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# "Les jardins des Amériques: éden, "home" et maison: le Canada et les Amériques", Patrick Imbert, Ottawa 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](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.



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

à la légitimation des déplacements géographiques et symboliques. Le jardin cède la place aux réseaux. Ils stimulent ceux qui, partis du jardin d'Éden perdu, tentent d'explorer les dynamiques démocratiques et libérales dans un devenir ouvert sur les possibles des rencontres.

***Visibility Beyond the Visible: The Artistic Discourse of American Transcendentalism***

by Alben Bakratheva, New Bulgarian University Publishing House, 2007, 350 pp.

This book deals with the poetics of American Transcendentalism. Beginning with the idea that the major New England transcendentalists were of the utmost literary significance, and focusing on their many-sided artistic discourse, the book's inevitable European perspective enhances its preoccupation with the Americanness of the movement, thus emphasizing the uniqueness of the interrelation between sense of place and artistry that the transcendentalists' writings offer. Moving from an exploration of the Transcendentalists' Puritan background to the complex relations of American Transcendentalism with British Romanticism, the book ends with a lengthy consideration of Emerson's ideas of self-reliance, in comparison to those of Thoreau.

***From Lowbrow to Nobrow***

By Peter Swirski, McGill-Queen's UP, 2006.

Swirski begins with a series of groundbreaking questions about the nature of popular fiction, vindicating it as an art form that expresses and reflects the aesthetic and social values of its readers. He follows his insightful introduction to the socio-aesthetics of genre literature with a synthesis of the century-long debate on the merits of popular fiction and a study of genre informed by analytic aesthetics and game theory. Swirski then turns to three "nobrow" novels that have been largely ignored by critics. Examining the aesthetics of "artertainment," he sheds new light on the relationship between popular forms and highbrow aesthetics.

***All Roads Lead to the American***

by Peter Swirski, City (HKUP, 2007).

Examining the history, cinema, literature, cultural myths and social geography of the United States, Peter Swirski's new collection, *All Roads Lead to the American City*, puts some of the greatest as well as the 'baddest' American cities under the microscope. Examining the role of the roads that crisscross and connect the cities, it looks for ways to understand the people who live, commute, work, create, govern, commit crime and conduct business in them. Cities, for the most part, are America. Their values and problems define not only what the United States is, but what other nations perceive the United States to be. Roads and transportation, on the other hand, and