PUBLIC SPACE, PRIVATE LIVES

Race, Gender, Class and Citizenship in New York, 1890-1929

edited by

William Boelhower and Anna Scacchi

VU UNIVERSITY PRESS
AMSTERDAM 2004
CONTENTS

Acknowledgments 7

List of Illustrations 9

Introduction
William Boelhower and Anna Scacchi 11

Essays

American Interiors: Redesigning the Home in Turn-of-the-Century New York
Anna Scacchi 15

Ethnic Self-Fashioning at the Café-Chantant: Southern Italian Immigrants, Vernacular Theater, and Films in Pre-World War One New York
Giorgio Bertellini 39

The Transfiguring Imagination of a Black Urban Modernism: Recodifying Public Space and Cultural Rituals in the Harlem Renaissance
Günter H. Lenz 67

Pushcart Economics: The Italians in New York
William Boelhower 97

Jolly Corners and Corridor Theories: The Spatialization of Difference in the Late Work of Henry and William James
Anthony Marasco 111

Reading Black Queer Vernacular in the “Streetgeist and Folklore” of Harlem’s Renaissance
Seth Clark Silberman 129

Mogul and Star: Alfred Stieglitz and Georgia O’Keeffe on the Thirtieth Floor
Paula Rabinowitz 153

Early Dance Modernism and the “Production of the Aesthetic Field”: Some Reflections on Isadora Duncan & Ted Shawn
John R. Leo 169

Isaac Julien’s Black Gay History of the Present in Looking for Langston
Therese Grisham 187

The Colors of New York: Racism, Historicism and Site in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby
Alberto Lena 209

“Africa and Broadway”: Carl Van Vechten’s Harlem as an American Spectacle of Color
Tatiana Petrovich Njegosh 223
The Wasteful Few: Upton Sinclair’s Portrait of New York’s High Society
Mario Varricchio 243

When New York Wasn’t Big Enough: The Contradictions of Space, Real and Imagined, in 1890’s New York
Charlotte Nekola 263

A Map of the Lower East Side
Mario Maffi 273

Immigrants in Central Park: Henry James and the “Alien,” or, Paolo Veronese in Central Park
Rosella Mamoli Zorzi 285

A Change of Clothes: Italian Women Immigrants from Out-of-Fashion to the Height of Fashion
Vittoria Caterina Caratozzolo 297

Ragtime and Jazz: Recapturing New York’s Golden Age
Kristiaan Versluys 305

From the Lower East Side to Fifth Avenue, and Back: Frank Capra’s The Younger Generation
Giuliana Muscio 313

Theater, Sex, and Censorship: The Case of Mae West
Alessandro Clericuzio 323

Imaging America: The Photography of Lewis Hine and Jacob Riis
Pasquale Verdicchio 333

A New York State of Mind: Henry James’s “Crapy Cornelia” and “A Round of Visits”
Leonardo Buonomo 341

Bibliography 351

New York City on the WEB
Mario Varricchio 377

Contributors 389