

Contents

I	Introduction	I
	Of Empires and the German Nation	2
	From National to World Literature	6
	Disclaimers and a Glance Ahead	11
2	National Origins and the Imperial Past	15
	Hermann: A German Hero?	19
	The Janus-Faced Roman Empire	22
	Imperial Germany and the Legacy of Rome	24
3	German Literary History and the Medieval Renaissance	33
	<i>The Song of Anno</i>	35
	Walther von der Vogelweide	40
	Early Modern Nuremberg	48
	Conclusion	54
4	Silesian Patriots and Imperial Subjects	55
	Seventeenth-Century Silesia	59
	Andreas Gryphius: Religious Faith and Imperial Politics	61
	Daniel Casper von Lohenstein: The <i>Trauerspiel</i> as a Trojan Horse	69
	Race and Resistance in Lohenstein's <i>Arminius</i>	75
	Conclusion	78
5	Goethe and the End of the Holy Roman Empire	81
	The End of an Empire	83
	Goethe's Early Experience of the Empire	85

	Young Goethe and the German Nation	89
	Literary Politics in a Revolutionary Age	95
	<i>Hermann and Dorothea</i> : Infinitely Limited	98
	<i>Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship</i> :	
	Personal <i>Bildung</i> and National Theater	101
	<i>Faust II</i> : Anachronistic Empire and the New Imperialism	107
	<i>Weltliteratur</i> in Contemporary Context	113
6	Romantic Nationalism and Imperial Nostalgia	119
	Friedrich Schlegel's Political Theory	123
	Eichendorff: Conservative Catholic and Prussian Civil Servant	126
	<i>Presentiment and Presence</i> : Local Patriotism and Philosophical Pessimism	128
	<i>Durande Castle</i> : Elegiac Conservatism	135
7	Worldly Provincialism in Imperial Germany	143
	Gottfried Keller: A Swiss Liberal for the German <i>Kultur</i> nation	148
	Between Germany and Switzerland	151
	Swiss Federalism versus German Imperialism	157
	Theodor Fontane: A Prussian Cosmopolitan	160
	<i>Effi Briest</i> : Psychographic Realism	161
	Conclusion	174
8	Collapsing Empires and Nascent Nations	177
	Thomas Mann and Franz Kafka: Antipodes and Affinities	178
	Locating Franz Kafka	180
	Minor Literatures and the Yiddish Language	185
	The Chinese Wall and a Talking Ape	188
	Continuity and Change in the Work of Thomas Mann	195
	From the German Empire to the Weimar Republic	201
9	Revisiting the <i>Heimat</i> after the Third Reich	215
	Siegfried Lenz: The Joys of Duty and the Language of Silence	217
	Günter Grass: A Rootless Cosmopolitan Resists Reunification	225
	<i>The Flounder</i> : Local History in Global Context	228
	Coda	234

10	Popular Fiction and the Imperial Past	237
	Daniel Kehlmann, <i>Measuring the World</i>	239
	Christian Kracht, <i>Imperium</i>	248
11	Conclusion: National Literature in an Era of World Literature	255
	<i>Notes</i>	265
	<i>Works Cited</i>	293
	<i>Index</i>	321