

José Martí's Our America: From National to Hemispheric Cultural Studies (New Americanists)



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Considerable attention has been given to Cuban poet, essayist, and activist José Martí's 1891 essay "Nuestra América," but relatively little has been paid to the rest of the journalistic work that Martí produced during his fourteen-year exile in the United States. In *José Martí's Our America*, Jeffrey Belnap and Raúl Fernández present essays from Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S.-based scholars who consider Martí's rich and underexplored body of work and position Martí as an emblem of New American studies.

A Cuban exile from 1881 to 1895, Martí was a correspondent writing in New York for various Latin American newspapers. Grasping the significance of rising U.S. imperial power, he came to understand the Americas as a complex system of kindred—but not equal—national formations whose cultural and political integrity was threatened by the overbearing aggressiveness of the United States. This collection explores how in his journalistic work Martí critiques U.S. racism, imperialism, and capitalism; warns Latin America of impending U.S. geographical, cultural, and economic annexation; and calls for recognition of the diversity of America's cultural voices. Reinforcing Martí's hemispheric vision with essays by a wide range of scholars who investigate his analysis of the United States, his significance as a Latino outsider, and his analyses of Latin American cultural politics, this volume explores the affinities between Martí's thought and current reexaminations of what it means to study America.

José Martí's Our America offers a new understanding of Martí's ambiguous and problematic relation with the United States and will engage scholars and students in American, Latin American, and Latino studies as well as those interested in cultural, postcolonial, gender, and ethnic studies.

Contributors. Jeffrey Belnap, Raúl Fernández, Ada Ferrer, Susan Gillman, George Lipsitz, Oscar Martí, David Noble, Donald E. Pease, Beatrice Pita, Brenda Gayle Plummer, Susana Rotker, José David Saldívar, Rosaura Sánchez, Enrico Mario Santí, Doris Sommer, Brook Thomas



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Alberta Keyes:

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Joseph Davis:

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Betty Patton:

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