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# Contents

Editor's Introduction	v
<b>Art Across Frontiers Forum</b>	
Art across Frontiers: Cross-cultural Encounters in America STEPHANIE LEWTHWAITE	301
From Pantheon to Indian Gallery: Art and Sovereignty on the Early Nineteenth-Century Cultural Frontier ELIZABETH HUTCHINSON	313
Reworking the Spanish Colonial Paradigm: Mestizaje and Spirituality in Contemporary New Mexican Art STEPHANIE LEWTHWAITE	339
Hopi Film, the Indigenous Aesthetic and Environmental Justice: Victor Masayesva Jr.'s <i>Paatuwaqatsi – Water, Land and Life</i> MARTIN PADGET	363
Cinematic “Pas de Deux”: The Dialogue between Maya Deren's Experimental Filmmaking and Talley Beatty's Black Ballet Dancer in <i>A Study in Choreography for Camera</i> (1945) HANNAH DURKIN	385
The Being and Becoming of African Diaspora Art JACQUELINE FRANCIS	405
Americocentrism and Art of the Caribbean: Contours of a Time–Space Logic LEON WAINWRIGHT	417
<b>Articles</b>	
Native American Indian Freemasonry and Its Relation to the Performative Turn within Contemporary American Scholarship JOY PORTER	439
The Memorialization of Southern Poor White Men's Labor in Rick Bragg's Memoir Trilogy SARAH ROBERTSON	459

“On Fire with Hope”: African American Classical Musicians,  
*Major Bowes’ Amateur Hour*, and the Hope for a  
 Colour-Blind Radio 475

DAVID GOODMAN

Panoramic Vision, Telegraphic Language: Selling the American  
 West, 1869–1884 495

JENNIFER RAAB

The Ghost Dance and the Politics of Exclusion in Sherman  
 Alexie’s “Distances.” 521

TOM FARRINGTON

**Review Essay**

Alternative Atlantics: Anglo-American and German American  
 Literary Transnationalism in the Eighteenth and  
 Nineteenth Centuries 541

BRIAN YOTHERS

**Reviews** 551

**Reviews**

Mark N. Katz, <i>Leaving without Losing: The War on Terror after Iraq and Afghanistan</i>	551	Jerome Christensen, <i>America’s Corporate Art: The Studio Authorship of Hollywood Motion Pictures</i>	569
P. J. Marshall, <i>Remaking the British Atlantic: The United States and the British Empire after American Independence</i>	555	Thomas C. Mills, <i>Post-war Planning on the Periphery: Anglo-American Economic Diplomacy in South America, 1939–1945</i>	571
Lawrence A. Peskin and Edmund F. Wehrle, <i>America and the World: Culture, Commerce, Conflict</i>	557	Murray Forman, <i>One Night on TV Is Worth Weeks at the Paramount: Popular Music on Early Television</i>	572
Christian McWhirter, <i>Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music in the Civil War</i>	558	Robert Mason, <i>The Republican Party and American Politics from Hoover to Reagan</i>	575
Earl J. Hess, <i>The Civil War in the West: Victory and Defeat from the Appalachians to the Mississippi</i>	560	Michelle M. Nickerson, <i>Mothers of Conservatism: Women and the Postwar Right</i>	576
Robin Bernstein, <i>Racial Innocence: Performing American Childhood from Slavery to Civil Rights</i>	561	Christopher Bonastia, <i>Southern Stalemate: Five Years without Public Education in Prince Edward County, Virginia</i>	578
Donna R. Gabaccia, <i>Foreign Relations: American Immigration in Global Perspective</i>	562	Elissa Auther and Adam Lerner (eds.), <i>West of Center: Art and the Counterculture Experiment in America, 1965–1977</i>	581
Huping Ling, <i>Chinese Chicago: Race, Transnational Migration, and Community since 1870</i>	564	Jefferson Cowie, <i>Stayin’ Alive: The 1970s and the Last Days of the Working Class</i>	582
Sharon Corwin, Jessica May and Terri Weissman, <i>American Modern: Documentary Photography by Abbott, Evans, and Bourke-White</i>	565	Judith Lynne Hanna, <i>Naked Truth: Strip Clubs, Democracy, and a Christian Right</i>	584
Christopher Robert Reed, <i>The Depression Comes to the South Side: Protest and Politics in the Black Metropolis, 1930–1933</i>	568	Matt Grossmann, <i>The Not-So-Special Interests: Interest Groups, Public Representation, and American Governance</i>	586

## Exclusive Online Reviews

The following reviews are freely available in the online version of this issue at [www.journals.cambridge.org/ams](http://www.journals.cambridge.org/ams)

- Julie Berebitsky, *Sex and the Office: A History of Gender, Power, and Desire*  
Patrick M. Erben, *A Harmony of the Spirits: Translation and the Language of Community in Early Pennsylvania*  
Christopher Hodson, *The Acadian Diaspora: An Eighteenth-Century History*  
Crawford Gribben, *Evangelical Millennialism in the Trans-Atlantic World, 1500–2000*  
Jeff Broadwater, *James Madison: A Son of Virginia and a Founder of the Nation*  
Gilbert C. Din, *War on the Gulf Coast: The Spanish Fight against William Augustus Bowles*  
Andrew Delbanco, *The Abolitionist Imagination; with Commentaries by John Stauffer, Manisha Sinha, Darryl Pinckney, and Wilfrid M. McClay*  
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Elizabeth D. Leonard, *Lincoln's Forgotten Ally: Judge Advocate General Joseph Holt of Kentucky*  
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Victoria Saker Woeste, *Henry Ford's War on Jews and the Legal Battle against Hate Speech*  
Patrick D. Lukens, *A Quiet Victory for Latino Rights: FDR and the Controversy over "Whiteness"*  
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Daniel Horowitz, *Consuming Pleasures: Intellectuals and Popular Culture in the Postwar World*  
Carolyn Goldstein, *Creating Consumers*  
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Paula VW Dáil, *Women and Poverty in 21st Century America*  
Marni Gauthier, *Amnesia and Redress in Contemporary American Fiction: Counterhistory*



# Editors' Introduction

In this issue, we are honoured to feature the collection *Art across Frontiers: Cross-Cultural Encounters in America*, edited by Stephanie Lewthwaite. With scholars working within the related fields of African American studies, Latin American studies, American studies, cultural studies, and art history, this is a theoretically groundbreaking and intellectually innovative set of essays, showcasing interdisciplinary research at its most self-reflexive and exploratory as it interrogates art-historical traditions within transatlantic and transnational perspectives. Among its major achievements is the pioneering critique of the formal and thematic ambiguities and ambivalences surrounding agency, authority, and artistry.

The collection is complemented by other essays, including studies of Native American freemasonry, African American classical musicians, and the Ghost Dance. In our electronic section, meanwhile, we feature Graham Lock's companion piece to *Art across Frontiers*, looking at the way that Native American, African American, European, Islamic, Indian, and African cultures have influenced the art of the influential American painter Joe Overstreet, and played a role in his abandonment of the physical frame of the painting to embrace "nomadic art".

The review section also features Brian Yothers's review essay of four works looking at early Anglo-American literary relations and Jason Burke's feature-length review of a new book on America's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, while we present our usual array of reviews in the print and electronic sections of the journal.