Contents

List of Figures	vi
List of Case Studies	vii
Acknowledgements	viii
Chronology of 1990s American Culture	ix
Introduction: The Intellectual Context	1
1. Fiction and Poetry	35
2. Music and Radio	65
3. Film and Television	97
4. Art and Architecture	133
5. Digital Culture	169
Conclusion: Towards a New Millennium	199
Notes	209
Bibliography	227
Index	237

Figures

I.1	Growth of inequality in the USA (1960–97)	8
I.2	Anita Hill testifying to a Senate Committee (1991)	15
I.3	O. J. Simpson in car chase (1994)	24
1.1	Toni Morrison and Oprah Winfrey (1996)	39
2.1	Teenage mourning at the Kurt Cobain memorial (1994)	75
2.2	Tupac Shakur on stage (1992)	89
3.1	Military press conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1991)	100
3.2	Video footage of Los Angeles police officers beating	
	Rodney King (1991)	105
3.3	Dinosaur meets clone in Jurassic Park (1993)	113
3.4	John Travolta and Uma Thurman in <i>Pulp Fiction</i> (1994)	115
3.5	The perimeter wall around the set of <i>Titanic</i> , Popotla,	
	Mexico (1998)	121
3.6	Jerry Seinfeld and Jason Alexander in <i>Seinfeld</i> (1990–8)	123
4.1	Kara Walker, Slavery! Slavery! (1997)	143
4.2	Sarah Sze, Second Means of Egress (1998)	149
4.3	Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Head #1 (2001)	153
4.4	Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao (1991–7)	161
4.5	Zhang Huan, My New York (2002)	167
C.1	Riot police at a damaged store in Seattle (1999)	204

Case Studies

Introduction	
Post-feminism and the Backlash	16
The O. J. Simpson Trial	22
Bowling Alone (2000)	31
1. Fiction and Poetry	
Paradise (1997)	40
Two Asian American Poets: Lawson Fusao Inada and	
Li-Young Lee	48
Frisk (1991)	57
2. Music and Radio	
Nirvana (1987–94)	73
Tupac Shakur (1971–96; 1991–present)	87
Napster and Music on the Internet	94
3. Film and Television	
Watching the Watchmen: the Rodney King video	106
Happiness (Todd Solondz, 1998)	116
The Simpsons (1989-present)	128
4. Art and Architecture	
Kara Walker	144
Bill Viola	155
Frank Gehry	161
5. Digital Culture	
Howard Rheingold, The Virtual Community (1993)	178
Regulating the Net	189
Body Maps: The Human Genome Project and the Visible	
Human Project	194