

Contents

Preface VII

List of Figures, Charts, Tables, and Maps XI

Introduction 1

PART 1

Towards a Theory of Cultural Sainthood

- 1 Remembering the Dead: Contexts of Cultural Sainthood 11
 - Cultural Memory and Invisible Religion 14
 - Nationalism and Civil Religion 23
 - Relics, Rituals, and Postulators 29

- 2 Commemorative Cults of Poets and Writers: A Historical Perspective 35
 - From Poets' Hero Cults to the Concept of Canonicity 36
 - Medieval and Early Modern Europe: From "Poets Laureate" to the Petrarch Cult 42
 - The Cult of Centenary and *Denkmalwut* 51
 - Ritual and Cult as the Core of Commemorative Culture 58
 - The Rise of National Poets as Paradigmatic Cultural Saints 61

- 3 The Canonization of Cultural Saints: A Dynamic Model 71
 - Canonization, Canon, and Cultural Saints 72
 - Vita*: Potentials of the Individual for Canonization 78
 - Cultus*: The Production and Reproduction of Canonical Status 81
 - Effectus*: Consequences for Society at Large 91

PART 2

National Poets from the European Periphery: Two Case Studies

- 4 "Glory to Prešeren!": Canonizing a Paradigmatic Cultural Saint 99
 - Examining the Threads of *Vita* 100
 - Opera*: Poetic Cult and the "European Level" 106
 - A Prelude to Canonization: The Tombstones 111

	Vodnik, the “First Slovenian Poet”	115
	The Prešeren Centenary and the Monument to the National Genius	122
	From the Monument to the National Anthem	134
	The “Slovenian Cultural Syndrome”	144
5	“I Sensed Your Desire for Your Home”: Postulators of the Memory of Jónas Hallgrímsson	149
	<i>Vita and Persona: Prešeren’s Nordic Twin</i>	150
	<i>Opera and Acta: “His Story Still Can Make the Heart Beat High”</i>	155
	<i>Postulators: The Role of Friends and Relatives</i>	160
	The Jónas Monument and the Icelandic Flag	168
	The Translation and Reburial of the Poet’s Relics	176
	Cultural Saints and Cultural Capital	185
	Epilogue	189
	Bibliography	205
	Index of Names	226