



Henry James and the Aliens : In Possession of the American Scene (Paperback)

By Gert Buelens

Brill, Netherlands, 2002. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Henry James and the Aliens intervenes substantially in current debates in James studies, most notably in the key areas of cultural studies, ethnic studies and queer studies. Focusing throughout on questions of identity, and most prominently on how the latter is given shape in the very form of the late style, the book finds that James's response to the ethnic other can be grasped neither as an attempt to police, supervise and master the other, nor as a politics of non-identical surrender to that other. Instead, there is a continuum of identity-akin to the criminal continuity that James registers throughout the American scene-in which self and other, native and alien, subject and object adopt alternate roles of control and submission. Both are at times in possession of the American scene and possessed by that scene. Jamesian sexual identity, too, proves to be constantly reconstituted in transitive processes of signification that make it impossible to fix the I or the other within a fixed framework-be that framework a heterosexual or a homosexual one. The eroticism that strikingly informs the late James can therefore...



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