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THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF  
AMERICAN POETRY

*The Cambridge History of American Poetry* offers a comprehensive exploration of the development of American poetic traditions from their beginnings until the end of the twentieth century. Bringing together the insights of fifty distinguished scholars, this literary history emphasizes the complex roles that poetry has played in American cultural and intellectual life, detailing the variety of ways in which both public and private forms of poetry have met the needs of different communities at different times. *The Cambridge History of American Poetry* recognizes the existence of multiple traditions and a dramatically fluid canon, providing current perspectives on both major authors and a number of representative figures whose work embodies the diversity of America's democratic traditions.

ALFRED BENDIXEN teaches American literature at Princeton University and is the founder and Executive Director of the American Literature Association. His earlier scholarship emphasized the recovery of unjustly neglected literary texts and the exploration of neglected genres, but his current focus is on the role of genre in democratic culture. His most recent books include *A Companion to the American Novel* (2012); *A Companion to the American Short Story* (2010), co-edited with James Nagel; and *The Cambridge Companion to American Travel Writing* (2009), co-edited with Judith Hamera.

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AMERICAN POETRY

★

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*Princeton University*

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Edited by Alfred Bendixen and Stephen Burt  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

Contents

*Notes on Contributors* xi  
*Acknowledgments* xix

Introduction 1  
ALFRED BENDIXEN AND STEPHEN BURT

PART I  
BEGINNINGS: POETRY BEFORE 1800

- 1 · Remembering Muskrat: Native Poetics and the  
American Indian Oral Tradition 15  
BETTY BOOTH DONOHUE
- 2 · Rhyming Empires: Early American Poetry in Languages  
Other Than English 43  
SUSAN CASTILLO STREET
- 3 · The World, the Flesh, and God in Puritan Poetry 65  
ROBERT DALY
- 4 · Confronting Death: The New England Puritan Elegy 86  
JEFFREY A. HAMMOND
- 5 · The Emergence of a Southern Tradition 109  
JIM EGAN
- 6 · Poetry in the Time of Revolution 129  
KEVIN J. HAYES

*Contents*

PART II  
A NEW NATION: POETRY FROM 1800 TO 1900

- 7 · Asserting a National Voice 155  
FRANK GADO
- 8 · The Emergence of Romantic Traditions 177  
ALFRED BENDIXEN
- 9 · Linen Shreds and Melons in a Field: Emerson  
and His Contemporaries 192  
CHRISTOPH IRMSCHER
- 10 · Edgar Allan Poe’s Lost Worlds 217  
ELIZA RICHARDS
- 11 · Longfellow in His Time 238  
VIRGINIA JACKSON
- 12 · Whittier, Holmes, Lowell, and the  
New England Tradition 259  
MICHAEL C. COHEN
- 13 · Other Voices, Other Verses: Cultures of American  
Poetry at Midcentury 282  
MARY LOEFFELHOLZ
- 14 · American Poetry Fights the Civil War 306  
FAITH BARRETT
- 15 · Walt Whitman’s Invention of a Democratic Poetry 329  
ED FOLSOM
- 16 · Emily Dickinson: The Poetics and Practice of  
Autonomy 360  
WENDY MARTIN
- 17 · The South in Reconstruction: White and Black Voices 383  
JOHN D. KERKERING

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-00336-1 - The Cambridge History of: American Poetry  
Edited by Alfred Bendixen and Stephen Burt  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

*Contents*

18 · The “Genteel Tradition” and Its Discontents	403
ELIZABETH RENKER	
19 · Disciplined Play: American Children’s Poetry to 1920	425
ANGELA SORBY	
20 · Dialect, Doggerel, and Local Color: Comic Traditions and the Rise of Realism in Popular Poetry	445
DAVID E. E. SLOANE	
21 · Political Poets and Naturalism	472
TYLER HOFFMAN	
PART III	
FORMS OF MODERNISM, 1900–1950	
22 · The Twentieth Century Begins	497
JOHN TIMBERMAN NEWCOMB	
23 · Robert Frost and Tradition	519
SIOBHAN PHILLIPS	
24 · T. S. Eliot	542
CHARLES ALTIERI	
25 · William Carlos Williams: The Shock of the Familiar	557
BOB PERELMAN	
26 · Finding “Only Words” Mysterious: Reading Mina Loy (and H.D.) in America	583
CRISTANNE MILLER	
27 · Marianne Moore and the Printed Page	603
ROBIN G. SCHULZE	
28 · The Formalist Modernism of Edna St. Vincent Millay, Helene Johnson, and Louise Bogan	628
LESLEY WHEELER	

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-00336-1 - The Cambridge History of: American Poetry

Edited by Alfred Bendixen and Stephen Burt

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

*Contents*

- 29 · The Romantic and Anti-Romantic in the Poetry  
of Wallace Stevens 650

GEORGE S. LENSING

- 30 · Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams, and  
the East Coast Projectivists 670

MATTHEW HOFER

- 31 · Langston Hughes and His World 701

DAVID CHIONI MOORE

- 32 · The Objectivists and the Left 728

MARK SCROGGINS

- 33 · “All the Blessings of This Consuming Chance”: Robert  
Lowell, John Berryman, Theodore Roethke, and the  
Middle-Generation Poets 750

DAVID WOJAHN

- 34 · Elizabeth Bishop, Randall Jarrell, and the Lost World  
of Real Feeling 775

RICHARD FLYNN

- 35 · Writing the South 795

ERNEST SUAREZ

PART IV

BEYOND MODERNISM: AMERICAN POETRY,  
1950–2000

- 36 · San Francisco and the Beats 823

STEPHEN FREDMAN

- 37 · The New York School 844

BRIAN M. REED

- 38 · The Uses of Authenticity: Four Sixties Poets 869

NICK HALPERN



Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-00336-1 - The Cambridge History of: American Poetry  
Edited by Alfred Bendixen and Stephen Burt  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

*Contents*

39 · James Merrill and His Circles	894
DAVID BERGMAN	
40 · Science in Contemporary American Poetry: Ammons and Others	913
ROGER GILBERT	
41 · The 1970s and the “Poetry of the Center”	937
EDWARD BRUNNER	
42 · Latino Poetry and Poetics	959
RIGOBERTO GONZÁLEZ	
43 · Asian American Poetry	978
JOSEPH JONGHYUN JEON	
44 · Psychoanalytic Poetics	1003
REENA SASTRI	
45 · American Poetry of the 1980s: The Pressures of Reality	1027
LISA M. STEINMAN	
46 · Black and Blues Configurations: Contemporary African American Poetics	1048
WALTON MUYUMBA	
47 · Amy Clampitt, Culture Poetry, and the Neobaroque	1079
WILLARD SPIEGELMAN	
48 · Modern and Contemporary Children’s Poetry	1103
JOSEPH T. THOMAS, JR.	
49 · Multilingualism in Contemporary American Poetry	1123
JULIANA SPAHR	
50 · American Poetry at the End of the Millennium	1144
STEPHEN BURT	
<i>Selected Bibliographies</i>	1167
<i>Index</i>	1197

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-107-00336-1 - The Cambridge History of: American Poetry  
Edited by Alfred Bendixen and Stephen Burt  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Edited by Alfred Bendixen and Stephen Burt

Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Notes on Contributors*

Elizabeth Bishop, Robert Lowell, Muriel Rukeyser, Gwendolyn Brooks, and June Jordan, as well as a number of essays about children's poetry, including "The Fear of Poetry" in *The Cambridge Companion to Children's Literature* (2009) and "Randall Jarrell's *The Bat-Poet*: Poets, Children, and Readers in an Age of Prose" in *The Oxford Handbook of Children's Literature* (2011).

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## Notes on Contributors

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

#### Notes on Contributors

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

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