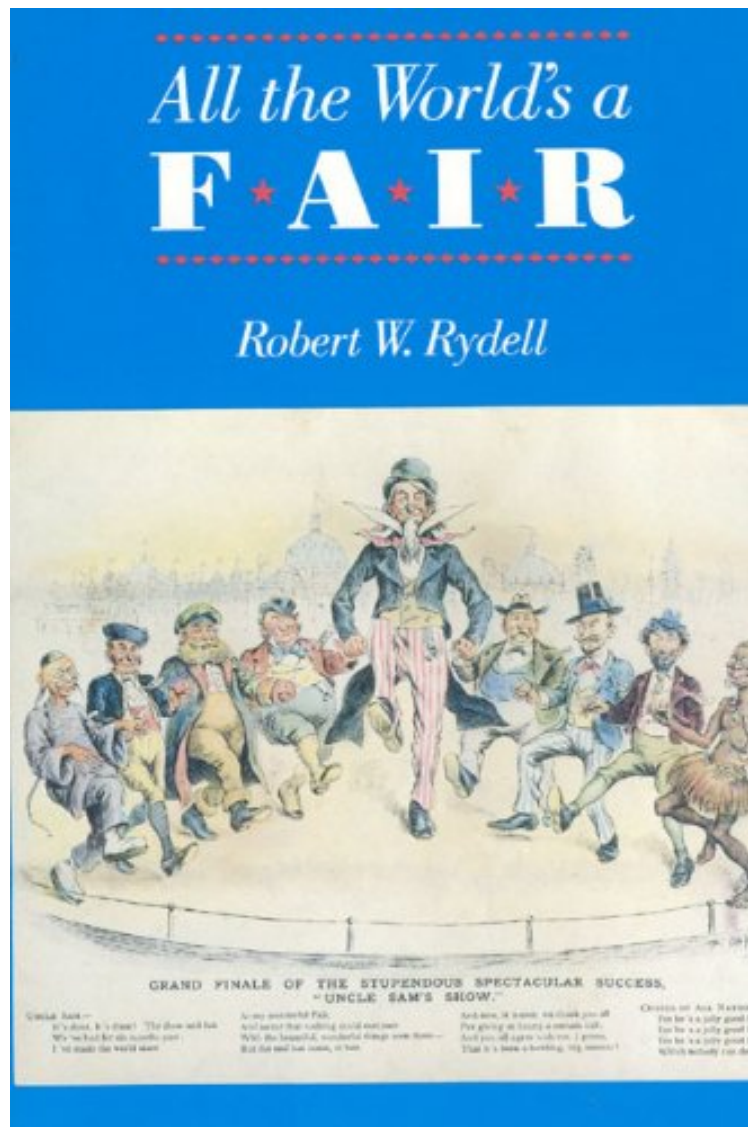


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# All the World's a Fair: Visions of Empire at American International Expositions, 1876-1916

Von Robert W. Rydell

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historical study Von Paul McGinnis This book is an extensive study of American World's Fairs from 1876 to 1915, a pivotal period in this country's history. The author gives a lot of historical background about that era, plus a lot of well-researched information about the expositions of that period. He does a great job of showing how these expositions were designed to lure the public into supporting the interests of the power structure of the time. In addition to the text, there are a lot of photographs, some quite rare, to give the reader a feel for these expositions.

Kurzbeschreibung Robert W. Rydell contends that America's early world's fairs actually served to legitimate racial exploitation at home and the creation of an empire abroad. He looks in particular to the "ethnological" displays of nonwhites set up by showmen but endorsed by prominent anthropologists which lent scientific credibility to popular racial attitudes and helped build public support for domestic and foreign policies. Rydell's lively and thought-provoking study draws on archival records, newspaper and magazine articles, guidebooks, popular novels, and oral histories.