

Contents

Acknowledgments vi

- 1 The Theory of American World Literature 1
References 25
- 2 Early American Literature in the World 30
2.1 Contact Zones and Extended Scales 30
2.2 The Classical Counter-narrative 41
2.3 The Early American Novel's Transatlantic Axis 51
2.4 Thomas Paine and Universal Order 63
References 69
- 3 National/Global: The Framing of Nineteenth-Century American Literature 75
3.1 National Agendas and Transnational Dialogues 75
3.2 Slavery's Global Compass 92
3.3 Planetary Space and Intellectual Distance 113
References 119
- 4 The Worlds of American Modernism 126
4.1 The American Novel and the Great War 126
4.2 The Esthetics of Contradiction 146
4.3 American Studies and World Literature: *The Great Gatsby* and *The Grapes of Wrath* 156
References 165
- 5 Postmodernism, Globalization, and US Literary Culture 171
5.1 The Politics of Postmodernism 171
5.2 Styles of Globalization 176
5.3 Disorientation and Reorientation: Kincaid, Morrison, Kingston 193
References 202
- Index 208