Whitman's Presence-Body Voice And Writing In Leaves Of Grass

Whitman's Presence-Tenney Nathanson 1994-03 “Nathanson addresses with renewed insight a problem that has vexed Whitman scholars at least since James E. Miller, Jr.’s A Critical Guide to Leaves of Grass turned Whitman into a respectable academic subject; that is, the unusual status of Whitman's poetic voice. . . . The overall result is the finest articulation of Whitman’s project in existence.”—Donald Pease, Department of English, Dartmouth College "What enables Nathanson to perform a feat no other critic has accomplished depends as much on his awareness of a range of thinkers from Wittgenstein to J.L. Austin and Derrida as on his sense of the qualities of poetry: he gives the term presence a cultural as well as poetic significance which opens it up to cultural history, and makes Whitman as much a representative presence in the culture as our unqualified poet. I see this as a central book about our literature.”—Quentin Anderson, J.C. Levi Professor in the Humanities Emeritus, Columbia University

Walt Whitman-J. R. LeMaster 1998-01 The Routledge Encyclopedia of Walt Whitman presents a comprehensive resource compiled by over 200 internationally recognized contributors, including such leading Whitman scholars as James E. Miller, Jr., Roger Asselineau, Betsy Erkilla, and Joel Myerson. Now available for the first time in paperback, this volume comprises more than 750 entries arranged in convenient alphabetical format. Coverage includes: biographical information: all names, dates, places, and events important to understanding Whitman’s life and career Whitman’s works: essays on all eight editions of “Leaves of Grass,” major poems and poem clusters, principal essays and prose works, as well as his more than two dozen short stories and the novel, Franklin Evans prominent themes and concepts: essays on such major topics as democracy, slavery, the Civil War, immortality, sexuality, and the women’s rights movement, significant forms and techniques: such as prosody, symbolism, free verse, and humour important trends and critical approaches in Whitman studies: including new historicist and cultural criticism, psychological explorations, and controversial issues of sexual identity surveys of Whitman’s international impact as well as an assessment of his literary legacy. Useful for students, researchers, librarians, teachers, and Whitman devotees, this volume features extensive cross-references, numerous photographs of the poet, a chronology, a special appendix section tracking the poet’s genealogy, and a thorough index. Each entry includes a bibliography for further study.

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The Erotic Whitman-Vivian R. Pollak 2000-08-04 "Absorbing and incisive, The Erotic Whitman makes an important contribution not only to our understanding of the dynamics of nineteenth-century literary history but also, more generally, to American studies and gender studies, in particular to the increasingly lively study of the subject now called ‘masculinities.’” —Sandra Gilbert, author of Wrongful Death: A Medical Tragedy and, with Susan Gubar, of The Madwoman in the Attic "The Erotic Whitman moves skillfully between Whitman’s use of the sexualized body and his dreams for the body politic, drawing on Whitman’s biography to provide newly informed, illuminating readings of his work. This work should place Pollak solidly alongside other elite Whitman scholars, such as Michael Moon, M. Jimmie Killingsworth, and Betsy Erkilla.”—Emory Elliott, Distinguished Professor of English, University of California, Riverside "This is an incisive, venturesome, carefully-argued contribution to an often-discussed but still insufficiently-understood dimension of Whitman’s life, writing, and significance--its biographical-historical bases, its aesthetics, its cultural-political implications. One may at certain points dispute, but at no point fail to respect, Pollak's thoughtful unfolding of her subject from Whitman’s early family life to the myth of democratic masculinity in his later poetry.”—Lawrence Buell, author of The Environmental Imagination: Thoreau, Nature Writing, and the Formation of American Culture "This is an imaginative and sensitive book about the profoundly personal sources of Whitman’s poetry in his relations with his family and his male lovers. Through illuminating readings of Whitman’s early fiction, his various editions of Leaves of Grass, and Democratic Vistas, Pollak argues that Whitman’s democratic and homoerotic dream vision is frequently at odds with the realities of his life as son, brother, and lover. Pollak’s scholarship is impressive and massive, and she brings new insights to bear on many dimensions of Whitman’s life and writing. She is particularly attentive to the place and plight of women in Whitman’s work. Her book will be widely read and appreciated, especially by Whitman scholars and others interested in the psychosexual and biographical sources of art." —Betsy Erkilla, author of Whitman the Poet

Whitman & Dickinson-Éric Athenot 2018-01-15 Whitman & Dickinson is the first collection to bring together original essays by European and North American scholars directly linking the poetry and ideas of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson. This 2004 book contains revisionary readings of literary texts and theories through analysis of sound, signature, and letters.

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men, and accepts such leavings from them at last. —Walt Whitman, from "This Compost" How did Whitman use language to figure out his relationship to the earth, and how can we interpret his language to reconstruct the interplay between the poet and his sociopolitical and environmental world? In this first book-length study of Whitman’s poetry from an ecocritical perspective, Jimmie Killingsworth takes ecocriticism one step further into ecopoetics to reconsider both Whitman’s language in light of an ecological understanding of the world and the world through a close study of Whitman’s language. Killingsworth contends that Whitman’s poetry embodies the kinds of conflicted experience and language that continually crop up in the discourse of political ecology and that an ecopoetic perspective can explicate Whitman’s feelings about his aging body, his war-torn nation, and the increasing stress on the American environment both inside and outside the urban world. He begins with a close reading of "This Compost"—Whitman’s greatest contribution to the literature of "ecology," from the 1856 edition of Leaves of Grass. He then explores personification and nature as object, as resource, and as spirit and examines manifest destiny and the globalizing impulse behind Leaves of Grass, then moves the other way, toward Whitman’s regional, even local appeal—demonstrating that he remained an island poet even as he became America’s first urban poet. After considering Whitman as an urbanizing poet, he shows how, in his final writings, Whitman tried to renew his earlier connection to nature. Walt Whitman and the Earth reveals Whitman as a powerfully creative experimental poet and a representative figure in American culture whose struggles and impulses previewed our lives today.

Ghosts of Futures Past-Molly McGarry 2012-09-30 "Ghosts of Futures Past is a path-breaking book of vast learning and scrupulous scholarship by a gifted writer. With an impressive command of a variety of cultural domains, Molly McGarry brilliantly rethinks and reframes the relations of gender and intellectual culture, of spiritualism and secularism, and of rationalization and modernity in ways that realign our understanding of the American cultural landscape in the nineteenth century."—Thomas Bender, author of The Unfinished City: New York and the Metropolitan Idea "In discussing the transfiguration of bodies and genders in American Spiritualism, McGarry provides a fascinating critique of the secularist bias of much of the history of sexuality. This is perhaps the weightiest, the most thoughtful, the most powerfully original, of all the many contributions her book makes."—Henry Abelove, author of The Evangelist of Desire: John Wesley and the Methodists and Deep Gossip "What might American history of the nineteenth century look like if we were not in such a rush to declare religious faith supplanted by science? McGarry’s book provides tantalizing answers, inviting us to consider a nineteenth century Americanism where Spiritualists persisted and where people had good reasons to mourn. She not only shows us the popularity and centrality of connecting the living to the dead, she argues convincingly that this spiritual practice shaped a whole host of other cultural narratives: gender, sexuality, medicine, race, and ethnicity."—Kathi Kern, author of Mrs. Stanton’s Bible

The Architecture of Address-Jake Adam York 2005 First Published in 2005. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

"A Different Sense of Power"-Thomas Pynchon 2001 This volume analyzes the work of a racially, ethnically, and geographically diverse group of recent social poets. These figures -- Thylias Moss, John Yau, Denise Duchamel, Carolyn Forche, Joseph Lease, Gloria Anzaldua, Martin Espada, Melvin Dixon, and Stephen Paul Miller -- utilize a diversity of aesthetic strategies to address a number of central problems, such as poetic speculations about dangers and opportunities of visual representations by dominant and marginalized groups, effacement of specific communities’ histories, and attempts at restoration of history.

Nineteenth-Century American Literature and the Long Civil War-Cody Marrs 2015-07-22 Nineteenth-century American literature is often divided into two asymmetrical halves, neatly separated by the Civil War. Focusing on the later writings of Walt Whitman, Frederick Douglass, Herman Melville, and Emily Dickinson, this book shows how the war took shape across the nineteenth century, inflecting literary forms for decades after 1865.

The Afterlives of Specimens-Lindsay Tuggle 2017-11-15 The Afterlives of Specimens explore the space between science and sentiment, the historical moment when the human cadaver became both lost love object and subject of anatomical violence. Walt Whitman witnessed rapid changes in relations between the living and the dead. In the space of a few decades, dissection evolved from a posthumous punishment inflicted on criminals to an element of preservationist technology. The presidential corpse of Abraham Lincoln. Whitman transitioned from a fervent opponent of medical bodysnatching to a literary celebrity who left behind instructions for his own autopsy, including the removal of his brain for scientific study. Grounded in archival discoveries, The Afterlives traces the origins of nineteenth-century America’s preservation compulsion, illuminating the influences of botanical, medical, spiritualist, and sentimental discourses on Whitman’s work. Tuggle explores previously unrecognized connections between Whitman and the leading “medical men” of his era, such as the surgeon John H. Brinton, founding curator of the Army Medical Museum, and Silas Weir Mitchell, the neurologist who discovered phantom limb syndrome. Remains from several amputee soldiers whom Whitman nursed in the Washington hospitals became specimens in the Army Medical Museum. Tuggle is the first scholar to analyze Whitman’s role in medically memorializing the human cadaver and its abandoned parts.

Transcendental Wordplay-Michael West 2000 Throughout the first half of the nineteenth century, America was captivated by a muddled notion of “etymology.” New England Transcendentalism was only one outcropping of a nationwide movement in which schoolmasters across small-town America taught students the roots of words in ways that dramatized religious issues and sparked wordplay. Shaped by this ferment, our major romantic authors shared the sensibility that Friedrich Schlegel linked to punning and christened “romantic irony.” Notable punsters or etymologists all, they gleefully set up as sages, creating jocular masterpieces from words drawn from both the vernacular and the classical. To fathom their essentially comic masterpieces we must decipher it. Interpreting Thoreau as an ironic moralist, satirist, and social critic rather than a nature-loving mystic, Transcendental Wordplay suggests that the major American Romantics shared a surprising conservatism. In this award-winning study, Professor West rescues the pun from critical contempt and allows readers to enjoy it as a serious form of American humor.

Language of the Senses-Kerry McSweeney 1998-07-08 McSweeney discusses the sensory acuity that informed Wordsworth’s, Coleridge’s, Thoreau’s, Whitman’s, and Dickinson’s finest achievements and then, when blunted by illness or age, contributed to an attenuation of their creative power. He supplies a “sensory profile” or sensory history for each author and through close readings shows how this profile affected their relationship to the external world and their powers of symbolic perception. Using perspectives gleaned from the poets themselves and an understanding of the physiological ground of perception, McSweeney establishes a compelling theoretical basis for his approach. In clear and elegant prose, he studies the physical basis for aesthetic plenitude - such as the sensory manifold of synaesthesia - not only in the Romantic writers mentioned above but also in two Victorian poets, Hopkins and Tennyson.

Whitman’s Poetry of the Body-M. Jimmie Killingsworth 1991-02 This book combines literary and historical analysis in a study of sexuality in Walt Whitman’s work. Informed by his "new historicist" understanding of the construction of literary texts, Jimmie Killingsworth examines the progression of Whitman’s poetry an

The Seeing and the Seen-Beverly Maeder 2006 Taking their cue from the polymorphic relationship between word and image, the essays of this book explore how different media translate the world of phenomena into aesthetic, intellectual or sensual experience. They embrace the media of poetry, fiction, drama, engraving, painting, photography, film and advertising posters ranging from the early modern to the postmodern periods. At the heart of the volume lie essays on works that characteristically perform intriguing interactions between the verbal and visual modes. They discuss the manifold ways in which artists as different as William Blake or Gertrude Stein, Diane Arbus or Stanley Kubrick heighten the tension between the linguistic and the seen. Taken both individually and collectively, this volume’s contributions illuminate the problems of how readers and spectators/lookers transform verbal and visual representation into worlds of seemingly.
American Metempsychosis—John Michael Corrigan 2012 American Metempsychosis explores the ancient concept of metempsychosis as a precursor to the idea of history. In the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Walt Whitman, metempsychosis serves as a form of American self-knowing - the effort to reshape identity through a self's heightened awareness of its own cognitive succession.

A Race of Singers—Bryan K. Garman 2000 When Walt Whitman published Leaves of Grass in 1855, he dreamed of inspiring a “race of singers” who would celebrate the working class and realize the promise of American democracy. By examining how singers such as Woody Guthrie, Bob Dylan, and Bruce Springsteen, Whitman's presence body voice and writing in Leaves of Grass. Secular Revelations—Mitchell Meltzer 2005 The United States Constitution is a quintessentially political document. Yet, until now, no one has seriously considered the formative influence of this document on American cultural life. In this ambitious book, Mitchell Meltzer demonstrates the extent to which the Constitution is both source and inspiration for America’s greatest literary masterworks.

The Esoteric Origins of the American Renaissance—Arthur Versluis 2001-03-08 The term “Western esotericism” refers to a wide range of spiritual currents including alchemy, Hermeticism, Kabbala, Rosicrucianism, and Christian theosophy, as well as several practical forms of esotericism like cartomancy, geomancy, necromancy, alchemy, astrology, herbalism, and magic. The early presence of esotericism in North America has not been much studied, and even less so the indebtedness to esotericism of some major American literary figures. In this book, Arthur Versluis breaks new ground, showing that many writers of the so-called American Renaissance drew extensively on and were inspired by Western esoteric currents.

Encyclopedia of American Literature—EPUB 2-3 2013 Four volumes present a comprehensive reference guide to American literature from the colonial period through the present.

A New Theory for American Poetry—Angus Fletcher 2009-06-30 Amid gloomy forecasts of the decline of the humanities and the death of poetry, Angus Fletcher, a wise and dedicated literary voice, sounds a note of powerful, tempered optimism. He lays out a fresh approach to American poetry at large, the first in several decades, expounding a defense of the art that will resonate well into the new century. Breaking with the tired habit of treating American poets as the happy or rebellious children of European romanticism, Fletcher uncovers a distinct lineage for American poetry. His point of departure is the fascinating English writer, John Clare; he then centers on the radically American vision expressed by Emerson and Walt Whitman. With Whitman this book insists that “the whole theory and nature of poetry” needs inspiration from science if it is to achieve a truly democratic vista. Drawing variouls on Complexity Theory and on fundamentals of art and grammar, Fletcher argues that our finest poetry is nature-based, environmentally shaped, and descriptive in aim, enabling poets like John Ashbery and other contemporaries to discover a mysterious pragmatism. Intense, resonant, and deeply literary, this account of an American poetics shows how today’s consumerist and conformist culture subverts the imagination of a free people. While centering on American vision, the argument extends our horizon, striking a blow against all economically sanctioned attacks upon the finer, stronger human capacities. Poetry, the author maintains, is central to any coherent vision of life.
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