CONTENTS

Preface vii

Introduction. All at One Point: The Unlikely Connections between Italy’s Emigration, Immigration, and (Post)Colonialism 1

Part I. Waters: Migrant Voyages and Ships from and to Italy

Aperture I: An Ocean of Pre-Occupation and Possibilities: L’orda 23
1. Crossing the Atlantic to Meet the Nation: The Emigration Ship in Mignonette’s Songs and Crialese’s Nuovomondo 31
2. Overlapping Mediterranean Routes in Marra’s Sailing Home, Ragusa’s The Skin Between Us, and Tekle’s Libera 50

Part II. Houses: Multiethnic Residential Spaces as Living Archives of Pre-Occupation and Invention

Aperture II. A Multicultural Project in a National Square: The Orchestra of Piazza Vittorio 75
3. Displaced Italies and Immigrant “Delinquent” Spaces in Pariani’s Argentinian Conventillos and Lakhous’s Roman Palazzo 83
4. Writing the Pasta Factory and the Boardinghouse as Transnational Homes: Public and Private Acts in Melliti’s Pantanella and Mazzucco’s Vita 104

Part III. Workplaces: A Creative Re-Occupation of Labor Spaces against Exploitation

Aperture III. Labor on the Move: Rodari’s Construction Workers and Kuruvilla’s Babysitter 131
5. Edification between Nation and Migration in Cavanna’s Les Ritals and Adascalitei’s “Il giorno di San Nicola” 137
Contents

6. The Circular Routes of Colonial and Postcolonial Domestic Work: Però’s and Ciaravino’s *Alexandria* and Ghermandi’s “The Story of Woizero Bekelech and Signor Antonio” 161

Conclusion. Italy as a Laboratory for Imagi-Nation: The Citizenship Law between Inbound and Outbound Flows 183

Notes 197

*Works Cited* 227

*Index* 241

*Image Credits* 249