This wide-ranging comparative study argues for a fundamental reassessment of the literary history of the nineteenth-century United States within the transamerican and multilingual contexts that shaped it. Drawing on an array of texts in English, French, and Spanish by both canonical and neglected writers and activists, Anna Brickhouse investigates interactions between US, Latin American, and Caribbean literatures. Her many examples and case studies include the Mexican genealogies of Nathaniel Hawthorne, the rewriting of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by a Haitian dramatist, and a French Caribbean translation of the poetry of Phillis Wheatley. Brickhouse uncovers lines of literary influence and descent linking Philadelphia and Havana, Port-au-Prince and Boston, Paris and New Orleans. She argues for a new understanding of this most formative period of literary production in the United States as a "transamerican renaissance," a rich era of literary border crossing and transcontinental cultural exchange. This innovative and important contribution will open up new directions in the field of American literary studies.

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TRANSAMERICAN LITERARY RELATIONS AND THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY PUBLIC SPHERE

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Acknowledgments

For generous support of my work on this project at the most crucial stages, I thank the University of Colorado and in particular the fellowship programs in Junior Faculty Development, Implementing Multicultural Perspectives in Research and Teaching, and Undergraduate Research Opportunities. I also want to thank my colleagues in the English department here, who have offered me encouragement, indispensable advice, and innumerable kinds of support through the research and writing of this book, Nan Goodman, Suzanne Juhasz, and Lee Krauth read early and late drafts and offered their encouragement; Karen Jacobs and Jane Garrity brought to bear their sharp editorial skills and asked many insightful questions as I was completing the manuscript. For pointing me along the way to important resources and studies, I thank my colleagues in ethnic American and postcolonial studies, including Adééké Adéékò, Frederick Aldama, Arnab Chakladar, Cheryl Higashida, Daniel Kim, Vincent Woodard, and especially John-Michael Rivera, who read the entire manuscript in early and late stages, with healthy skepticism and great generosity, and helped to shape my thinking from beginning to end. My friends in the junior faculty reading group bravely navigated the most muddled sections of my introduction and epilogue, and reminded me to keep a sense of humor through the whole process. Many thanks to Valerie Forman, Jeremy Green, and Will West, and my endless gratitude to Jill Heydt-Stevenson, who was also my weekend writing partner and a constant source of wisdom and cheer.

Other departmental colleagues who offered support and friendship include Jeff Cox, Jeffrey DeShell, Marcia Douglas, Katherine Eggert, Kelly Hurley, Beth Robertson, Jeffrey Robinson, Elizabeth Sheffield, Charlotte Sussman, Eric White, Mark Winokur, and Sue Zemka as well as Mike Preston, for the generous gift of his complete set of Emerson’s writings; Marty Bickman, for his mentorship as a teacher; and John Stevenson and Mary Klages, our department chair and our director of undergraduate studies. I could never have completed this book without their commitment to
Acknowledgments

protecting research time for assistant professors, and their understanding and creativity in working around my Byzantine writing and parenting schedule.

I am also greatly indebted to a number of wonderful graduate students, particularly Sean Purcell, Matt Reiswig, Jayson Sae-Sae, Michael Stoneham, Lorna Wheeler, and Erika Wurth, for many insights that changed my ideas during seminars and independent studies based on topics in the book; my research assistants, Sarah Dobson and Karen Eblen, for their intrepid ventures into the chaos of my office; and Sara Blakely and Laurence Petit, for their careful work with my translations. In other departments, Beth Dusinberre, Susan Jones, Sarah Krakoff, and Marcia Yokemoto welcomed me into their ad hoc support group for untenured women with small children, and provided me with moral, comic, and culinary support when I most needed it; Laura Michaelis consulted on linguistic matters and offered incomparable narrative entertainment; Ilsa Barbash and Lucien Taylor expounded on the Caribbean and opened their family to mine.

Outside the university, Gretchen Lang and Elisabeth White were my lifelines to sanity as I wrote; I thank Linda Blackford for sending me books on Haiti and Cuba, and for twenty-five years of her friendship and wit.

A number of scholars at other institutions also helped in the conception and completion of this book. Alfred MacAdam urged my first forays outside the US parameters of my dissertation, generously shared his research and his syllabi, and read and reread many early drafts of my Hawthorne chapter. I owe much to my teachers and advisors in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia, especially Ann Douglas, Robert Ferguson, Robert O’Meally, Franco Moretti, and George Stade. I owe even more to my fellow graduate students from this period, for the many things they taught me: Anne Baker, Douglas Brooks, Camille Cauti, Michael Elliot, Laura Frost, David Lipscomb, Miranda Sherwin, Teri Reynolds, Victoria Rosner, Gillen Wood, and especially Nancy Castro, whose talents first inspired my interest in comparative American studies. Providing encouragement at just the right moment, Gordon Hutner and Thomas Wortham published portions of several chapters in ALH and Nineteenth-Century Literature; I am grateful to them as well as to the editors of PMLA for permission to reprint this material here. Many thanks also to William Andrews, Carol Bensick, Vincent Carretta, Bob Fanuzzi, Marni Gauthier, Adriana Méndez Rodenas, Zita Nuñes, Gustavo Pellón, Karen Ramírez, Bruce Simon, Priscilla Wald, and Lois Parkinson Zamora for finding the time in their hectic schedules to read and respond to various chapters or to answer long research questions.
I particularly want to thank Werner Sollors for his invaluable comments on most of these chapters, at one stage or another, and more generally for reading and supporting my work since I was a graduate student; his intellectual generosity continues to amaze me. At Cambridge University Press, I am ever grateful to Nancy Vogeley and Ralph Bauer for their most helpful suggestions for revision; to Ross Posnock, for his interest in acquiring my book for the Series in American Literature and Culture as well as for his encouraging support; my editor at the press, Ray Ryan, for his hard work and patience in seeing the book through to acceptance; and my copyeditor Libby Willis for her wonderful work and her patience with my habit of inconsistency.

Finally, my deepest gratitude is to my family: my parents-in-law, Harry and Sheila Holsinger, for constantly encouraging me, my grandmother, Dorothy C. Brickhouse, and my late grandfather, Robert L. Brickhouse, for giving me my first books of literary criticism; my father, Robert C. Brickhouse, for being my first editor and greatest supporter; my mother, Elizabeth Brickhouse, for sharing with me her love of the Spanish language and of Latin America and for researching, translating, and helping to find answers to so many of my questions; my late brother Thomas Brickhouse, for bringing me, long before I started this project, to the polyglot beauty of New Orleans, the city he most loved with his artist’s eye and poet’s sense; my sweetest of sons, Campbell and Malcolm, for changing my perspective about almost everything when they arrived, respectively, at the beginning and the end of writing this book; and my husband, Bruce Holsinger, whom I can never thank enough for offering me at every turn his critical brilliance and sustaining love, and for bringing countless pleasures and joys to my life.
Note on texts and translations

In quoting from French and Spanish sources, I have retained the original nineteenth-century orthography, in some cases unconventional even in its own moment, with no alteration. All translations are my own unless otherwise indicated; where they do appear, the inclusion of foreign-language quotations (whether a single word, a key phrase, or an entire passage or poem) has been determined by the context of the surrounding argument or the necessity of illustrating certain points with reference to the original.