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978-0-521-58091-5 - Transatlantic Images and Perceptions: Germany and America Since 1776

Edited by David E. Barclay and Elisabeth Glaser-schmidt

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Over the last two centuries, Germans and Americans have been rivals, friends, opponents, and, most recently, allies. This cross-disciplinary collection of essays analyzes how German and American views of each other developed and periodically shifted, providing a fresh analysis of the often complex German-American relationship. The images that resulted from encounters between the two countries frequently reflected significant cross-currents of the contemporary relations, and often foreshadowed important trends. The nine German and eight American contributors to this volume analyzed travelogs, private letters, diaries, diplomatic reports, and newspaper articles from the wake of U.S. independence through the reunification of Germany, and also post-1945 movies, which reflect these cross-cultural encounters and illustrate how political agendas, prejudices, stereotypes, and pragmatic forces influenced individual, group, and mass perceptions of the other society.

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Edited by Detlef Junker  
with the assistance of Daniel S. Mattern

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The German Historical Institute is a center for advanced study and research whose purpose is to provide a permanent basis for scholarly cooperation between historians from the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States. The Institute conducts, promotes, and supports research into both American and German political, social, economic, and cultural history, into transatlantic migration, especially in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and into the history of international relations, with special emphasis on the roles played by the United States and Germany.

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GERMANY AND AMERICA SINCE 1776

*Edited by*

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,  
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press

The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by  
Cambridge University Press, New York[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521580915](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521580915)

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First paperback edition 2003

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library**Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data*

Transatlantic images and perceptions : Germany and America since 1776 / edited by

David E. Barclay, Elisabeth Glaser-Schmidt.

p. cm. – (Publications of the German Historical Institute)

Includes index.

ISBN 0 521 58091 9 (hardcover)

1. United States – Relations – Germany. 2. Germany – Relations – United States.
  3. United States – Foreign public opinion, German.
  4. Germany – Foreign public opinion, American.
  5. Public opinion – United States – History. 6. Public opinion – Germany – History.
- I. Barclay, David E., 1948–. II. Glaser-Schmidt, Elisabeth. III. Series.

E183.8.G3T68 1997

303.48'273043 – dc20 96-31667

CIP

ISBN 978-0-521-58091-5 Hardback

ISBN 978-0-521-53442-0 Paperback

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