# CONTENTS

**Acknowledgments**  ix  

**Introduction**  1  

1 Black Nation Time: Haiti’s Textual Foundations and Generic Novelty in the Age of Revolution  16  

2 The Romance of Prodigal Literacy: C. L. R. James’s Histories of Rhetorical Revolution in the Black Atlantic  48  

3 Declaring Negritude: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Aimé Césaire’s *Cahier d’un retour au pays natal*  77  

4 If You Could Make the Laws: Popular Authorship and the South African Freedom Charter  121  

5 Novel Constitutions: The Genres of African Decolonization  146  

6 The Right to Opacity: Ngũgĩ, Glissant, and Radical Multilingualism  188  

Coda  220  

*Notes*  227  

*Works Cited*  237  

*Index*  249