

More resources on American Writers and Indian Themes

Books about Emerson:

Ellison, Julie K. *Emerson's Romantic Style*. Princeton, 1984. A classic study of Emerson's contribution to Romanticism.

Fresonke, Kris. *West of Emerson: The Design of Manifest Destiny*. California, 2003. Emerson and the American West, with analysis of some of his poems.

Hudnut, Robert K. *The Aesthetics of Ralph Waldo Emerson: The Materials and Methods of His Poetry*. Edwin Mellen, 1996.

Joshi, Mularam. *Emerson: The Poet*. Delhi: Mittal, 1987.

Richardson Jr., Robert D. *Emerson: The Mind on Fire*. California, 1995. The standard biography.

Waggoner, Hyatt H. *Emerson as a Poet*. Princeton, 1974.

Some Criticism of Emerson's "Brahma"

Cameron, Kenneth Walter. "Emerson's 'Brahma': Early Explication and Commentary." *American Renaissance Literary Report 2* (1988): 197-223.

Chandran, K. Narayana. "The Pining Gods and Sages in Emerson's 'Brahma.'" *English Language Notes 27* (Sept 1989): 55-57.

Chandrasekharan, K. R. "Emerson's *Brahma*: An Indian Interpretation." *New England Quarterly 33* (Dec 1960): 506-12.

Books about Walt Whitman:

Reynolds, David S. *Walt Whitman*. Oxford, 2004. The standard biography.

Erkkila, Betsy. *Whitman the Political Poet*. Oxford, 1989. Study of WW's complicated nationalism.

Kaplan, Justin. *Walt Whitman, A Life*. Simon and Schuster, 1980. Another high quality biography, not plagued with academic jargon.

Reynolds, David S. *Walt Whitman's America: a cultural biography*. Knopf, 1995. Sets WW in his times.

Books about Allen Ginsberg:

Baker, Deborah. *A Blue Hand: The Tragicomic, Mind-Altering Odyssey of Allen Ginsberg, a Holy Fool, a Lost Muse, a Dharma Bum, and His Prickly Bride in India*. New York: Penguin, 2008.

Ginsberg, Allen. *Indian Journals*. San Francisco: Dave Haselwood Books, 1970. Reprinted Grove Press, 1996.

Raskin, Jonah. *American Scream: Allen Ginsberg's Howl and the Making of the Beat Generation*. California, 2004.

Schumacher, Michael. *Dharma Lion: a critical biography of Allen Ginsberg*. St. Martin's Press, 1992.

Books and resources about Agha Shahid Ali:

Ravishing DisUnities: Real Ghazals in English. Wesleyan, 2000. Ali's groundbreaking anthology of ghazals in English, including several by American poets.

R.W. Watkins edits the Canadian poetry journal *Contemporary Ghazals*.

<http://www.ghazalpage.net/>, online journal about ghazals in English.

<http://ghazalville.blogspot.com/>, an online ghazal reading series based in New York.

Websites about American poetry

www.poets.org. The Academy of American Poets. Poems, essays, biographies, resources for readers and writers.

<http://www.csustan.edu/english/reuben/pal/TABLE.html>. Perspectives in American Literature, or PAL. Guides for readers and students. Study questions, links to more info, historical periods, biographies.

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/a/amverse/>. The American Verse Project. Searchable database of volumes of poetry published in America before 1920.

http://lib.virginia.edu/digital/collections/text/ch_am_poetry.html. American Poetry Full Database (poems before 1900). Based on the Bibliography of American Poetry. Searchable by title, author, and keyword.

www.americanpoems.org. Features and biographies on the best known American poets.

More on American writers who write about Indian themes

Meena Alexander, several volumes of poems and essays. *The Shock of Arrival: Reflections on Postcolonial Experience; Stone Roots; House of a Thousand Doors; River and Bridge; Illiterate Heart* (winner of the PEN Open Book Award); *Raw Silk; The Storm: A Poem in Five Parts; Night-Scene, the Garden*. Her new collection is called *Quickly Changing River*.

Stephen Vincent Benet, *John Brown's Body*. An epic that borrows its scale and approach from the Baghavad Gita.

Wai-Chee Dimock, *Through Other Continents: American Literature Across Deep Time*. A critical study of the ways U.S. writings resonate in and draw from other world cultures and literatures, especially India's.

T.S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*. Powerfully indebted to the Sanskrit epics.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Maya," "Brahma" and "Hamatreya."

Carl Sandburg, "Under the Harvest Moon." Suggests Sandburg's familiarity with Indian poetry.

Gary Snyder, *Passage Through India*. Snyder accompanied Ginsberg through India. Counterpoint, 2009.

Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*. Thoreau's most famous text has several passages that draw on the Vedas.