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About the Contributors

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# About the Contributors

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**SUZANNE ENZERINK** is an assistant professor of American Studies at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. She is from the Netherlands and received her BA and MA in American Studies from the University of Groningen. She received her PhD in American Studies from Brown University, RI, USA in 2019 and was previously employed at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

**KEVIN K. GAINES** is Julian Bond Professor of Civil Rights and Social Justice at University of Virginia, where he holds a double appointment to the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African American and African Studies and the Corcoran Department of History. Gaines is a past president of the American Studies Association (2009–2010) and is author of *Uplifting the Race: Black Leadership, Politics, and Culture During the Twentieth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 1996), which was awarded the American Studies Association’s John Hope Franklin Book Prize. His book *American Africans in Ghana: Black Expatriates and the Civil Rights Era* (UNC Press, 2006) was a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. His current research is on the integrationist projects of African American activists, artists and intellectuals, interventions that redefined blackness and acknowledged the relationship of structural and ideological forms of racism to racial capitalism, patriarchy, and homophobia.

**GOENAWAN MOHAMAD** is founder and editor of *Tempo* news magazine and one of Indonesia’s most outspoken critics of authoritarianism. On a weekly basis, Goenawan’s “Catatan Pinggir” (Sidelines) column provides perspective on a range of events globally and is also well-known as a venue for social and political critique in Indonesia, in the past prompting the Suharto government to close down *Tempo* on two separate occasions. Goenawan’s struggle to defend the freedom of the press has been recognized by several news organizations around the world, including the Committee to Protect Journalists, which honored him with a CPJ International Press Freedom Prize, and the World Press Review, which named Goenawan International Editor of the Year in 1999. Goenawan is founder of the Lontar Foundation and has also served on the advisory board for the Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict and for the human rights group Article 19.

**JONATHAN van HARMELEN** is a PhD student at UC Santa Cruz specializing in the history of Japanese American incarceration. He has previously published with *Southern California*

Quarterly, the *Journal of Asian American Studies*, the *Journal of Urban History*, and the *Densho Encyclopedia*. He is also a community journalist, having written for the *Rafu Shimpo*, *Nichi Bei Weekly*, and *Nikkei West* and is a columnist for the Japanese American National Museum's blog, *Discover Nikkei*.

**ALFRED HORNUNG** is Research Professor of American Studies and Director of the Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz. A specialist in American literatures and cultures and life writing, he is the long-time general editor of the journal *Amerikastudien / American Studies*. He has served as president of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS) and of the Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas (MESEA) as well as on the International Committee of the American Studies Association. He has been a fellow at Harvard, Yale, and the National Humanities Center and was the recipient of the Carl Bode-Norman Holmes Pearson Award of the ASA in 2013. His publications include monographs on *The Muckraking Movement 1902–1912* (1978); *Cultural Crisis and Literary Solutions: The Function of the Autobiographical Structure in America from Puritanism to Postmodernism* (1985); the edited volumes *Obama and Transnational American Studies* (2016), and *The Routledge Companion to Transnational American Studies* (with Nina Morgan and Takayuki Tatsumi, 2019); and biographies of *Jack London* (2016) and *Al Capone* (2021). He is the editor in chief of the *Journal of Transnational American Studies* (Obama Institute and Stanford) and serves on the editorial board of *Atlantic Studies* (Routledge); *Contemporary Foreign Literature* (Nanjing); *European Journal of Life Writing* (Amsterdam); *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies* (Routledge); and the *Journal of Life Writing* (Sydney). He is working on a book project on Confucian America.

**BEN OKRI** is a poet, playwright, essayist, and novelist who has been widely influential on the development of a modern decolonial African literature. Born in 1959 in Minna, Nigeria, to an Urhobo father and Igbo mother, he spent his early childhood in the United Kingdom and returned to Nigeria in the shadow of the Biafran War, a war that would later feature in his fiction. While still a teenager, he began publishing short fiction in women's journals and newspapers. When he reached university age, Okri moved back to the UK to study comparative literature at the University of Essex, a place away from the military dictatorship which appears in thinly veiled criticism in his writing. In the UK he served as poetry editor of the journal *West Africa* and worked for BBC World Service as well as publishing novels and short fiction. His 1991 novel, *The Famished Road*, won the Booker Prize in the same year. He has also been awarded the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Africa, the *Paris Review* Aga Khan prize for fiction, the Chianti Rufino-Antico Fattore International Literary Prize, and the Premio Grinzane Cavour.

**CHRISTOPHER B. PATTERSON** (PhD, University of Washington) researches transpacific discourses of literature, video games, and new media through the lens of empire studies, Asian American studies, and queer theory. His first book, *Transitive Cultures:*

*Anglophone Literature of the Transpacific* (Rutgers University Press, 2018), won the American Studies Association's 2020 Shelley Fisher Fishkin Prize for International Scholarship in Transnational American Studies. His latest book, *Open World Empire: Race, Erotics, and the Global Rise of Video Games*, was published in April of 2020 by NYU Press. His articles have appeared in *Cultural Studies*, *American Quarterly*, *Games and Culture*, *MELUS* (Multi-ethnic Literatures of the United States) and other venues. He writes fiction under the name Kawika Guillermo, and his debut novel, *Stamped: an anti-travel novel* (2018), won the 2020 Association for Asian American Studies Book Award for Creative Prose. His second novel, *All Flowers Bloom*, was published by Westphalia Press in March 2020. In 2013, Chris founded the podcast *New Books in Asian American Studies* where he is a current cohost. He also serves as the Managing Editor for *decomp journal* and is the incoming Book Review Editor for *The Journal of Asian American Studies*. His commitment to teaching was recognized in 2018 when he was awarded Hong Kong Baptist University's Arts Faculty Early Career Teaching Award.

**GAVIN WILK** is an historian based in Ireland whose research interests range from Irish and American history to social, cultural, immigration, and political studies. He was awarded a PhD from the University of Limerick and was an Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences Postgraduate Scholar. He also holds an MA in International Studies from the University of Limerick and a BA in History from Villanova University. He is the author of *Transatlantic Defiance: The Militant Irish Republican Movement in America, 1923–45* (Manchester University Press, 2014), a book derived from extensive archival research in Ireland, the United States and Britain that presents a cross-cultural introspection of Irish republicanism and specifically examines the emigration patterns of Irish Republican Army (IRA) veterans, their individual lives in American communities, and their local and national republican activism. A member of the National Coalition of Independent Scholars, he has presented at conferences throughout the US and Europe. His work has appeared in the journals *New Hibernia Review* and *Crime, Law & Social Change*, and also in various reference encyclopedias including *Postwar America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic History* (Routledge, 2007); *America in World History* (Sharpe Reference, 2010) and *Conspiracies and Conspiracy Theories in American History* (ABC-CLIO, 2019).