



Historians on Hamilton

How a Blockbuster Musical Is Restaging America's Past

Edited by Renee C. Romano and Claire Bond Potter

DESCRIPTION

America has gone *Hamilton* crazy. Lin-Manuel Miranda's Tony-winning musical has spawned sold-out performances, a triple platinum cast album, and a score so catchy that it is being used to teach U.S. history in classrooms across the country. But just how historically accurate is *Hamilton*? And how is the show itself making history?

Historians on Hamilton brings together a collection of top scholars to explain the *Hamilton* phenomenon and explore what it might mean for our understanding of America's history. The contributors examine what the musical got right, what it got wrong, and why it matters. Does *Hamilton*'s hip-hop take on the Founding Fathers misrepresent our nation's past, or does it offer a bold positive vision for our nation's future? Can a musical so unabashedly contemporary and deliberately anachronistic still communicate historical truths about American culture and politics? And is *Hamilton* as revolutionary as its creators and many commentators claim?

Perfect for students, teachers, theatre fans, hip-hop heads, and history buffs alike, these short and lively essays examine why *Hamilton* became an Obama-era sensation and consider its continued relevance in the age of Trump. Whether you are a fan or a skeptic, you will come away from this collection with a new appreciation for the meaning and importance of the *Hamilton* phenomenon.

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