



PYNCHON'S CALIFORNIA

EDITED BY SCOTT MCCLINTOCK AND JOHN MILLER

Pynchon S California New American Canon

Jeffrey R. Di Leo



Pynchon S California New American Canon:

Pynchon's California Scott McClintock, John Miller, 2014-11-01 *Pynchon's California* is the first book to examine Thomas Pynchon's use of California as a setting in his novels. Throughout his 50-year career, Pynchon has regularly returned to the Golden State in his fiction. With the publication in 2009 of his third novel set there, the significance of California in Pynchon's evolving fictional project becomes increasingly worthy of study. Scott McClintock and John Miller have gathered essays from leading and up-and-coming Pynchon scholars who explore this topic from a variety of critical perspectives reflecting the diversity and eclecticism of Pynchon's fiction and of the state that has served as his recurring muse from *The Crying of Lot 49* (1965) through *Inherent Vice* (2009). Contributors explore such topics as the relationship of the California novels to Pynchon's more historical and encyclopedic works, the significance of California's beaches, deserts, forests, freeways, and hieroglyphic suburban sprawl, the California-inspired noir tradition, and the surprising connections to be uncovered between drug use and realism, melodrama, and real estate, private detection, and the sacred. The authors bring insights to bear from an array of critical, social, and historical discourses, offering new ways of looking not only at Pynchon's California novels but at his entire oeuvre. They explore both how the history, geography, and culture of California have informed Pynchon's work and how Pynchon's ever-skeptical critical eye has been turned on the state that has been in many ways the flagship for postmodern American culture. CONTRIBUTORS: Hanjo Berressem, Christopher Coffman, Stephen Hock, Margaret Lynd, Scott MacLeod, Scott McClintock, Bill Millard, John Miller, Henry Veggian.

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A Dark California Katarzyna Nowak-McNeice, Agata Zarzycka, 2018-02-14 Focusing on portrayals of California in popular culture this collection of new essays traces a central theme of darkness through literature Toby Barlow Angela Carter Joan Didion Thomas Pynchon and Claire Vaye Watkins video games *L A Noire* music Death Grips Lana Del Rey and the Red Hot Chili Peppers TV *True Detective* and *American Horror Story* and film *Starry Eyes* *Southland Tales* and *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night* Providing insight into the significance of Californian icons the contributors explore the interplay between positive stereotypes connected to the myth of the Golden State and ambivalent responses to the myth based on social and political power the consequences of consumerism transformations of the landscape and the dominance of hyperreality

“From Faraway California” Ali Dehdarirad ,2023-09-15 Offering a transdisciplinary journey across Thomas Pynchon s California trilogy *From Faraway California* addresses the representation of city space in the *Crying of Lot 49* *Vineland* and *Inherent Vice* through geourban lenses Drawing on specific concepts in urban and regional studies the book provides a thorough examination of Pynchon s spatial imaginary where the reader comes to understand how his fiction tackles the socio political and cultural consequences of urban restructuring in the contemporary city and the lives of its citizens Pynchon s depiction of California is further analyzed from mythical and environmental standpoints to shed light on his planetary vision and post postmodernist poetics in the span of nearly half a century More broadly the book s geocritical and urban analyses of Pynchon s fiction indicate what might take place concerning the future of urbanism toward planetary urbanization and the formation of the city region

Approaches to Teaching Pynchon's *The Crying of Lot 49* and Other Works Thomas Schaub, 2008 As teachers well know the elements that make Thomas Pynchon exciting to read and study the historical references the multilayered prose and the postmodern integration of high and low cultures and science and literature often constitute hurdles to undergraduate and graduate readers alike The essays gathered in this volume turn these classroom challenges into assets showing instructors how to make the narratives frustration of reader expectations not only intellectually rewarding but also part of the joy of reading *The Crying of Lot 49* *Gravity s Rainbow* *Mason Dixon* to use the texts to explore racial and gender politics and legacies of colonialism and to make Pynchon s elaborate prose style accessible to students Teachers will also find sample syllabi for courses solely on Pynchon as well as suggestions for incorporating his work into graduate and undergraduate classrooms at a range of institutions

Thomas Pynchon's Animal Tales Keita Hatooka, 2022-08-29 Throughout his works Thomas Pynchon uses various animal characters to narrate fables that are vital to postmodernism and ecocriticism Thomas Pynchon s *Animal Tales* *Fables for Ecocriticism* examines case studies of animal representation in Pynchon s texts such as alligators in the sewer in *V* the alligator purse in *Bleeding Edge* dolphins in the Miami Seaquarium in *The Crying of Lot 49* dodoes pigs and octopuses in *Gravity s Rainbow* Bigfoot and Godzilla in *Vineland* and *Inherent Vice* and preternatural dogs and mythical worms in *Mason Dixon* and *Against the Day* Through this exploration Keita Hatooka illuminates how radically and imaginatively the legendary novelist depicts his empathy for nonhuman beings

Furthermore by conducting a comparative study of Pynchon's narratives and his contemporary documentarians and thinkers Thomas Pynchon's *Animal Tales* leads readers to draw great lessons from the fables which stimulate our ecocritical thought for tomorrow

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 *The Multiple Worlds of Pynchon's Mason & Dixon* Elizabeth Jane Wall Hinds, 2009 New essays examining the interface between 18th and 20th century culture both in Pynchon's novel and in the historical past Thomas Pynchon's 1997 novel *Mason Dixon* went further using the same style wit and erudition to re create an 18th century when America was being formed as both place and idea Pynchon's focus on the creation of the Mason Dixon Line and the governmental and scientific entities responsible for it makes a clearer statement than any of his previous novels about the slavery and imperialism at the heart of the Enlightenment as he levels a dark and hilarious critique at this America This volume of new essays studies the interface between 18th and 20th century culture both in Pynchon's novel and in the historical past It offers fresh thinking about Pynchon's work as the contributors take up the linkages between the 18th and 20th centuries in studies that are as concerned with culture as with the literary text itself Contributors Mitchum Huehls Brian Thill Colin Clarke Pedro Garcia Caro Dennis Lensing Justin M Scott Coe Ian Copestake Frank Palmeri Elizabeth Jane Wall Hinds is Professor and Chair of the English Department at SUNY Brockport

American Literature and Culture in an Age of Cold War Steven Belletto, Daniel Grausam, 2012-10 Authors and artists discussed include Joseph Conrad Edwin Denby Joan Didion Ralph Waldo Emerson Allen Ginsberg Frank Berbert Richard Kim Norman Mailer Malcolm X Alan Nadel and John Updike

Contemporary Literary and Cultural Theory Jeffrey R. Di Leo, 2023-06-15 The most exhaustive mapping of contemporary literary theory to date this book offers a comprehensive overview of the current state of the field of contemporary literary theory Examining 75 key topics across 15 chapters it provides an approachable and encyclopedic introduction to the most important areas of contemporary theory today Proceeding broadly chronologically from early theory all the way through to postcritique Di Leo masterfully unpacks established topics such as psychoanalysis structuralism and Marxism as well as newer topics such as trans theory animal studies disability studies blue humanities speculative realism and many more Featuring accessible discussion of the work of foundational theorists such as Lacan Derrida and Freud as well as contemporary theorists such as Haraway Braidotti and Hayles it offers a magisterial examination of an enormously rich and varied body of work

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