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About the Contributors

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HOLGER DROESSLER is Associate Professor at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and an historian of nineteenth- and twentieth-century US history, with a special focus on imperialism, capitalism, and the Pacific Ocean. In his first book, *Coconut Colonialism: Workers and the Globalization of Samoa* (Harvard University Press, 2022), he argues that the globalization of Samoa at the turn of the twentieth century was driven by a diverse group of working people on and off the islands. Currently, he is doing research for his next book, "War Workers," which tells the global story of noncitizen civilians working for the US military, from the Civil War to Iraq. He has published on a variety of topics, including labor history, Pacific history, environmental history, and global Hip Hop. His teaching ranges from modern US history in global perspective to the history of capitalism and environmental history.

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KEVIN K. GAINES is Julian Bond Professor of Civil Rights and Social Justice at the University of Virginia, with a joint appointment in the Corcoran Department of History and the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African American and African Studies. The new professorship was created to honor the legacy of Bond, the civil rights champion and former University of Virginia professor. Gaines's current research is on the problems and projects of racial integration in the United States during and after the civil rights movement. He is author of *Uplifting the Race: Black Leadership, Politics, and Culture During the Twentieth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 1996), which was awarded the American Studies Association's John Hope Franklin Book Prize. His book, *American Africans in Ghana: Black Expatriates and the Civil Rights Era* (UNC Press, 2006), was a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. Gaines is a past president of the American Studies Association (2009–10). His current research is on the integrationist projects of African American activists, artists and intellectuals, interventions that redefined

blackness and acknowledged the relationship of structural and ideological forms of racism to racial capitalism, patriarchy, and homophobia.

ANITA GONZALEZ (PhD) is Professor at Georgetown University and a cofounder of the university's Racial Justice Institute. Gonzalez contributes to projects which foreground experiences and histories of the underrepresented. Her essays advocate for informed cultural exchange across domestic and international settings. Most recently (2023), she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. As a scholar of Performing Arts and Black Studies, Gonzalez has published articles about performance histories and cultures in the *Radical History Review*, *Modern Drama*, *Theatre Research International*, and *Dance Research Journal*. She has edited and authored five books: *Shipping Out: Race, Performance and Labor at Sea* (Michigan), *Performance, Dance and Political Economy* (Bloomsbury), *Black Performance Theory* (Duke), *Afro-Mexico: Dancing Between Myth and Reality* (University of Texas Press), and *Jarocho's Soul* (Rowan Littlefield). Additional essays about intercultural performance appear in the edited collections *African Performance Arts and Political Acts*, *Black Acting Methods, Narratives in Black British Dance, The Community Performance Reader*, and the *Oxford Handbook of Dance and Theatre.* Gonzalez directs, devises, and writes musical theatre and operatic works that focus on telling underrepresented stories and histories. She has been commissioned by Washington National Opera (2025) and she is a 2023–2025 Fellow with American Opera Project's Composers and Voice and a winner of Opera America's IDEA grant. **Musicals:** *Kumanana* (Gala Hispanic Theater), *Ybor City* (Latiné Musical Theater Lab), *Zora on My Mind* (The Woodshed), *Ayanna Kelly*. **Plays and Librettos**: *Mickey D and the Eclipse* (WNO) *Brathwaite's Mecca (AOP), Forever Entwined (AOP) Faces in the Flames* (Atlanta Opera and Opera America) *Courthouse Bells (*Boston Opera Collaborative), *Finding the Light* (Louise Toppin and Marquita Lister), *Sunset Dreams* (The Vagrancy), *Home of My Ancestors* (HGOCo).

ADAM GRYDEHØJ is Chair Professor, Research Center for Indian Ocean Island Countries, South China University of Technology His cross-disciplinary research concerns the intersection of culture, economy, politics, and space in island and coastal regions. Adam holds a PhD in Ethnology from University of Aberdeen, and is Director of Island Dynamics, Executive Editor of *Island Studies Journal* (SSCI), Chair Professor at South China University of Technology's Research Center for Indian Ocean Island Countries, Co-Director of Zhejiang University's Island and Coastal Zone Institute, and a member of the UPEI Island Studies Adjunct and Graduate Faculty. He has published over 60 journal articles, book chapters, and academic reports on a range of regions and topics, including island urbanisation and urban development, economies and livelihoods, indigeneity and decoloniality, land use, island studies theory, and international relations theory. For a full list of Adam's publications, please visit his Google Scholar page.

ALFRED HORNUNG is Research Professor of American Studies and English with special interests in Transnational American Studies and all areas of life writing. These fields have implications for inter- and transdisciplinary methods as well as an extension of American literature and culture beyond the boundaries of the continental United States. In this sense he pursues the transatlantic and transpacific reaches of the classical canon of literary and cultural works from the eighteenth to the twenty-first century and recognizes new authors and new lines of transnational affiliations established by multiple migrations from different parts of the world. In these planetary efforts he cooperates with colleagues in Europe, the Americas, Australia, and China. He has been a long-time general editor of *American Studies: A Monograph Series* on behalf of the German Association of American Studies (GAAS) and is editor in chief of the *Journal of Transnational American Studies* (Stanford).

HEIDI KIM is Professor of English and Comparative Literature and Director of the Asian American Center at UNC Chapel Hill. Her work ranges through nineteenth and twentieth-century American literature and Asian American studies. Her monograph *Invisible Subjects: Asian Americans in Postwar Literature* (Oxford UP, 2016) resituates the work of Ralph Ellison, William Faulkner, John Steinbeck, and the Melville Revival critics through recent advances in Asian American studies and historiography. *Illegal Immigrants/Model Minorities: The Cold War of Chinese American Narrative* (Temple UP, 2020) extends this focus on the Cold War to the writing of and about Chinese Americans, who were dogged by the stigma of illegal immigration and paranoia about Communist infiltration. She also researches and speaks extensively on the literature and history of the Japanese American incarceration, including *Taken from the Paradise Isle* (UP Colorado, 2015), which won a Ka Palapala Po'okela Award from the Hawai'i Book Publishers Association.

JODI KIM is professor of English at Dartmouth College. Jodi Kim's research and teaching interests are at the broad intersections of Asian American literary and cultural studies; feminist and decolonial critiques of the conjunction of imperialism, settler colonialism, and militarism; and critical race and ethnic studies. Kim's first book, *Ends of Empire: Asian American Critique and the Cold War* (University of Minnesota Press, 2010), offers a feminist critique of US empire in Asia through an interdisciplinary analysis of how Asian American cultural productions shift, reframe, and critically extend dominant interpretations of the Cold War. A second book, *Settler Garrison: Debt Imperialism, Militarism, and Transpacific Imaginaries* (Duke University Press, 2022), extends the lines of inquiry grappled with in *Ends of Empire*. It analyzes how transpacific cultural productions at once make visible and imagine alternatives to US militarist and settler imperial projections of sovereignty in Asia and the Pacific in the post-World War II era.

SABINE KIM is a postdoctoral scholar affiliated with the Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies at the University of Mainz, Germany and a comanaging

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PIERRE MOURIER is a doctoral student at the University of Lyon 2, France. His dissertation, under the supervision of Prof. Olivier Richomme, aims at understanding the process of the Alt-Right's crystallization and its consequences on American politics (2014–2021). His recent works include a reflective paper on methodology and the organization of a panel on the future of conservatism at AFEA (French Association of American Studies).

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SHAHD QAZZAZ is a second-year PhD student of Literary Studies in the Department of American Studies at Eötvös Loránd University. Her area of interest centers on neo-orientalism in American news media and its relevance as a framework in advancing securitization efforts in the United States. Her research examines the framing of Middle Eastern affairs in American written news media and op-eds in relation to US security.

KASPER GROTLE RASMUSSEN is Associate Professor of American History at the Center for American Studies, University of Southern Denmark (Odense, Denmark). His research focuses on the intellectual history of America in the world, particularly related to conspiracy theories and US foreign policy in the twentieth and twenty-firstst centuries. He is interested in the transatlantic and transnational flow of ideas and the uses of history. Recent publications include the coauthored monograph *Conspiracy Theories and the Nordic Countries* (Routledge, 2021) and "From the *Protocols* to Pizzagate (and Beyond …): Conspiracy Theories and Disinformation in U.S. History" in *Handbook on Disinformation: A Multidisciplinary Analysis*, edited by Lisa Ginsborg and Paula Gori (Springer, 2025).

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MARK RICE is professor of American Studies at St. John Fisher University in Rochester, New York, where he has taught since 1998. He is the author of two books, *Through the Lens of the City: NEA Photography Surveys of the 1970s* (University Press of Mississippi, 2005), and *Dean Worcester's Fantasy Islands: Photography, Film, and the Colonial Philippines* (University of Michigan Press, 2014, and Ateneo De Manila University Press, 2015), and more than twenty scholarly articles and book chapters. His primary scholarly interests are photography and archives as sites of knowledge production. In recent years he has become increasingly interested in using digital mapping tools (ArcGIS) in the production of public-facing scholarship, with a particular emphasis on urban renewal.

DAVID STRUTHERS is a postdoctoral fellow at the IT University Copenhagen. His first monograph, titled *The World in a City: Multiethnic Radicalism in Early Twentieth Century Los Angeles* (University of Illinois Press, 2019), explores the potential for radical multiracial affinities in a city and region with a rapidly developing economy and large-scale immigration. The book was awarded the Shelley Fisher Fishkin Prize for International Scholarship in Transnational American Studies by American Studies Association in 2019. His volume *Wobblies of the World: A Global History of the IWW* (Pluto Press, 2017), edited with Peter Cole and Kenyon Zimmer, is the first global history of the Industrial Workers of the World.

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CAZMIR (CAZ) THOMAS-JORDAN ZABOROWSKI is a Polish African-American political scientist currently residing in Belgium. He is a recent graduate of the Free University of Brussels (VUB)'s Bachelor of Social Sciences program, an interdisciplinary degree encompassing sociology, communications, and political science. Of the three disciplines, Caz pursued a specialization in the political sciences and obtained his degree with distinctions. He is now pursuing a Master's in international relations at the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven). He intends to expand his knowledge and expertise on international politics, developing a well-informed comparative and critical frame of analysis to apply to everyday international political issues. His interdisciplinary background contributes greatly to his style of analysis, aiming to critically examine the logistical, personal, and interpersonal nuances that shape political issues and the rhetoric around them. Caz's work is largely concerned with how the workings of differently organized political, economic, and interpersonal networks and systems around the world impact the conversation about and enforcement of international human rights standards (or lack thereof). This particular focus blends sociology and political science, while his interest in how conflicts and certain political issues and events are framed to different audiences highlights the equal significance of the intersection between communications and politics in shaping the discourses and perspectives around world events. This combined, interdisciplinary approach is so incredibly important to the particular style of analysis that Caz aims to offer. No analysis is perfect, and that applies here as it does anywhere else. It is exactly for this reason that Caz advocates for a more interdisciplinary approach to political analysis. He believes that more lenses must be applied to better understand what drives and what can help resolve the political issues that are so often at the center of our society.

JUAN LUIS TORIBIO VAZQUEZ is a scholar of comparative literature with research interests in narrative form, modernism, postmodernism, world literature, and the intersections between literature and philosophy. He has taught at institutions in Spain, France, the UK, and Jamaica, and is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi. Juan Luis received his PhD from the University of Kent in 2018, funded by a 50th-Anniversary Scholarship. He is the author of *Circular Narratives in Modern European Literature* (2022) and co-editor and author of *Samuel Beckett as World Literature* (2020).

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