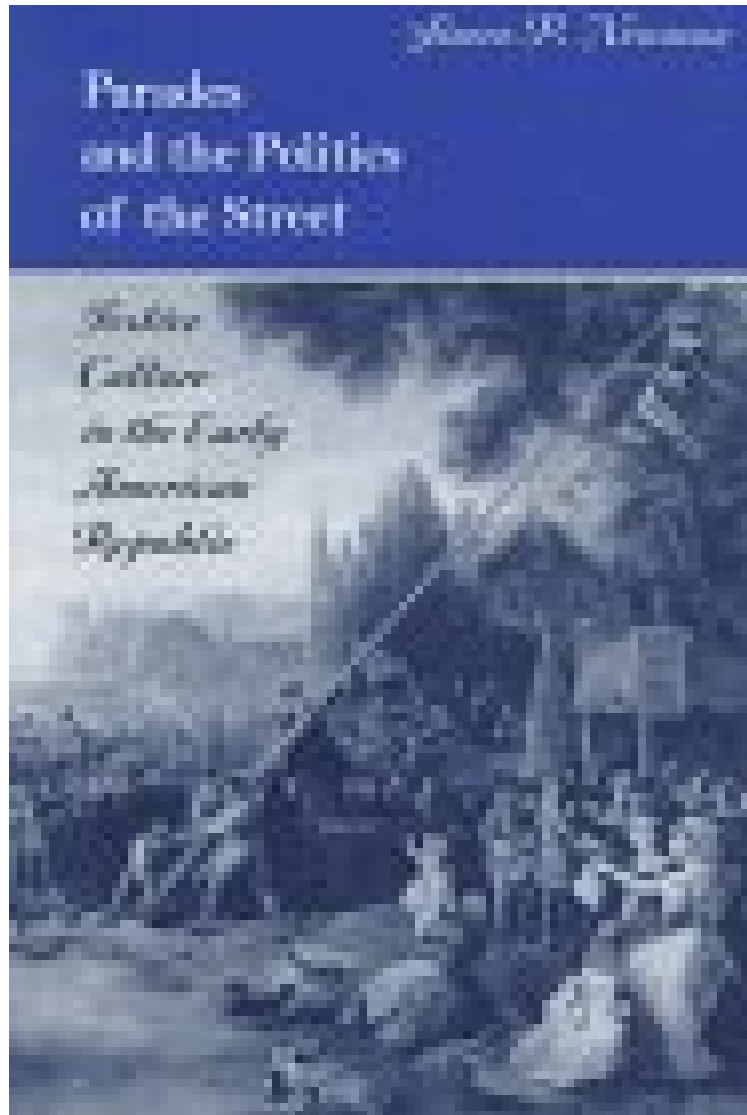


(Download) Parades and the Politics of the Street: Festive Culture in the Early American Republic (Early American Studies)

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Simon P. Newman

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Simon P. Newman : Parades and the Politics of the Street: Festive Culture in the Early American Republic (Early American Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Parades and the Politics of the Street: Festive Culture in the Early American Republic (Early American Studies):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Extensive account of political expression in the early years of the United States
By Darka Novoselic
The creation of the United States tends to focus on those known as the Founders - the men who agitated for revolution and after independence signed onto the US Constitution. But this small group would have never succeeded without broad based support. They needed rural farm folk, craftsman and artisans, free and enslaved black Americans and, of course, the female sex. A popular culture rooted in revolutionary spirit was expressed through parades, songs, feasts, toasts and symbolic rites. Once independence was won, this means of expression endured into the partisan politics of the new republic. Newman's research shows us how the rivalry between the Democratic Republicans and Federalists manifested among the general populace - many who were excluded from voting.
Newman's study is a remarkable account of the political polarization that appeared at the very outset of the United States. Newman has combed through complete runs of over fifty late 18th Century periodicals. He also examined journals, magazines, diaries and correspondence of the era. As a result, the footnotes are extensive and the bibliography itself is twenty pages long. This academic tome can read like a chronology of events, so at times the narrative suffers. Nevertheless, this extensive catalog of actual proceedings paints a good picture of how robust and broad based political expression was at the beginning of the nation.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well... Great seller! The book on the other hand, eh.
By Sean Daggett
Transaction was easy and simple no issues with shipping or any of that. However I found myself not at all intrigued by this book, it was one of those mandatory reads for a History 100 class, which why I am taking History 100 in my fourth and final year of college is beyond me, but I digress. The book just wasn't interesting to me, sure it looked like another way of looking at history and if you are into history books and that style of writing, please by all means, disregard everything I am saying, however if this book is forced upon you like it was me, be prepared for a lot of falling asleep with a book in your lap, and waking up attempting to figure out if you even understood anything you read prior to it putting you out.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Stuff you already know...
By The Sassy Countess
Newman has written down, what I think is obvious. However, he did it in a very interesting manner, and something that you can cite, too.

Throughout the 1790s, the streets and public places of the new American republic were alive with often elaborate, sometimes unruly parades, feasts, and festivals. Simon Newman vividly evokes the celebrations of America's first national holidays in the years between the ratification of the Constitution and the inauguration of Thomas Jefferson. He demonstrates how, by taking part in the festive culture of the streets, nonelite American men and women were able to play a significant role in forging the political culture of the young nation. The creation of many of the patriotic holidays we still celebrate coincided with the emergence of the first two-party system, Newman observes; as leaders of the Federalist and Democratic Republican factions vied to take fullest advantage of the parades and festivals that filled the public sphere, the participation and support of a wider public became vital to their parties' success. With the political songs they sang, the liberty poles they raised, and the partisan badges they wore, ordinary Americans helped shape a new national politics destined to replace the regional practices of the colonial era.

"Newman's impressively researched and elegantly written interpretation of popular culture and political mobilization is a major contribution to scholarship on the early American republic."
American Studies
"Deeply researched, evocative chapters treat the partisan politics of popular leadership, Independence Day, American celebrations of the French Revolution, and the songs, signs, and symbols of popular political culture."
Journal of American History
"The world of the Founding Fathers was also a postrevolutionary society, in whose streets people of all social classes jostled in festivals and parades that expressed a vibrant popular politics. Simon Newman's book is as lively as the tumultuous political culture he has mapped."
Linda K. Kerber
"In this impressive study of festive culture in the early republic, Simon Newman has gone a long way towards filling in many of the gaps in our understanding not only of early American culture and society but also of the changing nature of American nationalism in this period."
Urban History
About the Author
Simon P. Newman is Sir Denis Brogan Professor of American Studies at the University of Glasgow and author of *Embodied History: The Lives of the Poor in Early Philadelphia*, also available from the University of Pennsylvania Press.