Worlds

Laura Bieger, Ramon Saldívar, Johannes Voelz

Published by Dartmouth College Press

Bieger, Laura, et al.
The Imaginary and Its Worlds: American Studies after the Transnational Turn.
Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/26905.

For additional information about this book
https://muse.jhu.edu/book/26905

For content related to this chapter
https://muse.jhu.edu/related_content?type=book&id=985316
Contributors

Laura Bieger is assistant professor/Juniorprofessorin of American culture at the John-F.-Kennedy-Institut for North American Studies, Freie Universität Berlin. She is the author of Ästhetik der Immersion: Raum-Erleben zwischen Welt und Bild. Las Vegas, Washington und die White City (2009), and No Place Like Home: The Ontological Narrativity of Belonging and the American Novel (forthcoming), and co-editor of several volumes of essays (on American studies, literature, and culture, on fashion as a critical paradigm for cultural studies, and, forthcoming, on space, place, and narrative).

Lawrence Buell is Powell M. Cabot Research Professor of American Literature at Harvard University and author of numerous books including Literary Transcendentalism (1973), New England Literary Culture (1986), Emerson (2003), and three ecocritical books. He is a former Guggenheim and NEH Fellow and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is at work on two book projects: a cultural and critical history of the dream of the Great American Novel, and a study of the uses and abuses of environmental memory.

Christa Buschendorf is professor and chair of American literature and culture at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main. She studied at Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität Mainz and Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, taught at Universität Bielefeld and Jena, and was a Visiting Fellow at Harvard in 2003–4, 2007–8, and 2011–12. Her scholarship focuses on transatlantic intellectual history, the reception of antiquity in America, and American poetry. In her current teaching and research she is exploring the approach of figurational and relational sociology to (African) American studies. Her latest book publications are The High Priest of Pessimism: Zur Rezeption Schopenhauers in den USA (2008) and Civilizing and Decivilizing Processes: Figurational Approaches to American Culture, edited with Astrid Franke and Johannes Voelz (2011).

HERWIG FRIEDL is professor emeritus of American literature and history of ideas at Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf. He studied American and German literatures and philosophy at the University of Heidelberg and at Cornell; he was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Yale in 1973–74, a Visiting Professor at the University of New Mexico in 1984, and a Visiting Scholar at Harvard in 2002, 2006, and 2007. His book publications include a study of Henry James’s aesthetic theory (1972) and as editor essay collections on E. L. Doctorow (1986), on women’s studies as cultural studies (2000), and on gender and conceptions of space (2006). His numerous essays focus on Transcendentalism, Pragmatism, modernism (Gertrude Stein), and American thinking in an international context.

HEINZ ICKSTADT is professor emeritus of American literature at the John-F-Kennedy-Institut for North American Studies, Freie Universität Berlin. His publications include Poetic Experience and the Structure of Metaphor: The Language of Hart Crane (1975), Der amerikanische Roman im 2. Jahrhundert: Transformationen des Mimetischen (1998), and Faces of Fiction: Essays on American Literature and Culture from the Jacksonian Age to Postmodernity, edited by Susanne Rohr and Sabine Sielke. He also has edited and co-edited several books on American literature and culture, among them a bilingual anthology of American poetry, and is co-editing the first English-German edition of Pound’s Cantos. He was president of the German Association of American Studies from 1990 until 1993, and president of the European Association of American Studies from 1996 to 2000.

LENE M. JOHANNESSEN is professor of American literature and culture in the Department of Foreign Languages at the University of Bergen, Norway. Her areas of research and teaching are generally focused on the ideological, cultural, social, and aesthetic manifestations and negotiations of the en-route as these are refracted in narratives, specifically in American and postcolonial literatures. She is the author of Passage of Crisis: Threshold Time in Chicano Literature (2008) and Horizons of Enchantment: Essays in the American Imaginary (2011), as well as the editor of several books in American and postcolonial studies.

CHRISTOPHER NEWFIELD is professor of English at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is the author of Unmaking the Public University: The Forty-Year Assault on the Middle Class (2008), Ivy and Industry: Business and the Making of the American University, 1880–1980 (2003), and The Emerson Effect: Individualism and Submission in America (1996), and he is a co-editor of Mapping Multiculturalism (1996) and After Political Correctness: The Humanities and Society in the 1990s (1995). He is also an active blogger and a regular contributor to the Huffington Post.

WALTER BENN MICHAELS is professor of English at the University of Illinois, Chicago. He is the author of several books on literary history and theory and is currently writing about the relation between aesthetic autonomy and political economy in the twenty-first century. The book will be called The Beauty of a Social Problem.
DONALD PEASE is the Ted and Helen Geisel Third Century Professor in the Humanities at Dartmouth College, chair of the Dartmouth Liberal Studies Program, and director of the Dartmouth Futures of American Studies Institute. He is the author of Visionary Compacts: American Renaissance Writings in Cultural Context (1987), The New American Exceptionalism (2009), and Theodore Seuss Geisel (2010), as well as editor and co-editor of numerous volumes, including Reframing the Transnational Turn in American Studies (2011), and general editor of The New Americanists, a series published by Duke University Press.

RAMÓN SALDÍVAR is professor of English and comparative literature and holds the Hoagland Family Professor of Humanities and Sciences chair at Stanford University. In 2007 he was the co-winner of the Modern Language Association Prize for best book in the area of U.S. Latina/Latino and Chicana/Chicano Literary and Cultural Studies for his book The Borderlands of Culture: Américo Paredes and the Transnational Imaginary (2006). In 2011 he was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama. He is currently working on a new project, tentatively titled “Race, Narrative Theory, and Contemporary American Fiction.”

MARK SELTZER is Evan Frankel Professor of Literature at the University of California at Los Angeles. He has previously worked at Cornell and at the John-F.-Kennedy Institut, Freie Universität Berlin, and at the Humboldt Universität in Berlin. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center, the Center for Literary and Cultural Studies at Harvard, and the National Humanities Center, and Research Fellow at the Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung and the Max Planck Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte in Berlin. He is the author of, among other works, Serial Killers: Death and Life in America’s Wound Culture (1998), True Crime: Observations on Violence and Modernity (2007), and, forthcoming, of The Official World (from which the piece in this volume is adapted).

JOHANNES VOELZ is assistant professor of American studies at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt. He holds a Feodor Lynen Fellowship at Stanford University (2012–2014), awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. He is the author of Transcendental Resistance: The New Americanists and Emerson’s Challenge (University Press of New England, 2010) and has co-edited three essay collections. His articles have appeared in journals such as American Literary History, Comparative American Studies, and Religion & Literature.