

Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies

Rocío G. Davis and Sämi Ludwig, eds.

Asian American Literature in the International Context

Readings on Fiction, Poetry,
and Performance



2nd edition

LIT

FORECAAST

(Forum for European Contributions
to African American Studies)

Maria Diedrich; Carl Pedersen;
Justine Tally (eds.)

Mapping African America History, Narrative Formation, and the Pro- duction of Knowledge

The world of African America extends throughout the northern, central, southern and insular parts of the American continent. The essays included in this volume take the creation of that world as a single object of study, tracing significant routes and contacts, building comparisons and contrasts. They thus participate in the reworking of traditional approaches to the study of history, the critique of literature and culture, and the production of knowledge. All are engaged in an effort to locate the African American experience within a wider pan-African vision that links the colonial with the postcolonial, the past with the present, the African with the Western.

Mapping African America sketches lines that, far from limiting our geography, extend our knowledge of the Africanist influence on and their participation in what is generally called "Western" culture. This creative challenge to traditional disciplines will not only enhance the reader's understanding of African American Studies but will also help forge links with other academic fields of inquiry.

Bd. 1, 1999, 256 S., 59,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-3328-3

Stefanie Sievers

Liberating Narratives

The Authorization of Black Female Voices in African American Women Writers' Novels of Slavery

Three contemporary novels of slavery – Margaret Walker's *Jubilee* (1966), Sherley Anne Williams's *Dessa Rose* (1986) and Toni Morrison's *Beloved* (1987) – are the central focus of *Liberating Narratives*. In significantly different ways that reflect their individual and socio-political contexts of origin, these three novels can all be read as critiques of historical representation and as alternative spaces for remembrance – 'sites of memory' – that attempt to shift the conceptual ground on which our knowledge of the past is based.

Within a theoretical framework informed by recent black feminist and narratological discussions, the study analyses in particular the textual strategies that Walker, Williams and Morrison use to conceptualize and authorize these liberatory imaginative spaces – spaces in which African

American women become central historical agents. It shows how revisionary shifts in thematic emphasis require careful reconsiderations of a literary text's formal organization to allow for the representation of a 'free' black and female subject.

Bd. 2, 1999, 232 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-3919-2

Justine Tally

Paradise Reconsidered

Toni Morrison's (Hi)stories and Truths Toni Morrison's *Paradise* (1998) arrived on the scene amid vociferous acclaim and much consternation. Third in the trilogy begun with *Beloved* and *Jazz*, this fascinating yet complicated the novel has sown as much confusion as admiration. How does it work? How does the novel close the trilogy? Indeed, a major complaint among reviewers, why does Morrison overload us with so many characters and stories?

In this first book-length study of *Paradise*, Justin Tally securely links the work to Morrison's entire oeuvre and effectively argues that while all of the novels of the trilogy are deeply analytical of the relationship of memory, story and history, the historical narrative: memory is fickle, story is unreliable, and history is subject to manipulation. A master narrative of the past is again dictated by the dominant discourse, but this time the control exerted is black and male, not white and male. Though this stranglehold threatens to deaden life and put the future on hold, Morrison's narrative disruptions challenge the very nature of this "paradise" on earth.

With these considerations, "*Paradise*" *Reconsidered* locates the author at the center of the on-going literary and cultural debates of the late 20th century: the postmodern discussion of history, particularly Afro-centrist history, the production of knowledge, the class divisions that are shattering the black community, and questions of "race" and essentialism. What does it mean to be "black"? And who is the white girl anyway? *A learned and at the same time accessible early reading of a highly complex novel. Further Morrison scholarship will need to return to Tally's sophisticated and courageous explorations of this text.* Professor Maria Diedrich, University of Muenster

Bd. 3, 1999, 112 S., 34,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4204-5

Dorothea Fischer-Hornung; Alison

D. Goeller (eds.)

EMBODYing Liberation

The Black Body in American Dance

A collection of essays concerning the black body in American dance, *EMBODYing Liberation* serves as an important contribution to the growing field

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of scholarship in African American dance, in particular the strategies used by individual artists to contest and liberate racialized stagings of the black body. The collection features special essays by Thomas DeFrantz and Brenda Dixon Gottschild, as well as an interview with Isaac Julien.

Bd. 4, 2001, 152 S., 39,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4473-0

Patrick B. Miller; Therese Frey Steffen; Elisabeth Schäfer-Wünsche (eds.)

The Civil Rights Movement Revisited
Critical Perspectives on the Struggle for Racial Equality in the United States

The crusade for civil rights was a defining episode of 20th century U.S. history, reshaping the constitutional, political, social, and economic life of the nation. This collection of original essays by both European and American scholars includes close analyses of literature and film, historical studies of significant themes and events from the turn-of-the century to the movement years, and assessments of the movement's legacies. Ultimately, the articles help examine the ways civil rights activism, often grounded in the political work of women, has shaped American consciousness and culture until the outset of the 21st century.

Bd. 5, 2001, 224 S., 48,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4486-2

Fritz Gysin; Christopher Mulvey (Hrsg.)

Black Liberation in the Americas

The recognition that Africans in the Americas have also been subjects of their destiny rather than merely passive objects of European oppression represents one of the major shifts in twentieth-century mainstream historiography. Yet even in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, slave narratives and abolitionist tracts offered testimony to various ways in which Africans struggled against slavery, from outright revolt to day-to-day resistance. In the first decades of the twentieth century, African American historians like Carter G. Woodson and W. E. B. Du Bois started to articulate a vision of African American history that emphasized survival and resistance rather than victimization and oppression. This volume seeks to address these and other issues in black liberation from interdisciplinary and comparative perspectives, focusing on such issues as slave revolts, day-to-day resistance, abolitionist movements, maroon societies, the historiography of resistance, the literature of resistance, black liberation movements in the twentieth century, and black liberation and post colonial theory. The chapters span the disciplines of history, literature, anthropology, folklore, film, music, architecture, and art, drawing on the black experience of

liberation in the United States, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

Bd. 6, 2001, 280 S., 48,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-5137-0

Justine Tally

The Story of Jazz

Toni Morrison's Dialogic Imagination

Ever since its publication in 1992, *Jazz*, probably Toni Morrison's most difficult novel to date, has elicited a wide array of critical response. Many of these analyses, while both thoughtful and thought-provoking, have provided only partial or inherently inconclusive interpretations. The title, and certain of the author's own pronouncements, have led other critics to focus on the music itself, both as medium and aesthetic support for the narration. Choosing an entirely different approach for *The Story of Jazz*, Justine Tally further develops her hypothesis, first elaborated in her study of *Paradise*, that the Morrison trilogy is undergirded by the relationship of history, memory and story, and discusses "jazz" not as the music, but as a metaphor for language and storytelling. Taking her cue from the author's epigraph for the novel, she discusses the relevance of storytelling to contemporary critics in many different fields, explains Morrison's choice of the hard-boiled detective *genre* as a ghost-text for her novel, and guides the reader through the intricacies of Bakhtinian theory in order to elucidate and ground her interpretation of this important text, finally entering into a chapter-by-chapter analysis of the novel which leads to a surprising conclusion.

Bd. 7, 2001, 168 S., 39,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-5364-0

Mar Gallego

Passing Novels in the Harlem Renaissance
An Alternative Concept of African American Identity

Bd. 8, Herbst 2001, ca. 224 S., ca. 48,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-5842-1

**Hallenser Studien zur Anglistik
und Amerikanistik**

herausgegeben

am Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik
(Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg)

Martin Meyer; Gabriele Spengemann;
Wolf Kindermann (Hrsg.)

Tangenten: Literatur & Geschichte

Die Hallenser Studien zur Anglistik und Amerikanistik wollen an die Tradition des Dialogs unter den inzwischen vielfältig verzweigten Teilgebieten eines einstmals einheitlichen Faches anknüpfen, wie sie durch den Hallenser Anglisten Hans Weyhe und seine Kollegen gepflegt wurde.

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Der vorliegende erste Band der Reihe ist dem Weyhe-Schüler Martin Schulze gewidmet, dessen Werdegang und Tätigkeit als Hochschullehrer die vielschichtigen Entwicklungen des Faches im Schatten des Ost-West-Konfliktes spiegelt, und dessen Initiative die Hallenser Anglistik die Chance eines Neubeginns verdankt.

Die hier versammelten Beiträge zur englischen und amerikanischen Literatur, zu Geschichte, Sprachwissenschaft und Bildungspolitik eint trotz aller Vielfalt der Blick auf die Wechselbeziehungen zwischen europäischer und amerikanischer Kulturtradition sowie das Bemühen um den Dialog zwischen den philologischen und den historisch-sozialwissenschaftlichen Disziplinen. Bd. 1, 1996, 278 S., 48,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-2907-3

Wolf Kindermann (Hrsg.)

Entwicklungslinien: 120 Jahre Anglistik in Halle

Das Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik an der Martin-Luther-Universität in Halle und Wittenberg feierte im Jahr 1996 sein 120jähriges Bestehen. Als erstes rein englisches Seminar in deutschen Landen kann es auf eine lange Tradition der anglistischen Forschung und Lehre, vor allem auf dem Gebiet von Sprachwissenschaft und Sprachgeschichte, zurückblicken. Namhafte Fachgelehrte, unter ihnen Friedrich E. Elze, Max Förster, Max Deutschbein, Hans Weyhe und Otto Ritter, haben die Geschichte der Hallenser Anglistik mit geprägt. Heute steht das Institut vor einem Neubeginn, der sich aber auch den Entwicklungslinien der Hallenser Anglistik verpflichtet fühlen muß.

Der vorliegende Band soll durch Forschungsergebnisse und Arbeitsproben von Mitarbeitern und Gästen des Instituts die thematische Vielfalt des Neubeginns dokumentieren. Er umfaßt neben einem kurzen Überblick zur Institutsgeschichte Beiträge zur Realismusproblematik in der englischen Literatur des 18. Jahrhunderts, zu H.G. Wells, zur anglo-irischen (Yeats, Joyce, Heaney und Friel) und zur amerikanischen Literatur (Poe, Hemingway und Heller, Zora Neale Hurston und Alice Walker). Ferner finden sich sprachwissenschaftliche Beiträge zu den "Anglo-Saxon Wills", zum Verhältnis von Sprache und Ideologie bei Burke und Paine, zu "Intertextuality in Press Correspondence", zum "Pendel des sprachlichen Handelns" sowie ein Beitrag zum Stellenwert von Einstellungen im Fremdsprachenunterricht. Bd. 2, 1997, 240 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-3304-6

Pamela Winchester

Indian Myth and White History

Bd. 3, 1997, 240 S., 48,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-3446-8

Gisela Hermann-Brennecke;

Wilhelm Geisler (Hrsg.)

Zur Theorie der Praxis & Praxis der Theorie des Fremdspracherwerbs

Der Band thematisiert die reziproke Einheit empirisch orientierter Theorie und theoriegeleiteter Praxis fremdsprachendidaktischer Fragestellungen. Während sich Theorie als Ergebnis und Prozeß der Fremdsprachenforschung im Wechselspiel mit und an der fremdsprachlichen Unterrichtspraxis als ihrem Gegenstand ausrichtet, liefert die Praxis die Basis, von der Forschung überhaupt erst ihre Impulse empfängt. Beides geschieht immer unter der Prämisse, die eigenen Voraussetzungen, Bedingungen und Grenzen unter Einbeziehung des Verhältnisses zu anderen Bezugswissenschaften kritisch zu hinterfragen.

Die hier vorgelegten Beiträge behandeln verschiedene Aspekte des Theorie-Praxis-Bezugs, eine Thematik, die die Forschung und Lehre von Wolfgang Butzkamm, dem zu Ehren dieser Sammelband erscheint, wie ein roter Faden durchzieht. So stehen neben wissenschaftstheoretischen, paralinguistischen, quantenphysikalischen, empirischen und mentalistischen Reflexionen auch solche zum Umgang mit Literatur, Bilingualismus, Mehrsprachigkeit, gesprochener Sprache und ihrer Kontextualisierung aus suggestopädischer Sicht. Gleichwertig und reziprok.

Bd. 4, 1998, 224 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-3840-4

Gisela Hermann-Brennecke (Hrsg.)

Frühes schulisches Fremdsprachenlernen zwischen Empirie & Theorie

Die hier versammelten Beiträge behandeln Zugriffe auf frühes schulisches Fremdsprachenlernen in verschiedenen europäischen Ländern, in der russischen Föderation sowie in den USA und berichten von den dabei gesammelten Erfahrungen. Sie wollen zu weiteren Forschungsaktivitäten anregen und dadurch zu bildungspolitischen Entscheidungsprozessen beitragen.

The present collection of articles deals with various approaches to foreign language learning at primary school in different European countries, in the Russian Federation and in the USA. The results presented want to stimulate further research activities and to contribute to processes of educational decision making.

Bd. 5, 1999, 216 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4351-3

Martina Ghosh-Schellhorn (ed.)

Writing Women Across Borders and Categories

Generally held to be rigid, borders and categories are nonetheless expanded when those bounded by the demarcations of hegemony, challenge its strictures. Significant instances of this

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constructive transgression can be found in the women's writing with which this collection of essays by international critics engages. Whereas in travel writing by women (Sarah Hobson, Dervla Murphy, Jan Morris) 'transgression' is seen to have settled into a familiar strategy, in autobiography (Ann Fanshawe, Margaret Cavendish, Christine Brooke-Rose), cultural analysis (Virginia Woolf, Marianna Torgovnick, Donna Haraway), and fiction (Michelle Cliff, Jeanette Winterson, Ellen Galford, Fiona Cooper), women have succeeded in creating an innovative space for themselves.

Bd. 6, 2000, 176 S., 39,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4639-3

Claudia Franken

Gertrude Stein, Writer and Thinker

Gertrude Stein, Writer and Thinker, "presents the first sensible overview which includes a demonstration of the 'content' which may be found in each of Stein's presumably 'abstract' key works" (Robert Barlett Haas, Foreword).

This study offers a guided commentary on the *about* and the "literariness" of her works which helps the reader to understand and appreciate her writing and thinking. Exploring Stein's figures of thought within the context of the philosophies of William James and A. N. Whitehead and considering the aesthetic and ethical significance of texts of all phases and genres of her writing, this commentary convinces us that Stein was indeed one of the 20th century's most original and complex authors.

Bd. 7, 2000, 400 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4761-6

Angela Kuhk

Vielstimmige Welt

Die Werke St. John de Crèvecoeurs in deutscher Sprache

"Das Werk hat unter den Händen des Deutschen Übersetzers noch gewonnen." Die europaweite Begeisterung für die Werke Crèvecoeurs äußerte sich auch in einer Flut an deutschen Übersetzungen: Zwischen 1782 und 1802 entstanden mehr als 30 Schriften, die auf die Zeilen des berühmten "Amerikanischen Landmanns" zurückgingen. Erstmals erfolgt hier eine bibliographische Erfassung und eine chronologische Vorstellung dieser Texte wie auch der Rezeptionsdokumente.

Ausführliche Übersetzungsanalysen zu den Themen Indianer, Quäker, Sklaverei, deutsche Einwanderer, Walfang, Flora und Fauna liefern neue Beiträge zum deutschen Amerikabild im ausgehenden 18. Jahrhundert und erlauben einen detaillierten Einblick in die vielstimmige Welt Crèvecoeurs.

Bd. 8, 2001, 480 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4882-5

Wolf Kindermann;

Gisela Hermann-Brennecke (eds.)

Echoes in a Mirror: The English Institute after 125 Years

This volume is published in honor of the 125th anniversary of the English Institute at the Martin-Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg, one of the earliest of its kind in Germany. Its long tradition of research in historical linguistics had a considerable impact on literary, cultural and educational studies. Many of the scholars who taught and researched here over the past 125 years tried to uphold academic standards, scholarly values, and personal integrity even in turbulent times of ideological pressure and political turmoil. Even now, 12 years after the wall came down, the process of restructuring that it triggered has not come to an end. In spite of this, faculty and staff are standing their ground by linking up with the legacy handed down to them.

This volume presents current research at the Institute in a collection of essays on *Beowulf*, "Elizabethan Parliaments", "Black Vernacular English", "Denotational Incongruencies", "Newspaper English", "Interrogating Whiteness", Edgar Allan Poe, Charlotte Lennox, T. S. Eliot, Salman Rushdie, David Lodge, and on empirical issues related to foreign language acquisition research and to teacher training programs.

Bd. 9, 2001, 264 S., 39,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-5675-5

Erlanger Studien

zur Anglistik und Amerikanistik

herausgegeben von

Rudolf Freiburg und Dieter Meindl

Rudolf Freiburg; Jan Schnitker (Hrsg.)

"Do you consider yourself a postmodern author?"

Interviews with Contemporary English Writers

This book presents a collection of twelve interviews with eminent English contemporary writers held during a period of four years. The book allows an illuminating insight into a very lively and thought-provoking literary culture, stirred not only by recent ideas of postmodernism but also by the manifold issues of nationality, culture, and gender subjected to permanent redefinitions towards the end of the twentieth century. The interviews with Peter Ackroyd, John Banville, Julian Barnes, Alain de Botton, Maureen Duffy, Tibor Fischer, John Fowles, Romesh Gunesequera, Tim Parks, Terry Pratchett, Jane Rogers, and Adam Thorpe cover topics such as

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the relationship between writer and public, the role of the literary tradition, the relevance of contemporary literary theory for the production of literature, images of nationality, intertextuality, changes in the attitude towards language and meaning, and the reception of literary texts by critical reviewers and literary critics. All the interviewers have worked for the *ECCEL (Erlangen Centre for Contemporary English Literature)*.

Bd. 1, 1999, 248 S., 39,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4395-5

Hannah Jacobmeyer

Märchen und Romanzen in der zeitgenössischen englischen Literatur

Im Zentrum einer vielfach konstatierten Renaissance des "Wunderbaren" in der Kultur des ausgehenden 20. Jahrhunderts stehen die Formen und Strukturen von Märchen und Romanze. Gelten sie uns einerseits als Merkmale einer prämodernen Narrativik, so sind sie andererseits zu Konstanten von Literatur geworden, die sich durch die Jahrhunderte bis in die sogenannte postmoderne Literatur hinein nachweisen lassen. Anhand ausgewählter zeitgenössischer Texte der englischen Literatur zeigt die Autorin, wie Märchen und Romanzen fortleben - aber auch, wo sie sich überschneiden und auf welche Weise sie in eine endlose, intertextuelle "Echokammer" eingebunden werden. Romanzenmuster erlauben zudem, Einsicht in die Gemeinsamkeiten hoher und "trivialer" Literatur zu nehmen. Autoren der detailliert analysierten Märchen und Romanzen sind u. a. Salman Rushdie, A. S. Byatt, Graham Swift, Angela Carter und Barbara Cartland.

Bd. 2, 2000, 224 S., 68,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4686-5

Anglophone Literatures

Anglophone Literatures

Hamburger Beiträge zur Erforschung
neuerer englischsprachiger Literatures
Hamburg Studies

in the New Literatures in English
Herausgeber/General Editor: Gerd Dose

Gerd Dose; Bettina Keil (Eds.)

Writing in Australia

Perceptions of Australian Literature in Its
Historical and Cultural Context
A Series of Lectures Given at Hamburg Uni-
versity on the Occasion of the 1st Festival of
Australian Literature in Hamburg 1995

This volume is concerned with the fascinating
process of deconstructing self-sufficient "Anglo-
Australian" national identity, and sheds light on

the intense and sustained efforts of Australian writers to contribute to the country's self-definition as a post-colonial and multi-cultural society against the traditional predominance of a "White" British culture that aims at cultural homogeneity. Another focus of the book is on the unique experience of Australian landscape and nature, which has been a major subject of Australian writing since the 19th century and as a theme has never lost its topicality and irresistible appeal. *WRITING IN AUSTRALIA* is a must for everyone who wants to embark on the study of this new terrain of literary study which is growing in importance so rapidly.

Bd. 1, 2000, 232 S., 38,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-2796-8

Susanne Braun-Bau

Natur und Psyche

Landschafts- und Bewußtseinsdarstellung in australischen Romanen des 20. Jahrhunderts
Die Untersuchung australischer Romane lädt zu einer Reise durch literarische Landschaften ein. Sie beginnt zur Jahrhundertwende mit Joseph Furphy als frühem Vertreter des modernen Romans und zeigt eine Entwicklung auf, die schließlich in der Auflösung realer Landschaften in eine *Psychogeographie* bei Gerald Murnane gipfelt.

Mentale Prozesse sind Filterinstanzen, die zwischen die Landschaft und ihre literarische Umsetzung treten. Die literarische Umsetzung dieser 'Filter' wird analysiert, um ein umfassendes Erklärungsmodell für die kominierte Buschbildlichkeit in der Literatur Australiens, die bis heute fortwirkt, zu entwerfen. Das Stereotyp des menschenfeindlichen *Outback* erweist sich als Frustration der perzipierenden Figur, die eine an britische Konventionen geprägte Bewußtseinshaltung auf die Natur projiziert. Diese mentale Haltung ist den Naturgegebenheiten Australiens unangemessen.

Dabei ermöglicht die breite Auswahl von Romanen die Ableitung einer historischen Stufenfolge, bei der sich im Verhältnis von Protagonist und Landschaft eine zunehmende Bewußtseinsdominanz herauskristallisiert. Die Untersuchung liefert daher einen wichtigen Beitrag zur australischen Literaturgeschichte und stellt ein Stufenmodell als Analyserahmen für die (post-)moderne Romanentwicklung vor.

Bd. 2, 1996, 264 S., 58,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-2824-7

Horst Prießnitz; Marion Spies (Hrsg.)

Neuere Informationsmittel zur Literatur Australiens

Ein bibliographischer Essay

Der bibliographische Essay richtet sich an literaturwissenschaftliche Interessenten auf der Suche nach Basisinformationen zur Literatur- und Kul-

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turgeschichte des 5. Kontinents. Gleichzeitig ist er als Hilfe beim Aufbau einer Spezialabteilung mit forschungsrelevanten Informationsmitteln in Bibliotheken konzipiert.
Bd. 3, 1996, 72 S., 19,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-3169-8

Studien zur englischen Literatur

herausgegeben von
Prof. Dr. Dieter Mehl
(Englisches Seminar der Rheinischen
Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität, Bonn)

Cordelia Borchardt

Vom Bild der Bildung

Bildungsideale im anglo-amerikanischen
Universitätsroman des zwanzigsten
Jahrhunderts

Bd. 8, 1997, 272 S., 58,80 DM, gb., ISBN 3-8258-3214-7

Beatrix Hesse

Shakespeares Komödien aus der Sicht der Pragmatischen Kommunikationstheorie

Dieses Buch untersucht sechs von Shakespeares frühen Komödien (*The Taming of the Shrew*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *As You Like It* und *Twelfth Night*) im Hinblick auf die Beziehungsstrukturen zwischen den Dramencharakteren. Das methodische Instrumentarium geht auf Watzlawick et al., *The Pragmatics of Human Communication* zurück. Zentrale Aspekte der Analyse sind u. a. das Spannungsverhältnis zwischen der Inhalts- und Beziehungsebene der Kommunikation, zwischen verbaler und non-verbaler Kommunikation (z. B. der Einsatz von Körpersprache, von Requisiten und Kostümen im Schauspiel) und zwischen Beziehungen, die auf Gleichheit, und solchen, die auf Ungleichheit beruhen.

Bd. 9, 1998, 208 S., 34,80 DM, gb., ISBN 3-8258-4047-6

Ulrike Horstmann

Die Namen in Edmund Spensers Versepos

The Faerie Queene: Immortal Name, Memorable Name, Well-becoming Name
Zu den auffälligen Merkmalen von Edmund Spensers Versepos *The Faerie Queene* gehören die offensichtlich bedeutungsvollen Namen. Viele von ihnen sind leicht zu entschlüsseln, aber damit beginnt ihre Faszination erst. Die Namen erfüllen die unterschiedlichsten Funktionen im Text: Sie tragen bei zur Charakterisierung von Figuren und Orten und untermalen die Atmosphäre von Situationen. Sie verbinden und kontrastieren Figuren und bauen Spannungsfelder zwischen der Bedeutung eines Namens und den Namenträgern

auf. Spenser folgt nicht dogmatisch einem philosophischen Konzept der Bedeutung von Namen, sondern setzt die Namen je nach Bedarf ein, sowohl für allegorische Sinngewinnung als auch zur Schaffung von Komik.

Aufbauend auf einer neu entwickelten Typologie der Bedeutungskonstitution durch Namen in literarischen Texten, konzentriert sich die vorliegende Untersuchung der Namen in *The Faerie Queene* dementsprechend weniger auf die etymologische Bedeutung von Namen als vielmehr auf das Wechselspiel von Namen und Bedeutungen im Text. So kann anhand von Hauptfiguren wie dem Redcrosse Knight, Una und Guyon gezeigt werden, daß die Deutung der Namen neue und fesselnde Ansätze zur Interpretation bietet.

Bd. 10, 2001, 320 S., 49,80 DM, br., ISBN 3-8258-4872-8

Christa Jansohn

Zweifelhafter Shakespeare

Zu den Shakespeare-Apokryphen und ihrer Rezeption von der Renaissance bis zum 20. Jahrhundert

Die Arbeit gibt einen historischen Überblick über die Geschichte der Shakespeare-Apokryphen, analysiert die Problematik apokrypher Dramen und stellt am Beispiel von *Arden of Feversham* exemplarisch die Rezeptionsgeschichte von der Renaissance bis zum 20. Jahrhundert in England, Amerika und Deutschland dar. Zudem wird die nur in einem Manuskript überlieferte und äußerst schwer zugängliche Verarbeitung von Jacob Geis' Bühnenbearbeitung des Dramas (*Elisabethanische Tragödie, Arden von Feversham*, 1931) kritisch ediert.

Bd. 11, 2000, 448 S., 68,80 DM, gb.,
ISBN 3-8258-5133-8

Axel Stähler

“Perpetuall Monuments”

Die Repräsentation von Architektur in der italienischen Festdokumentation (ca. 1515 – 1640) und der englischen court masque (1604 – 1640)

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Rocío G. Davis and Sämi Ludwig, eds.

Asian American Literature in the International Context

Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies

edited by

Rocío G. Davis
(University of Navarre)

and

Sämi Ludwig
(University of Bern)

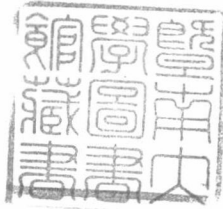
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Rocío G. Davis and Sämi Ludwig, eds.

Asian American Literature in the International Context

Readings on Fiction, Poetry, and Performance



LIT

*Dedicated to
the memory of
our colleague and friend
Amy Ling*

Cover art: Rudolf Ammann

We thank the Faculty of Arts and Letters of University of Navarre for their financial support of this book.

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Introduction to the Second Edition

We are happy and proud to see this second edition of the first volume of our series Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies reach the literary market. The success of the first edition proves that there is interest for this kind of scholarship and encourages us to expand the series and add new volumes to Contributions to Asian American Literary Studies—we are proud that two more volumes have appeared in the series in 2004. We continue to anticipate more volumes in the coming years.

Our gratitude for this success goes to our publisher, Mr. Veit Hopf of LIT Verlag, and of course to our contributors, whose quality work made this success possible. We also want to thank again our cover designer, Ruedi Ammann, who makes us look good and whose artwork has made the production of these books more pleasurable.

Responses to the volume have allowed us to rethink our project, which has led us to work actively with the new contributors in order to produce dynamic and groundbreaking work. Our reviewers have been kind with praise, especially for the articles on poetry. They have also lauded our concern for a truly international approach that tries to locate itself apart yet in dialogue with the U.S. American paradigms of the discipline. Thus Monica Chiu has observed “many of the essays’ overt challenge to accepted, even canonized, texts and U.S.-generated readings of Asian American literature.” And Mita Banerjee liked the subdividing of the collection “along thematic lines rather than with regard to critics’ national locations,” which creates “an international discourse of Asian American scholarship” and “a constructive dialogue of scholars.” Taking as an example Kirsten Twelbeck’s essay on *DICTEE* and her opposition against any “cultural ownership” of that text, however, Banerjee warns that our approach may encourage a somewhat decontextualizing vision of Asian American studies which may elide some necessary responsibility towards a particular text’s minority context. We agree that this issue must be responsibly negotiated yet are at the same time happy to see that our “act of opening up” is understood as such and appreciated.

In any case, these are precisely the terms of the dialogue we aimed to create among U.S. and international scholars of Asian American literature. The diverse approaches we can offer stem from both solid scholarship into the specificities of ethnic writing as well as from the wider perspective that comes from critical

locations outside (but not ignorant of) the accepted discourse of U.S. academe. The two years that have passed since the first volume was published has also seen the emergence of new critical perspectives on Asian American writing, many of which are increasingly plural in their approaches. We believe that our work has contributed to this plurality and the multiplicity of positions from which to read ethnic writing. A plurality of ideas, positions, and perspectives can only enhance the future of Asian American critical studies. We hope this series continues to do precisely that.

Rocío G. Davis and Sämi Ludwig Pamplona and Mulhouse, 20 August 2004

Acknowledgements

We'd like to thank, in the first place, the participants of our panel on Asian American Literature at the EAAS Lisbon Conference, from where this volume has grown, as well as the contributors who were not at the sessions, for their enthusiasm and support for this project, and for their patience to wait until this collection of articles went into print. We are also grateful to the different anonymous readers of this manuscript and their invaluable suggestions, which have challenged our preconceptions and helped us move the volume to its editorial completion. We further want to thank Veit Hopf and LIT Verlag in Berlin for accepting our manuscript and suggesting that we turn this effort into the first volume of a series on Asian American Studies, the first series in Europe of its kind. And then we'd also like to thank Ruedi Ammann in Japan for his enthusiasm and his fine ideas for the cover design.

Since each scholar has an academic home out of which he or she works, we also want to thank the Faculty of Arts and Letters of University of Navarre for their financial support and the members of our respective departments in Pamplona and Berne for all of their direct and indirect help and encouragement. But most of all, we want to thank our families, who have borne with us, even at times when they didn't understand why we had to spend so many hours in front of the computer rather than play with them.

Rocío G. Davis and Sämi Ludwig

Pamplona and Berne, 20 October 2001

Table of Contents

Introduction: Asian American Literature in the International Context <i>Rocío G. Davis and Sâmi Ludwig</i>	9
---	---

I. Biraciality/Biculturality

Beyond Biraciality: "Race" as Process in the Work of Edith Eaton/Sui Sin Far and Winnifred Eaton/Onoto Watanna <i>Carol Roh-Spaulling</i>	21
---	----

Celebrating Ourselves in the Other, Or: Who Controls the Conceptual Allusions in Kingston? <i>Sâmi Ludwig</i>	37
---	----

"Adding On," Not "Giving Up": Ceremonies of Self in Frank Chin's <i>Donald Duk</i> <i>Gordon O. Taylor</i>	57
--	----

II. Interethnic Negotiations

Funeral Rites, Ethnicity, and the Politics of Representation in Asian American Literature <i>Seiwoong Oh</i>	69
--	----

Mending the Sk(e)in of Memory: Trauma, Narrative and the Recovery of Identity in Chao, Liu, and Kogawa <i>Helena Grice</i>	81
--	----

Ceremonies of Dialogism in Asian American Poetry <i>Eulalia Piñero-Gil</i>	97
---	----

III. Poetic Creation

Marilyn Chin's Poetry of "Self as Nation": Transforming the "Lyric I," Reinventing Cultural Inheritance <i>Zhou Xiaojing</i>	111
--	-----

Undercover Asian: John Yau and the Politics of Ethnic Self-Identification <i>Dorothy J. Wang</i>	135
The Way a Calendar Dissolves: A Refugee's Sense of Time in the Work of Li-Young Lee <i>Johnny Lorenz</i>	157
IV. Narrative Experiments	
Everyone's Story: Narrative <i>You</i> in Chitra Bannerjee Divakaruni's "The Word Love" <i>Rocío G. Davis</i>	173
Otherness as Reading Process: Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's <i>DICTEE</i> <i>Kirsten Twelbeck</i>	185
The "American" Voice in Asian American Male Autoperformance <i>Robert H. Vorlicky</i>	203
V. (Re)Constructing Self	
Rituals of Mothering: Food and Intercultural Identity in Gus Lee's <i>China Boy</i> <i>Alicia Otano</i>	215
Cultural Cross-Dressing in <i>Mona in the Promised Land</i> <i>Amy Ling</i>	227
Rupture as Continuity: Migrant Identity and "Unsettled" Perspective in Bapsi Sidhwa's <i>An American Brat</i> <i>Geoffrey Kain</i>	237
South Asian American Women Writers in the Mythical West <i>Carmen Faymonville</i>	247
Notes on Contributors	262

Introduction:

Asian American Literature in the International Context

Rocio G. Davis and Sāmi Ludwig

Since the publication of Maxine Hong Kingston's *The Woman Warrior* a quarter of a century ago, we have witnessed an unprecedented growth in the literatures of Asian America, both in their creative expression and in the substantial body of criticism that seeks to discuss them in the light of contemporary identity and cultural politics. Kingston's emblematic text not only opened the way for writers to engage the complexities of their ethnicity, but also signaled a narrative boldness and maturity regarding the appropriation and subversion of traditional genres. The range of writing that comprises today's expanding Asian American canon includes the works of authors who continue Kingston's experimentation with and exploration of genre and theme, the borders between fiction and reality, issues of intercultural expression and identity, and the question of authenticity. Asian American writing has tremendously expanded its range of expression—be it in its experimental edge, as literary technique, or in the further integration of elements from its ever more diverse and complex ethnic constituencies. More and more different experiences, stories, and thematic issues are finding literary expression in innovative forms that range from words to performance. Today the cultural production of Asian America has a scope and variety that is as aesthetically complex and sophisticated as any other literature, yet maintaining a very particular flavor of its own.

Asian American literature offers a very rich field of investigation because in it we comprehend transcultural literary phenomena beyond geographic, national, ethnic, and even linguistic boundaries. Recent scholarship consistently points to the need to expand and deepen the approaches to this complex set of concerns and strategies. Shirley Lim believes that Asian American literature

as a heuristic term is the mountain of gold to be mined by archival and scholarly labor. But as a distinct minority literature, it has become a space for cultural contestation between forces for containment and enlargement. Places under interrogation are the nature and boundaries of this body of materials, its categorization and composition, and the interpretations and evaluations brought to bear on it. (149)