Contents

	List of Figures	ix
	Preface	xi
	Acknowledgments	xv
1	A Theory of Popular Culture From the South	1
	 1.1 Popular Culture: A Theory From the South 1 1.2 Folklore Fades Out 4 1.3 Cultural Circulation and Hegemony Remain: Concluding Remarks 8 	
2	A Critical Model of European Carnival	14
	2.1 European Popular Carnival: A Model 14 2.2 The "Carnivalesque" 21	
	2.3 Masks and Masking 24	
	2.4 Feasting and Binging, Waste and	
	Unproductiveness 31	
	2.5 The Trial, the Scapegoat, and Door-to-Door	
	Processions 38	
3	The Elusive Origins of Carnival	53
	3.1 Ritual Transvestism, Zoomorphism, and the	
	Prehistory of Carnival in Late Antique and Early	
	Medieval Times 53	
	3.2 Ancient Predecessors and the Methodological	
	Conundrum 59	
	3.3 The "Religion of Carnival," the Shamanic	
	Hypothesis, and More Methodological	
	Conundra 77	

viii Contents

4	Ritual Inversions, Cultural Hegemony, and the Structure of the Conjuncture	102
	4.1 The Inversions of Carnival (in Rome, for	
	Example) 102	
	4.2 Three Interpretative Models (With Reflections on	
	Revolts and Revolutions) 114	
	4.3 Cultural Hegemony, Resignation, and	
	Dehistorification (and More Case Studies) 133	
	4.4 Rituality, (Anti-)Structural Events, and the Oblique	
	Politics of Carnival 150	
	4.5 Final Remarks 168	
	Bibliography	187
	Index	211