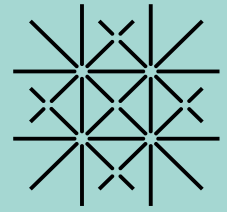


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What is new about New Historicism?

Prof. Dr. Philipp Schweighauser



Stephen Greenblatt



Jane Tompkins



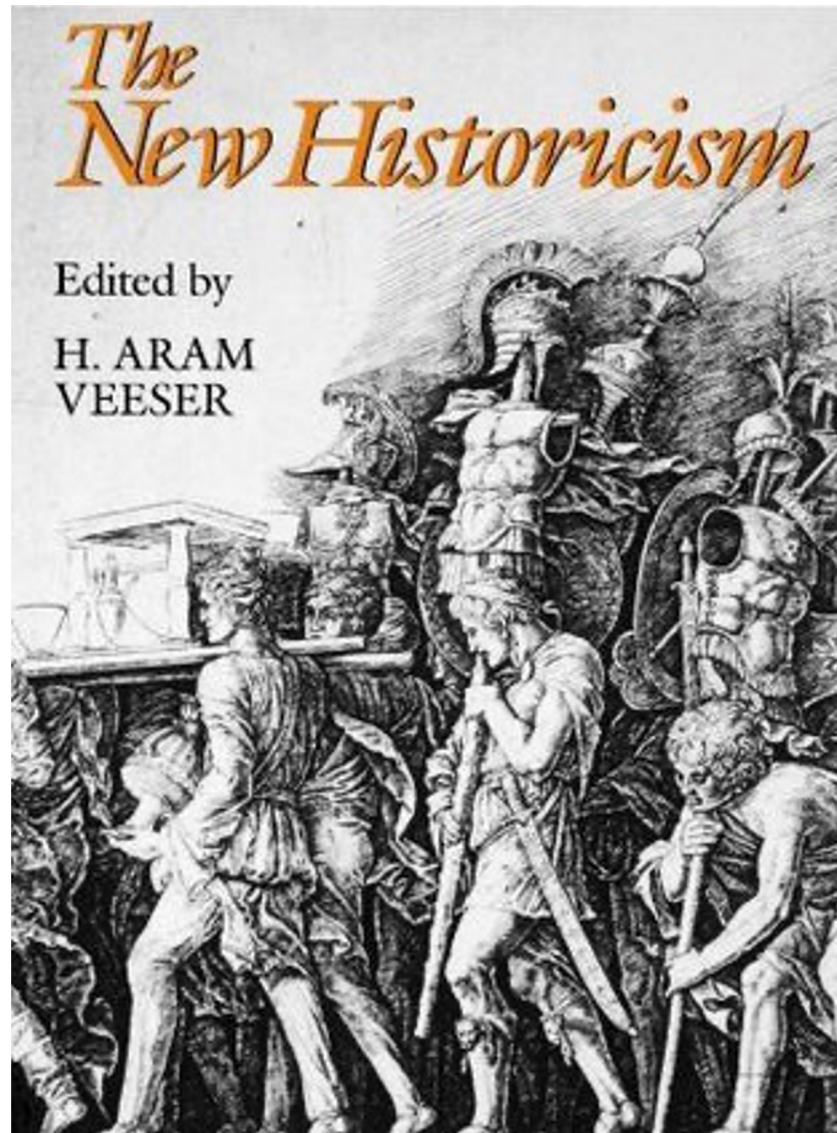
1. No historical era is unified by one worldview

Robert W. Weir, *Embarkation of the Pilgrims* (1843), Wikimedia, Public Domain.
(https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilgerv%C3%A4ter#/media/File:Embarkation_of_the_Pilgrims.jpg)



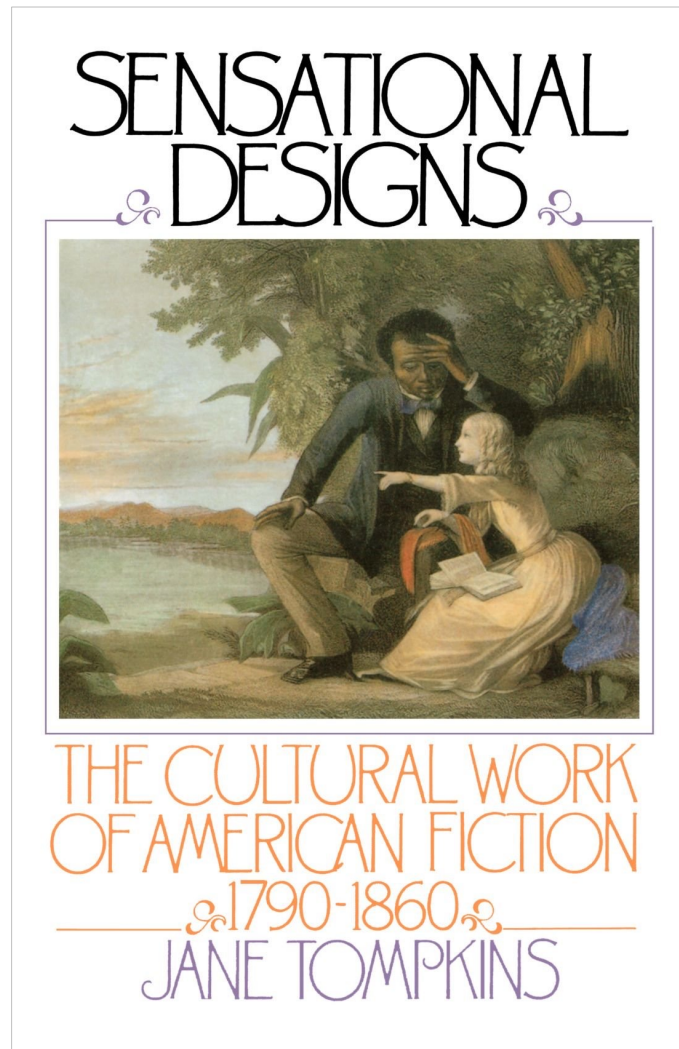
2. History is neither progressive nor teleological

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(https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holocaust#/media/File:Bundesarchiv_Bild_175-04413,_KZ_Auschwitz,_Einfahrt.jpg)

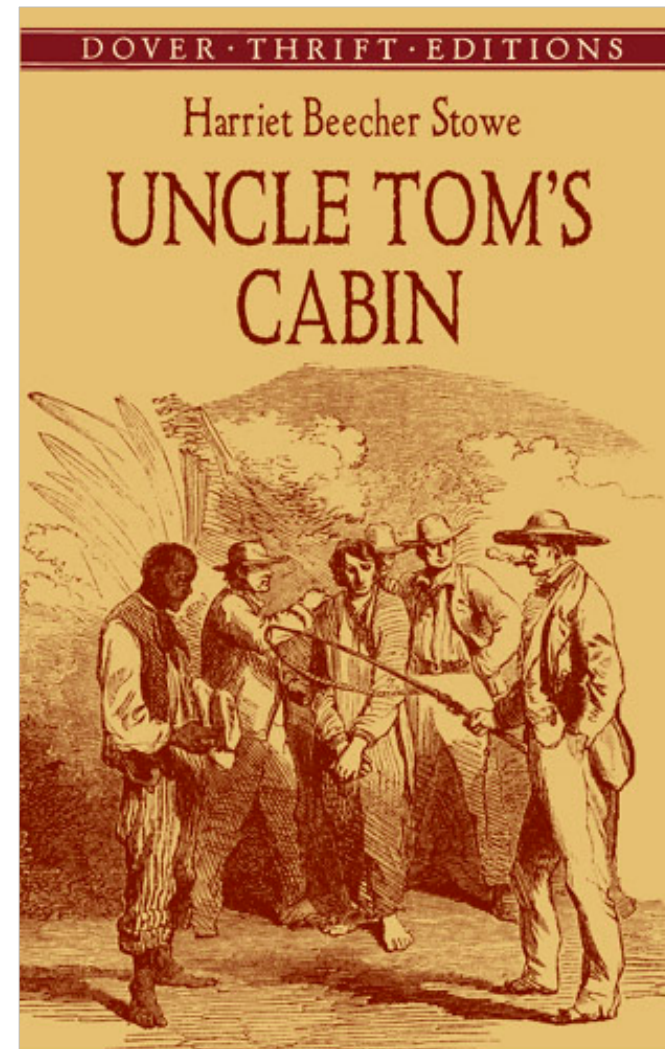


Routledge,
<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415900706/>

3. The past is not fully recoverable →
“the historicity of texts” and “textuality of history”
(Louis Montrose, “Professing the Renaissance:
The Poetics and Politics of Culture”)
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1



2

- ¹ Oxford University Press,
<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/sensational-designs-9780195041194?cc=ch&lang=en&>
- ² <https://www.rwu.edu/library/about-us/cultural-programs-events/john-howard-birss-jr-memorial-program-2002>
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4. Literature does not mirror the world but performs 'cultural work' on it
(Jane Tompkins, *Sensational Designs: The Cultural Work of American Fiction, 1790 -1860*)
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