

Highlights for Fall 2019

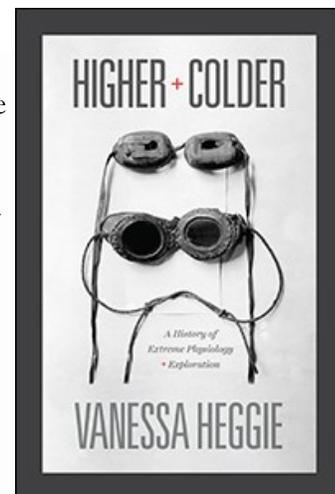
History of Science

HIGHER AND COLDER: A HISTORY OF EXTREME PHYSIOLOGY AND EXPLORATION

By Vanessa Heggie – 264 pages | 13 halftones | 6x9 | © 2019 - September

During the long twentieth century, explorers went in unprecedented numbers to the hottest, coldest, and highest points on the globe. Taking us from the Himalaya to Antarctica and beyond, *Higher and Colder* presents the first history of extreme physiology, the study of the human body at its physical limits. Each chapter explores a seminal question in the history of science, while also showing how the apparently exotic locations and experiments contributed to broader political and social shifts in twentieth-century scientific thinking.

Unlike most books on modern biomedicine, *Higher and Colder* focuses on fieldwork, expeditions, and exploration, and in doing so provides a welcome alternative to laboratory-dominated accounts of the history of modern life sciences. Though centered on male-dominated practices—science and exploration—it recovers the stories of women’s contributions that were sometimes accidentally, and sometimes deliberately, erased. Engaging and provocative, this book is a history of the scientists and physiologists who face challenges that are physically demanding, frequently dangerous, and sometimes fatal, in the interest of advancing modern science and pushing the boundaries of human ability.



Vanessa Heggie is a lecturer in the history of medicine and science at the Institute of Applied Health Research at the University of Birmingham. She is the author of *A History of British Sports Medicine* and was coauthor of the *Guardian* blog *The H-Word* from 2012–2017.

Contents

List of Abbreviations

1. Introduction: Higher and Colder
2. Gasping Lungs
3. Frozen Fields
4. Local Knowledge
5. Blood on the Mountain
6. Conclusion: Death and Other Frontiers

Acknowledgments

Notes

Bibliography

Index

Among the men and women featured in this book are:

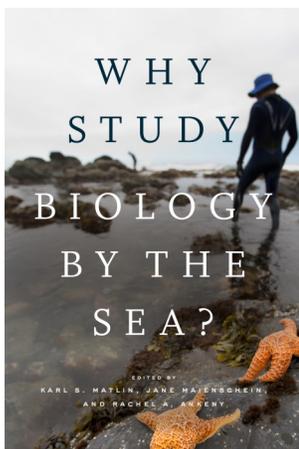
- ◇ Kåre Rodahl, a Norwegian physician and physiologist who became one of the world’s foremost experts on Antarctic life
- ◇ Joan Rodahl, his British-born wife, who traveled and worked alongside him
- ◇ Mrs. R. J. Sutherland, a mathematics and computing expert who co-authored one of the major mid-twentieth century studies of cold adaptation in man
- ◇ Nea Morin, a British pioneering female climber who contributed to ECG studies
- ◇ Dr. Sukhamay Lahiri, an Indian-born physiologist who worked extensively on altitude physiology, leading to his breakthrough Silver Hut expedition of 1960-61
- ◇ Nathan Zuntz, a German chemist and physiologist who conducted studies at the Capanna Margherita into the consumption of oxygen at rest and at work at altitude
- ◇ Hope Macpherson, a celebrated Australian marine biologist
- ◇ Dawn Rodley, a New Zealand geologist who was also a seasoned hiker and climber

Highlights for Fall 2019

History of Science and Biology

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY BY THE SEA?

Edited by Karl S. Matlin, Jane Maienschein and Rachel A. Ankeny - 344 pages | 33 halftones | 6x9 | © 2019 - December



For almost a century and a half, biologists have gone to the seashore to study life. The oceans contain rich biodiversity, and organisms at the intersection of sea and shore provide a plentiful sampling for research into a variety of questions at the laboratory bench: How does life develop and how does it function? How are organisms that look different related, and what role does the environment play?

From the Stazione Zoologica in Naples to the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, the Amoy Station in China, or the Misaki Station in Japan, students and researchers at seaside research stations have long visited the ocean to investigate life at all stages of development and to convene discussions of biological discoveries. Exploring the history and current reasons for study by the sea, this book examines key people, institutions, research projects, organisms selected for study, and competing theories and interpretations of discoveries, and it considers different ways of understanding research, such as through research repertoires. A celebration of coastal marine research, *Why Study Biology by the Sea?* reveals why scientists have moved from the beach to the lab bench and back.

Karl S. Matlin is a cell biologist and professor in the Department of Surgery and a member of the Committee on Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science at the University of Chicago. **Jane Maienschein** is University Professor in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University and fellow and director of the History and Philosophy of Science Project at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. She is the author of *Embryos under the Microscope: The Diverging Meanings of Life* and, with Manfred Laubichler coeditor of *Form and Function in Developmental Evolution*. **Rachel A. Ankeny** is professor of history at the University of Adelaide, Australia, and honorary visiting professor in the College of Social Science and International Studies (Philosophy) at the University of Exeter, UK.

Contents

List of Contributors

Preface, *Nipam Patel*

Introduction, *Karl S. Matlin, Jane Maienschein, and Rachel A. Ankeny*

Part I. Marine Places

1. Why Have Biologists Studied at the Seashore? The Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory, *Jane Maienschein*
2. Marine Biology Studies at Naples: The Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, *Christiane Groeben*
3. The First Marine Biological Station in Modern China: Amoy University and Amphioxus, *Christine Yi Lai Luk*
4. The Misaki Marine Biological Station's Dual Roles for Zoology and Fisheries, 1800s-1930s, *Kjell David Ericson*

Part II. Marine Practice

5. Illuminating Animal Behavior: The Impact of Laboratory Structure on Tropism Research at Marine Stations, *Samantha Muka*
6. The Scientific Fishery: Sampling, Dissecting, and Drawing in the Gulf of Naples, *Katharina Steiner*
7. A Dual Mission: Research and Education as Critical Factors for the Scientific Integrity of the Marine Biological Laboratory, *Kate MacCord*
8. Francis O. Schmitt: At the Intersection of Neuroscience and Squid, *Kathryn Maxson Jones*
9. Microscopes and Moving Molecules: The Discovery of Kinesin at the Marine Biological Laboratory, *Karl S. Matlin*
10. Using Repertoires to Explore Changing Practices in Recent Coral Research, *Rachel A. Ankeny and Sabina Leonelli*
11. Why Study Sex by the Sea?: Marine Organisms and the Problem of Fertilization and Cell Cleavage, *Michael Dietrich, Nathan Crowe, and Rachel A. Ankeny*
12. Hagfish and Vascular Biology: Why the Marine Model Matters, *Marianne A. Grant and William C. Aird*

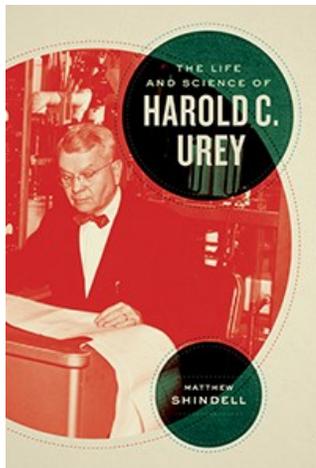
Epilogue, *Alejandro Sánchez Alvarado*

Highlights for Fall 2019

Biography

THE LIFE AND SCIENCE OF HAROLD C. UREY

By Matthew Shindell — 248 pages | 12 halftones | 6x9 | © 2019 - October



Harold C. Urey (1893–1981) was one of the most famous American scientists of the twentieth century. Awarded the Nobel Prize in 1934 for his discovery of deuterium and heavy water, Urey later participated in the Manhattan Project and NASA's lunar exploration program. In this, the first ever biography of the chemist, Matthew Shindell shines new light on Urey's achievements and efforts to shape his public and private lives.

Shindell follows Urey through his orthodox religious upbringing, the scientific work that won him the Nobel, and his subsequent efforts to use his fame to intervene in political, social, and scientific matters. At times, Urey succeeded, including when he helped create the fields of isotope geochemistry and cosmochemistry. But other endeavors, such as his promotion of world governance of atomic weapons, failed. By exploring those efforts, as well as Urey's evolution from farm boy to scientific celebrity, we can discern broader changes in the social and intellectual landscape of twentieth-century America. More than a life story, this book immerses readers in the struggles and triumphs of not only an extraordinary man, but also his extraordinary times.

Matthew Shindell is curator of planetary science and exploration at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

Contents

Introduction: The Making and Remaking of an American Chemist

1. From Farm Boy to Wartime Chemist
2. From Industrial Chemistry to Copenhagen
3. From Novice in Europe to Expert in America
4. From Nobel Laureate to Manhattan Project Burnout
5. A Separation Man No More
6. A Return to Science
7. To Hell with the Moon!

Epilogue: A Life in Science

Acknowledgments

Notes

List of Archives

List of Oral History Interviews

Bibliography

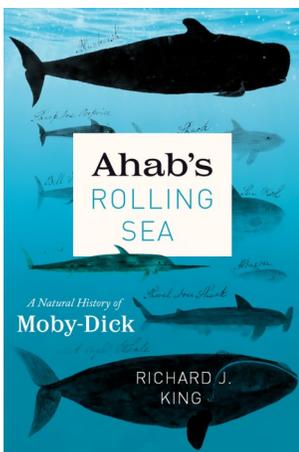
Index

Highlights for Fall 2019

Natural History and Literary Criticism

AHAB'S ROLLING SEA: A NATURAL HISTORY OF "MOBY-DICK"

By Richard J. King — 464 pages | 12 color plates, 71 halftones | 6x9 | © 2019 - October



Although Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick* is beloved as one of the most profound and enduring works of American fiction, we rarely consider it a work of nature writing—or even a novel of the sea. Yet Pulitzer Prize-winning author Annie Dillard avers *Moby-Dick* is the “best book ever written about nature,” and nearly the entirety of the story is set on the waves, with scarcely a whiff of land. In fact, Ishmael's sea yarn is in conversation with the nature writing of Emerson and Thoreau, and Melville himself did much more than live for a year in a cabin beside a pond. He set sail: to the far remote Pacific Ocean, spending more than three years at sea before writing his masterpiece in 1851.

A revelation for *Moby-Dick* devotees and neophytes alike, *Ahab's Rolling Sea* is a chronological journey through the natural history of Melville's novel. From white whales to whale intelligence, giant squids, barnacles, albatross, and sharks, Richard J. King examines what Melville knew from his own experiences and the sources available to a reader in the mid-1800s, exploring how and why Melville might have twisted what was known to serve his fiction. King then climbs to the crow's nest, setting Melville in the context of the American perception of the ocean in 1851—at the very start of the Industrial Revolution and just before the publication of *On the Origin of Species*. King compares Ahab's and Ishmael's worldviews to

how we see the ocean today: an expanse still immortal and sublime, but also in crisis. And although the concept of stewardship of the sea would have been entirely foreign, if not absurd, to Melville, King argues that Melville's narrator Ishmael reveals his own tendencies toward what we would now call environmentalism.

Featuring a coffer of illustrations and an array of interviews with contemporary scientists, fishers, and whale watch operators, *Ahab's Rolling Sea* offers new insight not only into a cherished masterwork and its author but also into our evolving relationship with the briny deep—from whale hunters to climate refugees.

Richard J. King is visiting associate professor of maritime literature and history at the Sea Education Association in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. For more than twenty years he has been sailing and teaching aboard tall ships in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. He writes and illustrates a column on marine animals for *Sea History* magazine, edits the “Searchable Sea Literature” website, and was the founding series editor of *Seafaring America*.

Contents

Introduction

1. Herman Melville: Whaleman, Author, Natural Philosopher
2. Numerous Fish Documents
3. Cetology and Evolution
4. White Whales and Natural Theology
5. Whale Migration
6. Wind
7. Gulls, Sea-Ravens, and Albatrosses
8. Small Harmless Fish
9. Phosphorescence
10. Sword-Fish and Lively Grounds
11. Brit and Baleen
12. Giant Squid
13. Sharks
14. Fresh Fare
15. Barnacles and Sea Candies
16. Practical Cetology: Spout, Senses, and the Dissection of Heads
17. Whale and Human Intelligence

18. Ambergris
19. Coral Insects
20. Grandissimus
21. Whale Skeletons and Fossils
22. Does the Whale Diminish?
23. Mother Carey's Chickens
24. Typhoons and Corpusants
25. Navigation
26. Seals
27. The Feminine Air
28. Noiseless Nautilus
29. Sperm Whale Behavior
30. Sky-Hawk
31. Ishmael: Blue Environmentalist and Climate Refugee

Acknowledgments

Notes

Selected Bibliography

Figure Credits and Notes

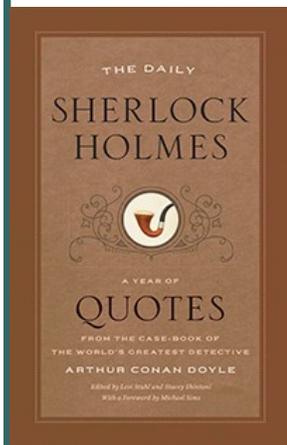
Index

Daily Quotes Series

Fall 2019

THE DAILY SHERLOCK HOLMES: A YEAR OF QUOTES FROM THE CASE-BOOK OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE

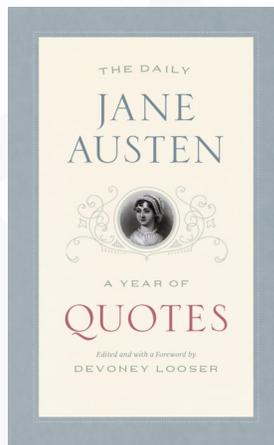
Edited by Levi Stalbl and Stacey Shintani with a foreword by Michael Sims – 208 pages | 4 1/2 x 7 1/4 | © 2019 - October



“Dr. Watson, Mr. Sherlock Holmes,” said Stamford, introducing us. “How are you?” he said cordially, gripping my hand with a strength for which I should hardly have given him credit. “You have been in Afghanistan, I perceive.” “How on earth did you know that?” I asked in astonishment. “Never mind,” said he, chuckling to himself.

THE DAILY JANE AUSTEN: A YEAR OF QUOTES

Edited and with a foreword by Devoney Looser – 208 pages | 4 1/2 x 7 1/4 | © 2019 - October



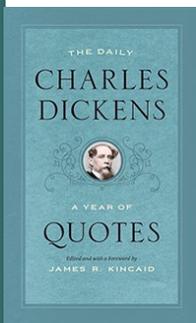
“Oh! I always deserve the best treatment because I never put up with any other.”

Emma, 1816

Backlist

THE DAILY CHARLES DICKENS: A YEAR OF QUOTES

Edited and with a foreword by James R. Kincaid – 208 pages | 4-1/2x7-1/2 | © 2018 - October

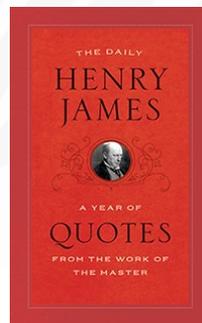


“When he has nothing else to do, he can always contemplate his own greatness. It is a considerable advantage to a man, to have so inexhaustible a subject.”

Bleak House, 1853

THE DAILY HENRY JAMES: A YEAR OF QUOTES FROM THE WORK OF THE MASTER

With a new foreword by Michael Gorra – 208 pages | 4-1/2x7-1/2 | © 2016 - October



“It was the point of view of the artist to whom every manifestation of human energy was a thrilling spectacle, and who felt it forever the desire to resolve his experience of life into a literary form.”

The Author of Beltraffio, 1885

Forthcoming 2020

THE DAILY THOMAS PAINE: A YEAR OF COMMON SENSE QUOTES FOR A NONSENSICAL AGE

Edited and with a foreword by Edward G. Gray – 176 pages | 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 | © 2020 - February

THE DAILY HENRY DAVID THOREAU: A YEAR OF QUOTES FROM THE MAN WHO LIVED IN SEASON

Edited and with a foreword by Laura Dassow Walls – 224 pages | 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 | © 2020 - April

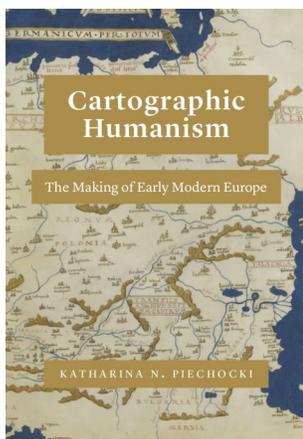
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Highlights for Fall 2019

Literary Criticism and Geography

CARTOGRAPHIC HUMANISM: THE MAKING OF EARLY-MODERN EUROPE

By Katharina N. Piechocki — 304 pages | 23 halftones | 6x9 | © 2019 - November



What is “Europe,” and when did it come to be? In the Renaissance, the term “Europe” circulated widely. But as Katharina N. Piechocki argues in this compelling book, the continent itself was only in the making in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

Cartographic Humanism sheds new light on how humanists negotiated and defined Europe’s boundaries at a momentous shift in the continent’s formation: when a new imagining of Europe was driven by the rise of cartography. As Piechocki shows, this tool of geography, philosophy, and philology was used not only to represent but, more importantly, also to shape and promote an image of Europe quite unparalleled in previous centuries. Engaging with poets, historians, and mapmakers, Piechocki resists an easy categorization of the continent, scrutinizing Europe as an unexamined category that demands a much more careful and nuanced investigation than scholars of early modernity have hitherto undertaken. Unprecedented in its geographic scope, *Cartographic Humanism* is the first book to chart new

itineraries across Europe as it brings France, Germany, Italy, Poland, and Portugal into a lively, interdisciplinary dialogue.

Katharina N. Piechocki is associate professor of comparative literature at Harvard University.

Contents

List of Figures

A Note on Translation

Introduction

1. Gridding Europe’s Navel: Conrad Celtis’s *Quatuor Libri Amorum secundum Quatuor Latera Germanie* (1502)
2. A Border Studies Manifesto: Maciej Miechowita’s *Tractatus de Duabus Sarmatiis* (1517)
3. The *Alpha* and the *Alif*: Continental Ambivalence in Geoffroy Tory’s *Champ fleury* (1529)
4. Syphilitic Borders and Continents in Flux: Girolamo Fracastoro’s *Syphilis sive Morbus Gallicus* (1530)
5. Cartographic Curses: Europe and the Ptolemaic Poetics of *Os Lusíadas* (1572)

Conclusions

Acknowledgments

Notes

Index

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Highlights for Fall 2019

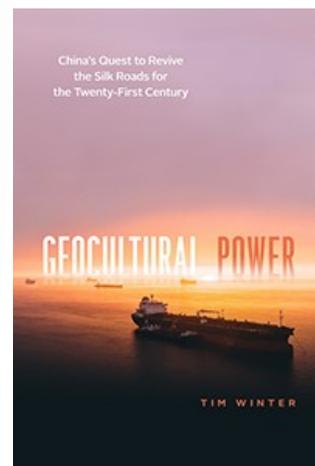
Asian Studies and Geography

GEOCULTURAL POWER: CHINA'S QUEST TO REVIVE THE SILK ROADS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

By *Tim Winter* - 304 pages | 15 maps, 11 line drawings | 6x 9 | © 2019 – October

Launched in 2013, China's Belt and Road Initiative is forging connections in infrastructure, trade, energy, finance, tourism, and culture across Eurasia and Africa. This extraordinarily ambitious strategy places China at the center of a geography of overland and maritime connectivity stretching across more than sixty countries and incorporating almost two-thirds of the world's population. But what does it mean to revive the Silk Roads for the twenty-first century?

Geocultural Power explores this question by considering how China is couching its strategy for building trade, foreign relations, and energy and political security in an evocative topography of history. Until now Belt and Road has been discussed as a geopolitical and geoeconomic project. This book introduces geocultural power to the analysis of international affairs. Tim Winter highlights how many countries—including Iran, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, and others—are revisiting their histories to find points of diplomatic and cultural connection. Through the revived Silk Roads, China becomes the new author of Eurasian history and the architect of the bridge between East and West. In a diplomatic dance of forgetting, episodes of violence, invasion, and bloodshed are left behind for a language of history and heritage that crosses borders in ways that further the trade ambitions of an increasingly networked China-driven economy.



Tim Winter is professor of critical heritage studies at the University of Western Australia. His previous books include *Shanghai Expo*, *Routledge Handbook of Heritage in Asia*, and *Postconflict Heritage, Postcolonial Tourism*.

Contents

List of Illustrations

Preface: Work Together for a Bright Future of China-Iran Relations, Xi Jinping, January 2016

1. From Camels and Sails to Highways and Refineries
2. The Silk Road: An Abridged Biography
3. A Politics of Routes
4. Corridor Diplomacy
5. Objects of Itinerancy
6. Historical Openings
7. Geocultural Power

Appendix

Notes

Bibliography

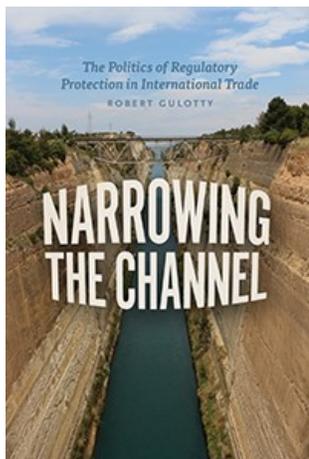
Index

Highlights for Fall 2019

Political Science

NARROWING THE CHANNEL: THE POLITICS OF REGULATORY PROTECTION IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

By Robert Gulotty – 240 pages | 32 figures, 21 tables | 6x9 | © 2019 - December



While large, multinational corporations have supported the removal of tariffs, behind the scenes these firms have fought for protection in the form of product regulations, including testing, labeling, and registration requirements. Unlike tariffs, these regulations can raise fixed costs, excluding smaller firms from the market and shifting profits toward global giants.

Narrowing the Channel demonstrates that globalization and globalized firms can paradoxically hinder rather than foster economic cooperation as larger firms seek to protect their markets through often unnecessarily strict product regulations. To illustrate the problem of regulatory protectionism, Robert Gulotty offers an in-depth analysis of contemporary rulemaking in the United States and the European Union in the areas of health, safety, and environmental standards. He shows how large firms seek regulatory schemes that disproportionately disadvantage small firms. When multinationals are embedded in the local economy, governments too have an incentive to use these regulations to shift profits back

home. Today, the key challenge to governing global trade is not how much trade occurs but who is allowed to participate, and this book shows that new rules will be needed to allow governments to widen the benefits of global commerce and avoid further inequality and market concentration.

Robert Gulotty is assistant professor of political science at the University of Chicago.

Contents

Preface

Part I: A Theory of Regulatory Protection

1. Introduction
2. A Theory of Global Firms and Local Regulation

Part II. Evidence

3. Determinants of Regulatory Barriers to Trade
4. Regulatory Preferences in the Chemical Industry
5. Regulatory Preferences in the Food Industry

Part III. Institutional Design

6. The Design of Reciprocal Trade Agreements
7. Designing Optimal Standards Agreements
8. Conclusion: Markets and Borders

Technical Appendix

Notes

References

Index

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Highlights for Fall 2019

Film and Media Studies

NIGHTMARES IN THE DREAM SANCTUARY: WAR AND THE ANIMATED FILM

By Donna Kornhaber — 328 pages | 20 color plates, 20 halftones | 6x9 | © 2019 - December

In 2008, *Waltz with Bashir* shocked the world by presenting a bracing story of war in what seemed like the most unlikely of formats—an animated film. Yet as Donna Kornhaber shows in this pioneering new book, the relationship between animation and war is actually as old as film itself. The world's very first animated movie was made to solicit donations for the Second Boer War, and even Walt Disney sent his earliest creations off to fight on gruesome animated battlefields drawn from his First World War experience. As Kornhaber strikingly demonstrates, the tradition of wartime animation, long ignored by scholars and film buffs alike, is one of the world's richest archives of wartime memory and witness.

Generation after generation, artists have turned to this most fantastical of mediums to capture real-life horrors they can express in no other way. From Chinese animators depicting the Japanese invasion of Shanghai to Bosnian animators portraying the siege of Sarajevo, from African animators documenting ethnic cleansing to South American animators reflecting on torture and civil war, from Vietnam-era protest films to the films of the French Resistance, from first-hand memories of Hiroshima to the haunting work of Holocaust survivors, the animated medium has for more than a century served as a visual repository for some of the darkest chapters in human history. It is a tradition that continues even to this day, in animated shorts made by Russian dissidents decrying the fighting in Ukraine, American soldiers returning from Iraq, or Middle Eastern artists commenting on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Arab Spring, or the ongoing crisis in Yemen. *Nightmares in the Dream Sanctuary: War and the Animated Film* vividly tells the story of these works and many others, covering the full history of animated film and spanning the entire globe. A rich, serious, and deeply felt work of groundbreaking media history, it is also an emotional testament to the power of art to capture the endurance of the human spirit in the face of atrocity.

Donna Kornhaber is associate professor of English at the University of Texas at Austin. She is the author of *Wes Anderson: A Collector's Cinema* and *Charlie Chaplin, Director*.

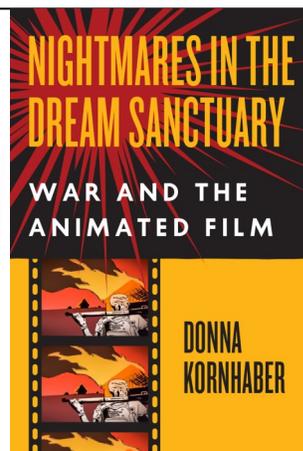
Contents

- List of Illustrations
- Preface
- Introduction: Witness
- Part One: At War
 - 1. Resistance
 - 2. Pacifism
- Part Two: After War
 - 3. Memory
 - 4. Memorial

- Acknowledgments
- Notes
- Filmography
- Bibliography
- Index

More than one hundred animations discussed, including:

The Sinking of the Lusitania (USA, 1918), *Felix Turns the Tide* (USA, 1992), *Cherry Blossoms* (Japan, 1965), *In the Jungle There is Much To Do* (Uruguay, 1973), *Tale of Tales* (USSR, 1979), *Kinsbasa*, *Black September* (Democratic Republic of Congo, 1992), *Persepolis* (Iran/France, 2007), *Waltz with Bashir* (Israel, 2008), *Saudi Deterrent Force* (Saudi Arabia, 2017).



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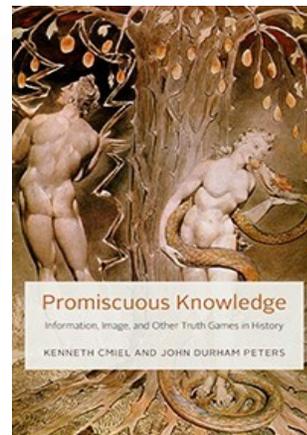
Highlights for Fall 2019

Art and Cultural Studies

PROMISCUOUS KNOWLEDGE: INFORMATION, IMAGE, AND TRUTH GAMES IN HISTORY

By Kenneth Cmiel and John Durham Peters — 336 pages | 28 halftones, 2 line drawings, 2 tables | 6x9 | © 2019 - December

Sergey Brin, a cofounder of Google, once compared the perfect search engine to the “mind of God.” As the modern face of promiscuous knowledge, however, Google’s divine omniscience traffics indifferently in news, maps, weather, and porn. This book, begun by the late Kenneth Cmiel and completed by his close friend John Durham Peters, provides a genealogy of the information age from its early origins up to the reign of Google. It examines how we think about fact, image, and knowledge, centering on the different ways that claims of truth are complicated when they pass to a larger public. To explore these ideas, Cmiel and Peters focus on three main time periods—the late nineteenth century, 1925 to 1945, and 1975 to 2000, with constant reference to the present. Cmiel’s original text examines the collapse he saw in the growing gulf between politics and aesthetics in postmodern architecture, the distancing of images from everyday life in magical realist cinema, the waning support for national betterment through taxation, and the inability of a single presentational strategy to contain the social whole. Peters brings Cmiel’s study into the present moment, providing the backstory to current controversies over filter-bubbles, echo chambers, and “fake news.” A hybrid work from two innovative thinkers, *Promiscuous Knowledge* is an enlightening contribution to our understanding of the internet and the profuse visual culture of our time.



Kenneth Cmiel was professor of history and American studies at the University of Iowa and director of the Center for Human Rights at the university. He was the author of *A Home of Another Kind: One Chicago Orphanage and the Tangle of Child Welfare*, also published by the University of Chicago Press, and *Democratic Eloquence: The Fight Over Popular Speech in Nineteenth-Century America*. **John Durham Peters** is professor of English and film and media studies at Yale University. He is the author and editor of many books, including *The Marvelous Clouds*, *Courting the Abyss*, and *Speaking into the Air*, all published by the University of Chicago Press.

Contents

Preface

Introduction

1. Warning Horatio
2. Victorian Culture and the Diffusion of Learning
3. The Culture of Happy Summary, 1920-1945
4. The Age of the World Picture, 1925-1945
5. Delirious Images, 1975-2000
6. Promiscuous Knowledge, 1975-2000

Postscript: The Promiscuous Knowledge of Ken Cmiel

Acknowledgements

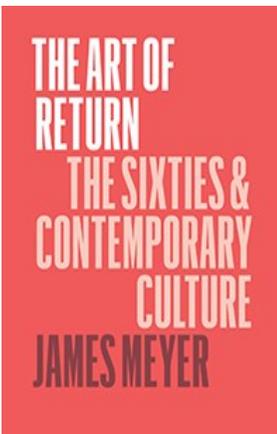
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Highlights for Fall 2019

Art and History

THE ART OF RETURN: THE SIXTIES AND CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

By James Meyer - 302 pages | 94 color plates, 38 halftones | 7x10 | © 2019 - September



More than any other decade, the Sixties captures our collective cultural imagination. And while many Americans can immediately imagine the sound of Martin Luther King Jr. declaring “I have a dream!” or envision hippies placing flowers in gun barrels, the revolutionary Sixties resonates around the world: China’s communist government inaugurated a new cultural era, African nations won independence from colonial rule, and students across Europe took to the streets, calling for an end to capitalism, imperialism, and the Vietnam War.

In this innovative work, James Meyer turns to art criticism, theory, memoir, and fiction to examine the fascination with the long Sixties and contemporary expressions of these cultural memories across the globe. Meyer draws on a diverse range of cultural objects that reimagine this revolutionary era stretching from the 1950s to the 1970s, including reenactments of civil rights, antiwar, and feminist marches, paintings, sculptures, photographs, novels, and films. Many of these works were created by artists and writers born during the long Sixties who are driven to understand a monumental era that they missed. These cases show us that the past becomes significant only in relation to our present, and our remembered history never perfectly replicates time past. This, Meyer argues, is precisely what makes our contemporary attachment to the past so

important: it provides us a critical opportunity to examine our own relationship to history, memory, and nostalgia.

James Meyer is Curator in the Department of Modern Art at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. He was previously Winship Distinguished Research Associate Professor of Art History at Emory University and Deputy Director and Chief Curator of Dia Art Foundation.

Contents

Introduction

Part 1: The Sixties Return

Sixties Children

Topography of the Sixties

After the Revolution

The Double: Return and Reenactment

“A No Man’s Land of Time”

Judging the Sixties

Red Scarf Children

Part 2: Entropy as Monument

The Smithsonian Return

Two “Sixties”

Kent, Ohio (1970)

A Woodshed Series (1996–2004)

Against Nostalgia

Continuing Smithsonian

An Unintentional Monument

The Monuments of Kent (2008)

Entropy and Death

Part 3: The End of the Sixties

Acknowledgments

Notes

Index

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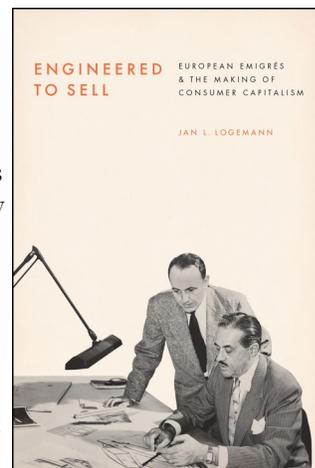
Highlights for Fall 2019

Cultural Studies

ENGINEERED TO SELL: EUROPEAN ÉMIGRÉS AND THE MAKING OF CONSUMER CAPITALISM

By Jan L. Logemann — 352 pages | 21 halftones, 1 table | 6x9 | © 2019 - October

Forever immortalized in the television series *Mad Men*, the mid-twentieth century marketing world influenced nearly every aspect of American culture—music, literature, politics, economics, consumerism, race relations, gender, and more. In *Engineered to Sell*, Jan Logemann traces the transnational careers of consumer engineers in advertising, market research and commercial design who transformed capitalism, from the 1930s through the 1960s. He argues that the history of marketing consumer goods is not a story of American exceptionalism. Instead, the careers of immigrants point to the limits of the “Americanization” paradigm. First, Logemann explains the rise of a dynamic world of goods by emphasizing changes in marketing approaches increasingly tailored to consumers. Second, he looks at how and why consumer engineering was shaped by transatlantic exchanges. From Austrian psychologists and little-known social scientists to the illustrious Bauhaus artists, the émigrés at the center of this story illustrate the vibrant cultural and commercial connections between metropolitan centers: Vienna and New York; Paris and Chicago; Berlin and San Francisco. These mid-century consumer engineers crossed national and disciplinary boundaries not only within arts and academia but also between governments, corporate actors, and social reform movements. By focusing on the transnational lives of émigré consumer researchers, marketers, and designers, *Engineered to Sell* details the processes of cultural translation and adaptation that mark both the mid-century transformation of American marketing and the subsequent European shift to “American” consumer capitalism.



Jan Logemann is assistant professor at the Institute for Economic and Social History at the University of Göttingen. He is the editor of *The Development of Consumer Credit in Global Perspective*, and the author of *Trams or Tailfins: Public and Private Prosperity in Postwar West Germany and the United States*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

Contents

Introduction: Consumer Engineers and the Transnational Origins of Consumer Capitalism

1. The Origins of “Consumer Engineering”: Interwar Consumer Capitalism in Transatlantic Perspective

Section One: Transformations in Marketing and Consumer Research

2. The Art of Asking Why: The “Vienna School” of Market Research and Transfers in Consumer Psychology

3. From Mass Persuasion to Engineered Consent: The Impact of “European” Psychology on the Cognitive Turn in Marketing Thought

4. Hidden Persuaders? Market Researchers as “Knowledge Entrepreneurs” between Business and the Social Sciences

Section Two: Designing for Sustained Demand

5. The Designer as Marketing Expert: European Immigrants and the Professionalization of Industrial and Graphic Design in the United States

6. The Commercialization of Social Engineering? Adapting Radical Design Reform to American Mass Marketing

7. “Streamlining Everything”: Design, Market Research, and the Postwar “American” World of Goods

Section Three: Transatlantic Return Voyages

8. Corporate America and the International Style: The Transnational Network of Knoll Associates between Europe and the United States

9. The “Return” to Europe: Emigrés as Cultural Translators and the Transformation of Postwar European Marketing

Consumer Engineering: Challenges and Legacies

Acknowledgments

Abbreviations for Archival Sources

Notes

Index

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

Highlights for Fall 2019

Economics and Business

CEO LEADERSHIP: NAVIGATING THE NEW ERA IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

By Thomas A. Cole – 304 pages | 4 line drawings, 2 tables | 6x9 | © 2019 - November

Corporate governance for public companies in the United States today is a fragile balance between shareholders, board members, and CEOs. Shareholders, who are focused on profits, put pressure on boards, who are accountable for operations and profitability. Boards, in turn, pressure CEOs, who must answer to the board while building their own larger vision and strategy for the future of the company. In order for this structure to be successful in the long term, it is imperative that boards and CEOs come to understand each other's roles and how best to work together.

Drawing on four decades of experience advising boards and CEOs on how to do just that, Thomas A. Cole offers in *CEO Leadership* a straightforward and accessible guide to navigating corporate governance today. He explores the recurring question of whose benefit a corporation should be governed for, along with related matters of corporate social responsibility, and he explains the role of laws, market forces, and politics and their influence on the governance of public companies. For corporate directors, he provides a comprehensive examination of the roles, responsibilities, and accountability the role entails, while also offering guidance on how to be as effective as possible in addressing both routine corporate matters and special situations such as mergers and acquisitions, succession, and corporate crises. In addition, he offers practical suggestions for CEOs on leadership and their interactions with boards and shareholders. Cole also mounts a compelling case that a corporate culture that celebrates diversity and inclusion and has zero tolerance for sexual misconduct is critical to long-term business success. Filled with vignettes from Cole's many years of experience in the board room and C-suite, *CEO Leadership* is an invaluable resource for current and prospective directors, CEOs, and other senior officers of public companies as well as the next generation of corporate leaders and their business and financial advisors.

Thomas A. Cole is senior counsel and chair emeritus of the executive committee of Sidley Austin LLP in Chicago. He has led seminars on corporate governance at both the University of Chicago and Harvard law schools.

Contents

Introduction

Part I: The Policy, Law, and Market Forces That Have Created the New Era of Corporate Governance

1. What Is Corporate Governance and Why Do We Care?
2. The Threshold Question of Corporate Governance: For Whose Benefit Are Corporations to Be Governed?
3. The Forces That Shape Corporate Governance

Part II: The Board-Centric Corporation

4. The Role of the Board
5. Assembling an Effective Board
6. Duties, Accountability, and Protections of Directors
7. Routine Board Operations
8. Special Situations
9. A Digression on Private Companies, Not-for-Profits, and Congress

Part III: Activism and the Threat of Shareholder-Centricity

10. Activists and Their Goals and Tools
11. The Case against Shareholder-Centricity

Part IV: Challenges to CEO Leadership

12. The Problem
13. Elements of a Solution

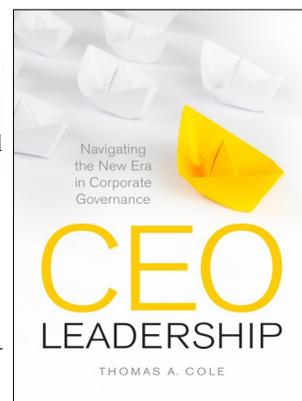
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Appendix 1-5

List of Abbreviations in Notes

Notes

Index

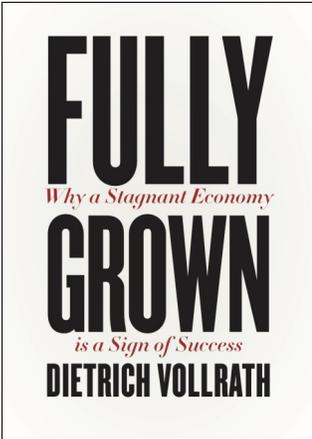


Highlights for Fall 2019

Economics and Business

FULLY GROWN: WHY A STAGNANT ECONOMY IS A SIGN OF SUCCESS

By Dietrich Vollrath – 296 pages | 52 figures, 7 tables | 6x9 | © 2020 - January



**FULLY
GROWN**
*Why a Stagnant Economy
is a Sign of Success*
DIETRICH VOLLRATH

Most economists would agree that a thriving economy is synonymous with GDP growth. The more we produce and consume, the higher our living standard and the more resources available to the public. This means that our current era, in which growth has slowed substantially from its postwar highs, has raised alarm bells. But should it? Is growth actually the best way to measure economic success—and does our slowdown indicate economic problems?

The counterintuitive answer Dietrich Vollrath offers is: No. Looking at the same facts as other economists, he offers a radically different interpretation. Rather than a sign of economic failure, he argues, our current slowdown is, in fact, a sign of our widespread economic success. Our powerful economy has already supplied so much of the necessary stuff of modern life, brought us so much comfort, security, and luxury, that we have turned to new forms of production and consumption that increase our well-being but do not contribute to growth in GDP.

In *Fully Grown*, Vollrath offers a powerful case to support that argument. He explores a number of important trends in the US economy: including a decrease in the number of workers relative to the population, a shift from a goods-driven economy to a services-driven one, and a decline in geographic mobility. In each case, he shows how their economic effects could be read as a sign of success, even though they each act as a brake of GDP growth. He also reveals what growth measurement can and cannot tell us—which factors are rightly correlated with economic success, which tell us nothing about significant changes in the economy, and which fall into a conspicuously gray area. Sure to be controversial, *Fully Grown* will reset the terms of economic debate and help us think anew about what a successful economy looks like.

Dietrich Vollrath is professor of economics at the University of Houston. He is coauthor of *Introduction to Economic Growth*, now in its third edition, and writes the Growth Economics Blog.

Contents

Preface

1. Victims of Our Own Success
2. What Is the Growth Slowdown?
3. The Inputs to Economic Growth
4. What Accounts for the Growth Slowdown?
5. The Effect of an Aging Population
6. The Difference between Productivity and Technology
7. The Reallocation from Goods to Services
8. Baumol's Cost Disease
9. Market Power and Productivity
10. Market Power and the Decline in Investment
11. The Necessity of Market Power
12. Reallocations across Firms and Jobs
13. The Drop in Geographic Mobility
14. Did the Government Cause the Slowdown?
15. Did Inequality Cause the Slowdown?
16. Did China Cause the Slowdown?
17. The Future of Growth

Appendix: Data and Methods

References

Index