Contents

Introduction 1
Mariusz Kałczewiak and Magdalena Kozłowska

Part I. Affirming and Contesting the Empire

Chapter 1 Constructing Aziatchina: An Apology for Perceived Own “Emptiness” in Russian National and Imperial Discourses, 1828–1918 21
Batir Xasanov

Chapter 2 Involuntary Orientalists: Polish Exiles and Adventurers as Observers of the Kazakh Steppe and the Caucasus 44
Curtis G. Murphy

Chapter 3 “These Sufferers, Constantly Lamenting Their Bitter Fate”: The Image of the Mountain Jews in the Writings of Joseph Judah Chorny and Ilya Anisimov 69
Mateusz Majman

Part II. Creating the Other: Travel and Migration

Chapter 4 The East-West Dichotomy Disrupted: Triangulation and Reflections on the Imperial View in Hungarian Perceptions of North America 97
Balázs Venkovits

Chapter 5 Negotiating Empires: Eastern European Jewish Responses to the Expulsion of Jews from Palestine to Egypt in 1914–15 120
Jonathan Hirsch

Chapter 6 From Exotic Adventure to Victimization to Estrangement: Imagining “Africa” through the Eyes of Czechoslovak Travel Writers (1950s–80s) 144
Barbora Buzássyová
Part III. Representations and Fantasies

Chapter 7  Land Flowing with Milk and Honey: Polish Maritime and River/Colonial League’s Depictions of South America  173
Marta Grzechnik

Chapter 8  Between Postimperial Expansion and Promethean Mission: Africa and Africans in Interwar Polish Colonial Discourse  196
Piotr Puchalski

Chapter 9  Eastern Promises: Romanian Responses to the War in Vietnam  221
Jill Massino

Afterword  243
Magdalena Kozłowska and Mariusz Kałczewiak

Index  249