The recently developed field of transatlantic literary studies has encouraged scholars to move beyond national literatures towards an examination of communications between Britain and the Americas. The true extent and importance of these material and literary exchanges is only just beginning to be discovered. This collection of original essays explores the transatlantic literary imagination during the key period from 1660 to 1830: from the colonization of the Americas to the formative decades following political separation between the nations. Contributions from leading scholars from both sides of the Atlantic bring a variety of approaches and methods to bear on both familiar and forgotten texts. Revealing how literary genres were borrowed and readapted to a different context, the volume offers an index of the larger literary influences going backwards and forwards across the ocean.


Susan Manning is Grierson Professor of English Literature, and Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh. She works on the Scottish Enlightenment and on Scottish–American literary relations, the topic of her comparative studies The Puritan-Provincial Vision (1990) and Fragments of Union (2001). She is one of the editors of the Edinburgh History of Scottish Literature (3 vols., 2006), and has co-edited the first Transatlantic Literary Studies Reader (2007).
TRANSATLANTIC LITERARY STUDIES, 1660–1830

EDITED BY

EVE TAVOR BANNET AND SUSAN MANNING
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In memory of Jeffrey H. Richards
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EVE TAVOR BANNET is George Lynn Cross Professor of English at the University of Oklahoma. Her books include The Domestic Revolution (2000), Empire of Letters (2005), and Transatlantic Stories and the History of Reading 1720–1810: Migrant Fictions (2011). She has recently edited a four-volume collection of British and American Letter Manuals, 1680–1810 (2008) and an edition of Emma Corbett (2011), and is currently working on manners of reading in eighteenth-century Britain and America.

COLLEEN GLENNEY BOGGS is Associate Professor of English and Women’s and Gender Studies at Dartmouth College. She has published work in American Literature and PMLA, and is the author of Transnationalism and American Literature: Literary Translation 1773–1892 (2007). She is currently working on a monograph entitled “Animalia Americana: Animal Representations and the Affective Construction of Biopolitical Subjectivity.” Since 2006, she has served as associate editor for Symbiosis: A Journal of Anglo-American Literary Relations.


TIM FULFORD is a professor at Nottingham Trent University. He is the author of Romantic Indians (2006) and co-editor of Native Americans and Anglo-American Culture, 1750–1850: The Indian Atlantic (2009).

PAUL GILES is the Challis Professor of English at the University of Sydney. His most recent books are The Global Remapping of American Literature (2011) and Transnationalism in Practice: Essays on American Studies, Literature and Religion (2010). The essay in the current volume comes from a Discovery Project funded by the Australian Research Council, entitled “Antipodean America: Australasia, Colonialism, and the Constitution of U.S. Literature.”
**Notes on contributors**

**SUSAN C. IMBARRATO** is Professor of English at Minnesota State University Moorhead and immediate past President of the Society of Early Americanists. She is author of *Traveling Women: Narrative Visions of Early America* (2006) and *Declarations of Independence in Eighteenth-Century American Autobiography* (1998), and is currently working on a study of family correspondence.

**SUSAN MANNING** is Grierson Professor of English Literature, and Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh. She works on the Scottish Enlightenment and on Scottish-American literary relations, the topic of her comparative studies *The Puritan-Provincial Vision* (1990) and *Fragments of Union* (2001). She is one of the editors of the *Edinburgh History of Scottish Literature* (3 vols., 2006), and has co-edited the first *Transatlantic Literary Studies Reader* (2007). She is currently completing a book on transatlantic character.


**CARLA MULFORD**, Associate Professor of English at Penn State University, has published eight books and over sixty articles and chapters in books. Founding President of the Society of Early Americanists, she has also served on the Executive Committee of the Modern Language Association’s Division of American Literature to 1800. Her recent work studies Benjamin Franklin in a transatlantic context. Having published *The Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Franklin*, she is now completing *Benjamin Franklin and the Ends of Empire*, a study of Franklin’s attitudes about trade and populations in light of contemporary debates about what it meant to be both liberal and British during the eighteenth century.

**JOEL PACE** is Associate Professor of British and American Romanticism at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire; an associate editor of *Symbiosis: A Journal of Anglo-American Literary Relations*; and a former Fellow of Brown University’s John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage. He is co-editor of *Wordsworth in American Literary Culture* (2005) and *Transatlantic Romanticism: An Anthology of*
Notes on contributors


Alan Rice is Reader in American Cultural Studies at the University of Central Lancashire, Preston, UK. His research on the interdisciplinary study of the black Atlantic includes work on literature, visual arts, grave sites, memorials, and museums, and some of it appeared in his first monograph Radical Narratives of the Black Atlantic (2003). Rice has been involved as a public academic on the Slave Trade Arts Memorial Project in Lancaster, in documentaries on slavery and war, as editor in chief of the Revealing History website, and as a co-curator for the Whitworth Art Gallery in Manchester’s 2007–8 exhibition “Trade and Empire: Remembering Slavery.” His latest book, Creating Memorials, Building Identities: The Politics of Memory in the Black Atlantic, was published in 2010.

Jeffrey H. Richards was Eminent Professor of American Literature at Old Dominion University. He was author of numerous articles and chapters on early American drama and theatre as well as other Americanist subjects, and of the books Drama, Theatre, and Identity in the American New Republic and Theater Enough: American Culture and the Metaphor of the World Stage, 1607–1789. He was co-editor, with Sharon M. Harris, of Mercy Otis Warren: Selected Letters, and editor of the forthcoming Oxford Handbook of American Drama.

Richard B. Sher is Distinguished Professor of History at New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, New Jersey. He is author of The Enlightenment and the Book: Scottish Authors and Their Publishers in Eighteenth-Century Britain, Ireland, and America (2006) and other studies of eighteenth-century book history.

Janet Sorensen is Associate Professor in the English Department at the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to her book, The Grammar of Empire in Eighteenth-Century British Writing (2000), which examined literary and linguistic relations between England and Scotland, she edited, with Leith Davis and Ian Duncan, Scotland and the Borders of Romanticism (2004), and has published numerous essays on
Notes on contributors

Lise Sorensen holds a Ph.D. from Edinburgh on “White Sympathy: Race and Moral Sentiments from the Man of Feeling to the New Woman.” She was awarded a full studentship from the College of Humanities and Social Science at the University of Edinburgh and a doctoral award from the Arts and Humanities Research Council in the UK. Her research interests focus on representations of whiteness in American and British literature, and she has contributed an essay, “Savages and Men of Feeling: North American Indians in Adam Smith’s Theory of Moral Sentiments and Henry Mackenzie’s Man of the World,” to Tim Fulford and Kevin Hutchings (eds.), Native Americans and Anglo-American Culture, 1750–1850: The Indian Atlantic (Cambridge, 2009).

Wil Verhoeven is Professor of American Culture and Cultural Theory and Chair of the American Studies Department at Groningen University, the Netherlands. Most recently he has published Gilbert Imlay: Citizen of the World (2008) and served as General Editor of Anti-Jacobin Novels and the Novels and Selected Plays of Thomas Holcroft (2007, 2005). Current projects include Americomania: Transatlantic Utopianism and the French Revolution Debate, 1789–1800 (forthcoming), a biography of Joel Barlow, and a volume in the forthcoming The Letters of William Godwin. Verhoeven’s research interests include transatlantic studies, 1600–1900; the history of the book; textual culture; and historical biography.
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Jeff Richards passed away just as this book was going into press. His quality as a colleague, scholar, and human being was immediately apparent; and his loss will be felt by those who knew him a little, as well as by those who knew him long and well. The finished professionalism and quiet generosity of his contribution to this volume are characteristic, and awe-inspiring given all that he was privately undergoing at the time. Since this was one of the last things he wrote, we think it fitting to dedicate Transatlantic Literary Studies to his memory.