

recent american fiction



some critical views

edited by Joseph J. Waldmeir

Recent American Fiction Some Critical Views

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Recent American Fiction Some Critical Views:

The Absurd Hero in American Fiction David D. Galloway, 1981-06-01 When *The Absurd Hero in American Fiction* was first released in 1966 Granville Hicks praised it in a lead article for the *Saturday Review* as a sensitive and definitive study of a new trend in postwar American literature In the years that followed David Galloway's analysis of the writings of John Updike William Styron Saul Bellow and J D Salinger became a standard critical work an indispensable tool for readers concerned with contemporary American literature The *New York Times* described the book as a seminal study of the modern literary imagination David Galloway himself an established novelist later extensively revised *The Absurd Hero* to include authoritative discussions of more than a dozen novels which had appeared since the first revised edition was released in 1970 Among them are John Updike's *Couples* *Rabbit Redux* and *The Coup* William Styron's *The Confessions of Nat Turner* and Sophie's *Choice* and Saul Bellow's *Mr Sammler's Planet* and Humboldt's *Gift* Through detailed analyses of these works Galloway demonstrates the continuing relevance of his own provocative concept of the absurd hero and provides important insights into the literary achievements of four of America's most influential postwar novelists

A History of American Literature Richard Gray, 2011-09-23 Updated throughout and with much new material *A History of American Literature* Second Edition is the most up to date and comprehensive survey available of the myriad forms of American Literature from pre Columbian times to the present The most comprehensive and up to date history of American literature available today Covers fiction poetry drama and non fiction as well as other forms of literature including folktale spirituals the detective story the thriller and science fiction Explores the plural character of American literature including the contributions made by African American Native American Hispanic and Asian American writers Considers how our understanding of American literature has changed over the past thirty years Situates American literature in the contexts of American history politics and society Offers an invaluable introduction to American literature for students at all levels academic and general readers

Fictional Space in the Modernist and Post-modernist American Novel Carl Darryl Malmgren, 1985 Fictional space is the imaginal expanse of field created by fictional discourse a space which through ultimately self referential and self validating necessarily exists in ascertainable relation to the real world outside the text After defining his theoretical framework the author applies it to American fiction of the twentieth century

Powerless Fictions? Ricardo Miguel-Alfonso, 2023-04-12 *Postmodern Studies* deals with any aspect of postmodernism or of postmodernity and the postmodern in relation to literature

Seven American Women Writers of the Twentieth Century Maureen Howard, 1977-01-01 *Seven American Women Writers of the Twentieth Century* was first published in 1977 Minnesota Archive Editions uses digital technology to make long unavailable books once again accessible and are published unaltered from the original University of Minnesota Press editions

The Jewish American Novel Philippe Codde, 2007 Philippe Codde provides a comparative cultural analysis of the unprecedented success of the Jewish novel in the postwar United States by

situating the process and event in the context of three closely related American cultural movements the popularity in the US of French philosophical and literary existentialism the increasing visibility of the Holocaust in US American life and the advent of radical theology Codde argues that the literary repertoire of the postwar Jewish novel consists of an amalgam of these cultural elements that were making their mark in the political religious and philosophical systems of the United States at the time and that this explains in part the Jewish novel's sweeping success in the American literary system Historical Dictionary of the Beat Movement Paul Varner, 2012-06-21 The Beat Movement was one of the most radical and innovative literary and arts movements of the 20th century and the history of the Beat Movement is still being written in the early years of the 21st century Unlike other kinds of literary and artistic movements the Beat Movement is self-perpetuating After the 1950s generation headlined by Jack Kerouac Allen Ginsberg and William S Burroughs a new generation arose in the 1960s led by writers such as Diane Wakoski Anne Waldman and poets from the East Side Scene In the 1970s and 1980s writers from the Poetry Project at St Mark's Church and contributors to World magazine continued the movement The 1980s and 1990s Language Movement saw itself as an outgrowth and progression of previous Beat aesthetics Today poets and writers in San Francisco still gather at City Lights Bookstore and in Boulder at the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics and continue the movement It is now a postmodern movement and probably would be unrecognizable to the earliest Beats It may even be in the process of finally shedding the name Beat But the Movement continues The Historical Dictionary of the Beat Movement covers the movement's history through a chronology an introductory essay and an extensive bibliography The dictionary section has over 700 cross-referenced entries on significant people themes critical issues and the most significant novels poems and volumes of poetry and prose that have formed the Beat canon This book is an excellent access point for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about the Beat Movement *The Woman in the Novels of Saul Bellow* Ram Prakash Pradhan, 2006 The book presents in brief a critical study of Saul Bellow's vision of woman in general as the novelist has presented a variety of women having contradictory traits Any attempt at flat generalisation has been considered forbidding In spite of his Jewish lineage and specific Jewish themes Saul Bellow has established himself as a humanistic and conscientious American novelist Hence such conception as popular in Jewish tradition that his woman characters must occupy a subordinate place and their freedom of mind shall be restricted seems to be futile Far from being misogynous as it is sometimes alleged by a few critics his vision of woman appears to be balanced objective and free from personal prejudice The book is a valuable study on Nobel Laureate Saul Bellow and all those who admire his works would find it interesting and useful as it will enable them to see his characters from a different perspective Students and also the teachers of English literature will find it highly informative Black Professional Women in Recent American Fiction Carmen Rose Marshall, 2015-01-24 The last three decades of the 20th century have marked the triumph of many black professional women against great odds in the workplace Despite their success few novels

celebrate their accomplishments Black middle class professional women want to see themselves realistically portrayed by protagonists who work to achieve significant productivity and visibility in their careers desire stability in their personal lives aspire to accrue wealth and live elegantly though not consumptively The author contends that most recent American realistic fiction fails to represent black professional women protagonists performing their work effectively in the workplace

Identifying the extent to which contemporary novels satisfy the readerly desires of black middle class women readers this book investigates why the readership wants the texts as well as what they prefer in the books they buy It also examines the technical and cultural factors that contribute to the lack of books with self empowered black professional female protagonists and considers *The Salt Eaters* by Toni Cade Bambara and *Waiting to Exhale* by Terry McMillan two novels that function as significant markers in the development of contemporary black women writers texts **American Fiction Between the Wars** Harold Bloom, 2009 America in the 1920s and 30s saw the emergence of some of the best known writers of the modern generation John Steinbeck Ernest Hemingway and William Faulkner **The Critic**, 1887 **Madness in Post-1945**

British and American Fiction C. Baker, P. Crawford, Brian Brown, Maurice Lipsedge, R. Carter, 2010-10-14 A comprehensive and thematic exploration of representations of madness in postwar British and American Fiction this book is relevant to those with interests in literary studies and is a vital read for psychiatric clinicians and professionals who are interested in how literature can inform and enhance clinical practices *Intertextual Encounters in American Fiction, Film, and Popular Culture* Michael Dunne, 2001 Intertextual encounters occur whenever an author or the author's text recognizes references alludes to imitates parodies or otherwise elicits an audience member's familiarity with other texts F Scott Fitzgerald and Nathanael West use the fiction of Horatio Alger Jr as an intertext in their novels *The Great Gatsby* and *A Cool Million* Callie Khouri and Ridley Scott use the buddy road picture genre as an intertext for their *Thelma and Louise* In all these cases intertextual encounters take place between artists between texts between texts and audiences between artists and audiences Michael Dunne investigates works from the 1830s to the 1990s and from the canonical American novel to *Bugs Bunny* and *Jerry Seinfeld* **The Critic in the Modern World** James Ley, 2014-05-08 *The Critic in the Modern World* explores the work of six influential literary critics Samuel Johnson William Hazlitt Matthew Arnold T S Eliot Lionel Trilling and James Wood each of whom occupies a distinct historical moment It considers how these representative critics have constructed their public personae the kinds of arguments they have used and their core principles and philosophies Spanning three hundred years of cultural history *The Critic in the Modern World* considers the various ways in which literary critics have positioned themselves in relation to the modern tradition of descriptive criticism In providing a lucid account of each critic's central principles and philosophies it considers the role of the literary critic as a public figure interpreting him as someone who is compelled to address the wider issues of individualism and the social implications of the democratising secularising liberalising forces of modernity **Fact and Fiction** John Hollowell, 2017-11-01 Journalists and novelists responded to the

pervasive social changes of the 1960s in America with a variety of experiments in nonfiction Those who have praised the vitality of the new journalism have seen it as a fusion of the journalist s passion for detail and the novelist s moral vision Hollowell presents a critically sharp portrait of what the new journalists and novelists are doing and why The author concludes that future writing will further obscure the difference between fact and fiction Originally published in 1977 A UNC Press Enduring Edition UNC Press Enduring Editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print These editions are published unaltered from the original and are presented in affordable paperback formats bringing readers both historical and cultural value **The Hero in**

Contemporary American Fiction S. Halldorson,2007-12-09 This book sets out to write nothing short of a new theory of the heroic for today s world It delves into the why of the hero as a natural companion piece to the how of the hero as written by Northrop Frye and Joseph Campbell over half a century ago The novels of Saul Bellow and Don DeLillo serve as an anchor to the theory as it challenges our notions of what is heroic about nymphomaniacs Holocaust survivors spurious academics cult followers terrorists celebrities photographers and writers of novels who all attempt to claim the right to be hero

Encyclopedia of American Literature Manly, Inc.,2013-06 Susan Clair Imbarrato Carol Berkin Brett Barney Lisa Paddock Matthew J Bruccoli George Parker Anderson Judith S Art and Idea in the Novels of Bernard Malamud Robert Ducharme,2018-12-03 No detailed description available for Art and Idea in the Novels of Bernard Malamud *The Twentieth-Century American Fiction Handbook* Christopher MacGowan,2011-02-21 THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AMERICAN FICTION Accessibly structured with entries on important historical contexts central issues key texts and the major writers this Handbook provides an engaging overview of twentieth century American fiction Featured writers range from Henry James and Theodore Dreiser to contemporary figures such as Joyce Carol Oates Thomas Pynchon and Sherman Alexie and analyses of key works include *The Great Gatsby* *Lolita* *The Color Purple* and *The Joy Luck Club* among others Relevant contexts for these works such as the impact of Hollywood the expatriate scene in the 1920s and the political unrest of the 1960s are also explored and their importance discussed This is a stimulating overview of twentieth century American fiction offering invaluable guidance and essential information for students and general readers **Conversations with Saul Bellow** Saul Bellow,1993

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