
"New World Poetics: Nature and the Adamic Imagination in Whiteman, Neruda, and Walcott", George Handley, Georgia 2007 : [recenzja]

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej bazhum.muzhp.pl, gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

dents of literature and culture and thus, trigger processes leading to the eradication of the yawning gap in the Polish Americanist bibliography. The present *Prolegomena*, the first full-fledged academic book in Polish dedicated solely to Melville, were created to serve an ancillary function: the book, informed by its author's original vision of Melville-the-thinker, collects information compiled on the basis of research carried out throughout the past century by numerous Melvilleans: literary scholars, biographers and historians alike, whose work is either completely unknown to the Polish reader—or its circulation is limited to a narrow group of specialists.

The synthesis offered here does not presume to replace or substitute works by eminent Melville scholars from all over the world: conversely, in response to the need for reliable information concerning the writer, the present book proposes a convenient starting point for further, in-depth research and facilitates navigation through the different trends of Melville studies, especially those deriving from the USA. It will be extremely useful to scholars with beginning interests in Melville, students of literature (especially graduate and post-graduate students working on dissertations), teachers of 19th-century American literature, and Melville fans. This introductory synthesis may prove to be useful in temporarily filling the existing void in the Polish scholarly bibliography regarding this author, thus potentially inspiring Polish studies on the life and work of one of the most eminent thinkers and writers of the 19th century. (<http://www.jedrzejko.eu/index.php?k=388>)

New World Poetics: Nature and the Adamic Imagination in Whiteman, Neruda, and Walcott,

By George Handley, forthcoming, University of Georgia Press, 2007.

A simultaneously ecocritical and comparative study, *New World Poetics* plumbs the earthly depth and social breadth of the poetry of Walt Whitman, Pablo Neruda, and Derek Walcott, three of the Americas' most ambitious and epic-minded poets. In Whitman's call for a poetry of New World possibility, Neruda's invocation of an "American love," and Walcott's reinvestment in the poetic ironies of an American epic, the adamic imagination of their poetry does not reinvent the mythical Garden that stands before history's beginnings but instead taps the foundational powers of language before a natural world deeply imbued with the traces of human time. Theirs is a postlapsarian Adam seeking a renewed sense of place in a biocentric and cross-cultural New World through nature's capacity for regeneration in the wake of human violence and suffering. This book introduces the environmental history of the Americas and its relationship to the foundation of American and Latin American studies, explores its relevance to each poet's ambition to recuperate the New World's lost histories, and provides a transnational poetics of understanding literary influence and textual simultaneity in the Americas. This study provides in-depth ecocritical readings



of each poet's major poems, insisting on the need for thoughtful regard for the challenge that nature's regenerative powers pose to human imagination; nuanced appreciation for the difficulty of balancing the demands of social justice within the context of deep time; and the symptomatic dangers and healing potential of human self-consciousness in light of global environmental degradation.

The New North American Studies: Culture, Writing and the Politics of Re/Cognition

By Winfried Siemerling, Routledge University Press, 2007.

In this original and ground-breaking study, Winfried Siemerling examines the complexities of recognition and identity, rejecting previous nationalized thinking to approach North American cultural transformations from transnational and interdisciplinary perspectives. Using material from the United States and Canada as case studies and drawing on a wide range of texts and theorists, he examines postcoloniality and cultural emergence from the sixties to the present against earlier backgrounds. Siemerling's argument for a re-theorization of the field takes on the full history of multiculturalism debates, including radical readings of W.E.B. DuBois and Charles Taylor and their relation to G.W.F. Hegel, and challenging many of the models of multiculturalism in use today. Tackling controversial subjects such as identity politics, *The New North American Studies* proposes a fresh outlook on the most central issues of North American cultural politics, from debates on canon formation to the role of racial and linguistic difference. Concluding with a look at the future of cultural difference, Siemerling's study is an innovative rethinking of the whole field of North American Studies.

Les jardins des Amériques: éden, "home" et maison: le Canada et les Amériques

by Patrick Imbert (dir.), Ottawa, Chaire de recherche de l'Université d'Ottawa : Canada : jeux sociaux et culturels dans une société du savoir, 2007, 246 pp.

Comment le rêve du Jardin d'Éden est-il recontextualisé dans les Amériques? On peut le voir dans ses espaces contemporains comme le terrain de baseball, à la fois protecteur et ouvert sur l'illimité de la frontière, ou le bungalow et sa cour arrière. Cette maison de banlieue, entre ville et campagne, déplace l'opposition barbarie/civilisation qui a fondé les cultures du Nouveau Monde. Celles-ci ont rejeté le nomadisme des Autochtones pour valoriser l'enracinement par la maison et la nation. Cette territorialisation est transformée par la mondialisation. La maison devient un 'home', une maison transportable qui prend son sens par un système de valeurs. Alors, l'identité se transforme en images de soi caméléones explorant le transculturel.

Dans ce contexte, que deviennent les métaphores de la racine et de l'arbre généalogique des discours théoriques, de leurs champs de recherche, de leurs études de terrain et de leurs embranchements? Elles se muent en réseaux rhizomatiques liés