

Acknowledgements

The present volume is the result of an international colloquium that took place in Vienna in September 2010. Twenty-six writers and scholars from North America and from six European countries had been invited to explore the under-researched topic of the cultural exchange between the American South and in the fields of literature and culture. Highly respected experts in the field of Southern studies and equally well-known specialists in the realm of Canadian literature and culture turned their attention to the analysis of historical links between these two vast cultural spaces and considered the literary reflection of significant movements from one large region to the other in the 18th and 19th centuries. They dealt especially with intertextual relationships and studied the creative energies that were released when North encountered South and South encountered North.

The colloquium and the publication of its proceedings were made possible by several grants the organizers received from institutions both in Austria and abroad. The Rector of the University of Vienna, Georg Winckler, and the Dean of its Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies, Franz Römer, offered initial support and the Austrian Academy of Sciences gave a generous grant, which are both gratefully acknowledged.

The colloquium also received financial assistance from the Canadian government through a grant given to the Center for Canadian Studies at Vienna University, and was similarly supported by the Association of Canadian Studies in German-speaking countries (GKS). A grant from the U.S. Embassy enabled several scholars from North America to attend the colloquium whilst the Austrian Ministry of Science and Research and the Cultural Office of the city of Vienna similarly provided support. Additional help was given by the Association for the Promotion of North American Studies at the University of Vienna.

This publication would not have appeared without a large research grant awarded by the Austrian Science Fund, which was used both for the planning of the colloquium itself and the various tasks associated with preparing the collection of the revised contributions for publication. A small team of graduates and advanced students was largely responsible for the completion of the manuscript, including initially Helen Kopetzky and Martina Rössler, and subsequently especially Alexandra Hauke. Their unstinting support is here gratefully acknowledged. Co-editor Christoph Irmscher would like to ex-

press his gratitude to Indiana University Bloomington for granting a sabbatical, which was also partly used for editorial work. Erika Jenns at Indiana University Bloomington meticulously prepared the index and proofread the entire text.

The two editors of this volume would also like to thank the Austrian Academy of Sciences for including this volume in its series of *Sitzungsberichte*. The editors wish to dedicate this volume to their many friends on both sides of the Atlantic who have engaged in the study of cultural circulation in the North American continent and across the Atlantic.