Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Empire as World and Idea: Colonialism and Society in Germany 1

1 Estrangement: Structures and Limits of the Colonial Public Sphere 22


3 No Place in the Sun: The People’s Empire 57

4 Carnival Knowledge: Enlightenment and Distraction in the Cultural Field 80

5 Ethnographic-Fantastic: Working-Class Readers at the Colonial Library 108

6 The Hottentot Elections: Colonial Politics, Socialist Politics 132

Magic Lantern Empire: Reflections on Colonialism and Society 148

Abbreviations 161

Notes 163

Bibliography 197

Index 223

Color plates follow page 84