

# EMPIRE OF RUIN

*Black Classicism and  
American Imperial Culture*



JOHN LEVI BARNARD

OXFORD  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

# *Contents*

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	ix
Introduction: Black Classicism in the American Empire	i
1. Phillis Wheatley and the Affairs of State	23
2. In Plain Sight: Slavery and the Architecture of Democracy	59
3. Ancient History, American Time: Charles Chesnut and the Sites of Memory	105
4. Crumbling into Dust: Conjure and the Ruins of Empire	139
5. National Monuments and the Residue of History	169
<i>Notes</i>	187
<i>Index</i>	227