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CHICAGO
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Modern Art and the Remaking of Human Disposition

Modern Art and the Remaking of Human Disposition explores new conventions for posing and positioning human figures in pictorial, architectural, and theatrical space in Europe in the decades leading up to WWI. The author contends that questions of “disposition” are vital to understanding a key transitional period in the history of Western modernism. Around 1885, avant-garde artists began to present human figures in strictly frontal, lateral, and dorsal postures. The effect, compared with standard, classical representations of the human figure, was both archaic and advanced, in keeping with contemporary theories of evolution and human psychology. These new ways of posing figures was how modern artists challenged long, deeply held assumptions about human consciousness and the human being’s privileged status in the world. Featured are three major works: the painting Poseuses (1886–1888) by the French Neo-Impressionist artist Georges Seurat; the Beethovenfries mural (1902) by the Austrian Secessionist painter Gustav Klimt; and the ballet L’Après-midi d’un faune (1912) by the Russian dancer and Ballets Russes choreographer Vaslav Nijinsky. Each work created an uproar when first presented. They were meant to be manifestos for the new values of a modern world and to overturn the superior, cerebral, moral status of the human subject.

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“Butterfield-Rosen’s strategy of examining the disposition of poses in order to contribute to histories of the self is nothing short of brilliant, and her discussion of the trafficking between abstract concepts and concrete practices is rigorous, original, and convincing. This is an area in which the discipline of art history is in a privileged position to contribute to a broader history of ideas, and she makes skillful use of the weapons in an art historian’s arsenal, including formal and iconographic analysis.”—Zeynep Celik Alexander, author of Kinaesthetic Knowing

Emmelyn Butterfield-Rosen is the associate director of the Williams College Graduate Program in the History of Art at the Clark Art Institute. She lives in Williamstown, Massachusetts and New York City.
Graffiti is by nature a protean art. In movies, it is often the backdrop used to create a sense of danger and lawlessness. In bathroom stalls, it is the disembodied expression of gossip, lewdness, or confession. In protests, it is a resistive tool, visually displaying the cacophony of disparate voices and interests that come together to make up a movement. Every graffito has an unstable afterlife—fated to be added to, transformed, overlaid, photographed, reinterpreted, or painted over.

In short, as John Lennon artfully explains in this book, graffiti makes for messy politics. It brings the unwieldiness of the crises it engages to the fore, giving shape to a conflict’s evolving nature.

Conflict Graffiti takes a deep dive into the many permutations of graffiti in conflict zones—moving from the protest graffiti of the Black Lives Matter movement in Ferguson and the Arab Spring in Egypt, to the tourist-attraction murals on the Israeli Separation Wall, to the street art used for city rebranding and beautification in Detroit and post-Katrina New Orleans. Graffiti has played a crucial role in the revolutionary movements of these locales, but has also been variously appropriated, policed, and exported, ushering in post-conflict consumerism, gentrification, militarization, and anaesthetized forgetting. Yet, Lennon concludes, as protest movements change and adapt in turn, graffiti is also uniquely suited to shapeshift with them, opening up new apertures of resistance with every wave.

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HENRY M. SAYRE

Value in Art
Manet and the Slave Trade

FEBRUARY | 256 p. | 42 color plates, 39 halftones | 7 x 10 | Cloth $45.00

How did art critics come to speak of light and dark as, respectively, “high in value” and “low in value.” In this book, Henry M. Sayre traces the origins of this usage in one of art history’s most famous and racially charged paintings, Manet’s *Olympia*. Masterfully researched and argued, this bold study reveals the extraordinary weight of history and politics that Manet’s painting bears, and the presence of slavery at modernism’s roots.

Sayre shows that it was Émile Zola who introduced a new “law of values” to art criticism in an 1867 essay on Manet. Unpacking the intricate contexts of Zola’s essay and of several related paintings of Manet, Sayre argues that Zola’s use of the economic metaphor of “value” was doubly coded. On the one hand, it was a feint that deflected attention away from *Olympia’s* actual subject and toward the painting’s formal qualities. On the other, Sayre argues, “value” for Zola was a trope for the political economy of slavery and the Second Empire’s complicity in the ongoing slave trade in the Americas. *Value in Art* is a surprising and necessary intervention in our understanding of modern art’s emergence in relation to issues of race.

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Henry M. Sayre is distinguished professor of art history emeritus at Oregon State University–Cascades Campus. He is the creator and executive director of the ten-part television series, *A World of Art: Works in Progress*, and author of nine books, including *The Object of Performance: The American Avant-Garde since 1970*. 
Policy makers often call for expanding public spending on infrastructure, which includes a broad range of investments from roads and bridges to digital networks that will expand access to high-speed broadband. Some point to near-term macro-economic benefits and job creation, others focus on long-term effects on productivity and economic growth. This volume explores the links between infrastructure spending and economic outcomes, as well as key economic issues in the funding and management of infrastructure projects. It draws together research studies that describe the short-run stimulus effects of infrastructure spending, develop new estimates of the stock of US infrastructure capital, and explore the incentive aspects of public-private partnerships (PPPs). A salient issue is the treatment of risk in evaluating publicly-funded infrastructure projects and in connection with PPPs. The goal of the volume is to provide a reference for researchers seeking to expand research on infrastructure issues, and for policy makers tasked with determining the appropriate level of infrastructure spending.

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Feeding the world’s growing population is a critical policy challenge for the twenty-first century. With constraints on water, arable land, and other natural resources, agricultural innovation is a promising path to meeting the nutrient needs for future generations. At the same time, potential increases in the variability of the world’s climate may intensify the need for developing new crops that can tolerate extreme weather. Despite the key role for scientific breakthroughs, there is an active discussion on the returns to public and private spending in agricultural R&D, and many of the world’s wealthier countries have scaled back the share of GDP that they devote to agricultural R&D. Dwindling public support leaves universities, which historically have been a major source of agricultural innovation, increasingly dependent on industry funding, with uncertain effects on the nature and direction of agricultural research. All of these factors create an urgent need for systematic empirical evidence on the forces that drive research and innovation in agriculture. This book aims to provide such evidence through economic analyses of the sources of agricultural innovation, the challenges of measuring agricultural productivity, the role of universities and their interactions with industry, and emerging mechanisms that can fund agricultural R&D.

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Markets and Governments in Economic History

Economists have long lamented that the inefficiency of India’s legal system undermines the country’s economic capacity. How has this come to be? The prevailing explanation is that the postcolonial legal system is understaffed and under-resourced, making adjudication and contract enforcement slow and costly.

Taking this as given, Law and the Economy in a Young Democracy examines the contents and historical antecedents of these laws, including how they have stifled economic development. The authors argue that legal evolution in independent India has primarily been shaped by three factors: the desire to reduce inequality and poverty; the suspicion that market activity, both domestic and international, can be detrimental to these goals; and the strengthening of Indian democracy over time, giving voice to a growing fraction of society, including the poor.

Weaving the story of India’s heralded economic transformation with its social and political history, Roy and Swamy show how inadequate legal infrastructure has been a key impediment to the country’s economic growth during the last century. A stirring and authoritative history of a nation rife with contradictions, Law and the Economy in a Young Democracy is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand India’s current crossroads—and the factors that may keep its dreams unrealized.

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Elite colleges have long played a crucial role in maintaining social and class status in America while public universities have offered a major stepping-stone to new economic opportunities. However, as Charlie Eaton reveals in *Bankers in the Ivory Tower*, finance has played a central role in the widening inequality in recent decades, both in American higher education and in American society at large.

With federal and state funding falling short, the US higher education system has become increasingly dependent on financial markets and the financiers that mediate them. Beginning in the 1980s, the government, colleges, students, and their families took on multiple new roles as financial investors, borrowers, and brokers. The turn to finance, however, has yielded wildly unequal results. At the top, ties to Wall Street help the most elite private schools achieve the greatest endowment growth through hedge fund investments and the support of wealthy donors. At the bottom, takeovers by private equity transform for-profit colleges into predatory organizations that leave disadvantaged students with massive loan debt and few educational benefits. And in the middle, public universities are squeezed between incentives to increase tuition and pressures to maintain access and affordability. Eaton chronicles these transformations, making clear for the first time just how tight the links are between powerful financiers and America’s unequal system of higher education.
In 1945, 179 scientists for the Nazi party were recruited to build a powerful weapon for the US Army in a program named Operation Paperclip. The scientists were relocated to Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, with their families. From this outpost, their children were bussed daily by military police to four El Paso public schools. Though born into a fascist enemy nation, the German children were quickly integrated into the schools and, by proxy, American society through help in the form of school placements and specially arranged English classes. Their rapid assimilation served an important political purpose for the military and the state, improving the public image of Operation Paperclip, and offering evidence that American public schools played a vital role in ensuring the victory of democracy over fascism.

In Educating the Enemy, Jonna Perrillo not only tells this fascinating story of Cold War educational policy, she draws an important comparison to another population of children in the El Paso public schools who received dramatically different treatment: Mexican Americans. Like everywhere else in the Southwest, Mexican children in El Paso were segregated into “Mexican” schools, as opposed to the “American” schools the German students attended. In these “Mexican” schools, children were penalized for speaking Spanish, which, because of residential segregation, was the only language all but a few spoke. They also prepared students for menial jobs that would keep them ensconced in Mexican American enclaves. From these disparate experiences, Educating the Enemy charts what two groups of children—one that might have been considered the enemy, the other that was treated as such—reveal about the ways political assimilation has been treated by schools as an easier, more viable project than racial or ethnic assimilation. It also shows how deeply schools and beliefs about schools were connected to seemingly distinct political developments, including Cold War foreign policy and diplomacy, federal power over immigration, and a growing military industry. Bridging these histories, as well as the histories of race and childhood, Perrillo uncovers the central role schools played in defining “foreignness” in a postwar international order, the Cold War dissonances between international tolerance and domestic segregation, and the influence of both military and diplomatic initiatives on American public schools.
The last ten years have presented television viewers with a host of female characters the likes of which we’ve never seen before. Selfish, vengeful, and often deeply unlikeable, they fly in the face of our expectations for women. In *The New Female Antihero*, Sarah Hagelin and Gillian Silverman probe the stories of female protagonists who eschew aspirations for a career, marriage, and children, swerving instead toward utter apathy, at one end of the spectrum, or unadulterated power at the other. From the bloodthirsty queens of *Game of Thrones*, *The Americans*, *Scandal*, and *Homeland* to the shrugging failures of *Girls*, *Broad City*, *Insecure*, and *SMILF*, female antiheroes register a deep ambivalence about the promises of liberal feminism in contemporary America. As Hagelin and Silverman show, their narratives of ruthlessness, insanity, hedonism, and precarity call into question both the possibility and the desirability of the “good life” their forebears achieved through entitlement, pluck, and leaning in.

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Bette Davis was not only one of Hollywood’s brightest stars, but also one of its most outspoken advocates on matters of race. In *Bette Davis Black and White*, Julia A. Stern explores this largely untold facet of Davis’s brilliant career.

*Bette Davis Black and White* analyzes four of Davis’s best-known pictures—*Jezebel* (1938), *The Little Foxes* (1941), *In This Our Life* (1942), and *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?* (1962)—against the history of American race relations. Stern also weaves in memories of her own experiences as a young viewer, coming into racial consciousness watching Davis’s films on television in an all-white suburb of Chicago.

Davis’s egalitarian politics and unique collaborations with her Black costars offer Stern a window into midcentury American racial fantasy and the efforts of Black performers to disrupt it. This book incorporates testimony from Davis’s Black contemporaries, including James Baldwin and C. L. R. James, as well as the African American fans who penned letters to Warner Brothers praising Davis’s work. A unique combination of history, star study, and memoir, *Bette Davis Black and White* allows us to contemplate cross-racial spectatorship in new ways.

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In 1540, in the wake of the tumult brought on by the Protestant Reformation, Saint Ignatius of Loyola founded The Society of Jesus aka The Jesuits. The Society’s goal was to revitalize the faith of Catholics and to evangelize to non-Catholics through works of charity, education, and missionary work. By the end of the century, Jesuit missionaries were sent all over the world, including to South America. In addition to performing missionary and humanitarian work, Jesuits also served as cartographers and explorers under the auspices of the Spanish, Portuguese, and French Crowns as they went into remote areas to find and evangelize to native populations. In *Encounters in the New World*, Mirela Altic analyses over 150 of these maps, most of which have never previously been published. She traces the Jesuit contribution to mapping and mapmaking from their arrival in the New World into the post-suppression period and places the Jesuit contribution to cartography in the context of their worldwide undertakings in the fields of science and art. Altic reveals that the Jesuit mapping of the New World was not just a physical survey of unknown space, but was in fact the most important link that brought two cultures together and successfully enabled an exchange of ideas and cultural concepts between the Old World and the New.

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“A superb addition to the growing body of work on the history of Latinx Chicago. Amezcua offers a nuanced story of the politics of place and space, using the history of housing, displacement, and urban renewal to explore broader patterns of urban change and the evolving strategies of a marginalized group in gaining access to power.”—Lorrin Thomas, author of *Puerto Rican Citizen: History and Political Identity in New York City*

Mike Amezcua is assistant professor of history at Georgetown University.

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**Making Mexican Chicago**

From Postwar Settlement to the Age of Gentrification

JANUARY | 320 p. | 32 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth $45.00

- Reveals the political history of Chicago’s Mexican communities—and the surprising diversity of perspectives that arose as a result
- Articulates how Mexicans became such a powerful political force in Chicago, despite the many discriminations they have faced
- Shows the centrality of business, jobs, and economic success to the identities of Mexicans in Chicago

_A Historical Studies of Urban America_

Though Chicago is often popularly defined by its Polish, Black, and Irish populations, Cook County is also home to the third-largest Mexican-American population in the United States. The story of Mexican immigration and integration into the city is one of complex political struggles, deeply entwined with issues of housing and neighborhood control. In *Making Mexican Chicago*, Mike Amezcua explores how the Windy City became a Latinx metropolis in the second half of the twentieth century.

In the decades after World War II, working-class Chicago neighborhoods like Pilsen and Little Village became sites of upheaval and renewal as Mexican Americans attempted to build new communities in the face of white resistance that cast them as perpetual aliens. Amezcua charts the diverse strategies used by Mexican Chicagoans to fight the forces of segregation, economic predation, and gentrification, focusing on how unlikely combinations of social conservatism and the real estate market savvy paved new paths for Latinx assimilation. *Making Mexican Chicago* offers a powerful multiracial history of Chicago that sheds new light on the origins and endurance of urban inequality.
DEBRA BRICKER BALKEN

Harold Rosenberg
A Critic’s Life

SEPTEMBER | 600 p. | 38 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth $40.00

Despite being one of the foremost American intellectuals of the mid-twentieth century, Harold Rosenberg (1906–1978) was utterly incapable of fitting in—and he liked it that way. Signature cane in one hand and a cigarette in the other, he cut a distinctive figure on the New York City culture scene, with his radiant dark eyes and black bushy brows. A gangly giant at six foot four, he would tower over others as he forcefully expounded on his latest obsession in an oddly high-pitched, nasal voice. And people would listen, captivated by his ideas.

With Harold Rosenberg: A Critic’s Life, Debra Bricker Balken offers the first-ever complete biography of this great and eccentric man. Although he is now known mainly for his role as an art critic at the New Yorker from 1962 to 1978, Balken weaves together a complete tapestry of Rosenberg’s life and literary production, cast against the dynamic intellectual and social ferment of his time. She explores his role in some of the most contentious cultural debates of the Cold War period, including those over the commodification of art and the erosion of individuality in favor of celebrity, demonstrated in his famous essay “The Herd of Independent Minds.” An outspoken socialist and advocate for the political agency of art, he formed deep alliances with figures such as Hannah Arendt, Saul Bellow, Paul Goodman, Mary McCarthy, Jean-Paul Sartre, Willem de Kooning, and Jackson Pollock, all of whom Balken brings to life with vivid accounts from Rosenberg’s life.

Thoroughly researched and captivatingly written, this book tells in full Rosenberg’s brilliant, fiercely independent life and the five decades in which he played a leading role in US cultural, intellectual, and political history.

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How seriously should we take the notion of absolute monarchy during the reign of Louis XIV? Was its excessiveness—reinforced by outlandish artworks and buildings—mere propaganda or satire? Not at all, argues Hall Bjørnstad in this meticulous work of political and cultural history. Bjørnstad revisits the world of seventeenth-century France and the team of ministers, secretaries, artists, and writers surrounding Louis XIV to uncover the logic at work at the heart of the image-making of the Sun King.

Bjørnstad looks at some well-known artifacts—the monumental opulence of Versailles, for example, and Charles Le Brun’s symbolic paintings depicting the grand exploits of the king, as well as at court histories and the king’s secret Mémoires—to argue that these seeming absurdities are driven by a deeper, internal logic: a dream of absolute power that defies modern standards of political rationality. Bjørnstad cautions us not to approach categories such as “royal glory” and “royal exemplarity” anachronistically while also suggesting that they are part of a collective political imaginary that is still at work today.

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These highly readable essays unite recent scholarship on the meaning and use of state power with investigations of the history of intimate experience—marriage, sexuality, reproduction, family life—exploring the porous boundaries between public and private realms. In analyzing the relationship between state power and intimate experience in the United States from the Civil War to today, this volume makes the case that “intimate governance”—the binding of our private daily experience to the apparatus of the state—should be central to our understanding of modern American history. For the state is always with us, even in our most private, seemingly independent actions.

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“Intimate States is a stunning achievement, challenging conventional thinking that sharply divides public from private; sex and gender from politics; identity from material concerns. In its breadth and depth, originality, and cohesiveness, Intimate States also manages to avoid the usual pitfalls of edited volumes; while far-ranging, it offers a single and coherent argument of profound importance.”
—Deborah Dinner, Emory University

Margot Canaday is professor of history at Princeton University. Nancy F. Cott is the Jonathan Trumbull Research Professor of American History at Harvard University. Robert O. Self is the Mary Ann Lippitt Professor of American History at Brown University.
In *The Contested Crown*, Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll meditates on the case of a spectacular feather headdress believed to have belonged to Montezuma, the last emperor of the Aztecs. This crown has long been the center of political and cultural power struggles, and it is one of the most contested museum claims between Europe and the Americas. Taken to Europe during the conquest of Mexico, it was placed at Ambras Castle, the Habsburg residence of the author’s ancestors, and is now in Vienna’s Welt Museum. Mexico has long requested to have it back, but the Welt Museum uses science to insist it is too fragile to travel.

Both the biography of a cultural object and a history of collecting and colonizing, this book offers an artist’s perspective on the creative potentials of repatriation. Carroll compares Holocaust and colonial ethical claims, and she considers relationships between indigenous people, international law and the museums that amass global treasures, the significance of copies, and how conservation science shapes collections. Illustrated with diagrams and rare archival material, this book brings together global history, European history, and material culture around this fascinating object and the debates about repatriation.
PAUL R. DESLANDES

The Culture of Male Beauty in Britain
From the First Photographs to David Beckham

NOVEMBER | 432 p. | 16 color plates, 104 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth $45.00

- An engaging history of two centuries of male beauty ideals in Britain
- Analyzes advertising, medicine, pornography, sport, and celebrity culture
- Beautifully illustrated throughout with archival, art, and mass media images

In *The Culture of Male Beauty in Britain*, Paul R. Deslandes offers the definitive account of how notions of male beauty changed in Britain over the past few centuries. With both fluid prose and 120 carefully selected images, Deslandes traces the sustained and culturally significant, masculine engagement with beauty culture in Britain from the nineteenth century to the present, including considerations of advertising, health, pornography, psychology, sport, and celebrity culture.

Deslandes’s account chronicles the ebb and flow of certain beauty standards in British male culture, illustrating the slow rise of the cult of youth, the growth of masculinity as both a masculine attribute and a marker of attractiveness, and the falling in and out of fashion of hirsuteness and hairlessness. Along the way, he links discussions of youth, fitness, and beauty to growing concerns about race and empire and fears about degeneracy. With respect to the postwar world, he also highlights the ways expressing what one found attractive became central to the development of modern sexual subjectivities, especially as distinctive gay and heterosexual identities coalesced in British culture. This book shows not only how notions of beauty changed, but also how the British came to understand themselves as a visual people and as sophisticated consumers of theatrical and cinematographic images, photographs, and advertisements.

Paul R. Deslandes is professor and chair of the Department of History at the University of Vermont and is the author of *Oxbridge Men: British Masculinity and the Undergraduate Experience, 1850-1920*. He lives in Shelburne, Vermont.

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When the dust settled after World War II, the United States stood as the world’s unquestionably pre-eminent military and economic power. In the decades that followed, the country exerted its dominant force in less visible but equally powerful ways, too, spreading its trade protocols, its media, and—perhaps most importantly—its alleged values. In *A Righteous Smokescreen*, Sam Lebovic homes in on one of the most prominent, yet ethereal, of those professed values: the free flow of information. This trope was seen as capturing what was most liberal about America’s self-declared leadership of the free world. But as Lebovic makes clear, even though diplomats and public figures trumpeted the importance of widespread cultural exchange, these transmissions flowed in only one direction: outward from the United States. Though other countries did try to promote their own cultural visions, Lebovic shows that the US moved to marginalize or block those visions outright, highlighting the shallowness of American commitments to multilateral institutions, the depth of its unstated devotion to cultural and economic supremacy, and its surprising hostility to importing foreign cultures. His book uncovers the unexpectedly profound global consequences buried in such ostensibly mundane matters as visa and passport policy, international educational funding, and land purchases for embassies. Even more crucially, *A Righteous Smokescreen* does nothing less than reveal that globalization was not the inevitable consequence of cultural convergence or the natural outcome of putatively free flows of information—it was always political to its core.

“*A Righteous Smokescreen* presents a tightly focused, impeccably documented argument that the United States’ rhetorical commitment to liberal internationalism after World War II was mere camouflage for its hard-nosed drive toward global dominance. Lebovic crisply deconstructs the pieties about freedom that underpinned Washington’s claims to global leadership in the 1940s—and continue to animate American foreign-policy debates today.”—Diana Lemberg, author of *Barriers Down: How American Power and Free-Flow Policies Shaped Global Media*

*Sam Lebovic* is associate professor of history at George Mason University and the author of *Free Speech and Unfree News: The Paradox of Press Freedom in America.*
In this ambitious book, Karla Mallette studies the nature and behaviors of the medieval cosmopolitan languages of learning—classical Arabic and medieval Latin—as they crossed the Mediterranean. Through anecdotes of relationships among writers, compilers, translators, commentators, and copyists, Mallette tells a complex story about the transmission of knowledge in the period before the emergence of a national language system in the late Middle Ages and early modernity.

Mallette shows how the elite languages of learning and culture were only tenuously related to the languages of everyday life. These languages took years of study to master, marking the passage from intellectual childhood to maturity. In a coda to the book, Mallette speculates on the afterlife of cosmopolitan languages in the twenty-first century, the perils of monolingualism, and the ethics of language choice. The book offers insight for anyone interested in rethinking linguistic and literary tradition, the transmission of ideas, and cultural expression in an increasingly multilingual world.

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"*Lives of the Great Languages* is a keenly original and challenging intervention in the discussion of the life and death of languages. Anyone interested in the history of Arabic language and culture will find it informative and insightful. It is what we need in order to rethink the national and monolingual frame through which we discuss languages, literary traditions, and cultural expressions."—Wen-chin Ouyang, University of London

**Karla Mallette** is professor of Mediterranean studies in the Department of Middle East Studies and professor of Italian in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *European Modernity and the Arab Mediterranean* and *The Kingdom of Sicily, 1100-1250: A Literary History.*
“The rise of Trump, Q-anon, and a Republican Party seemingly allergic to the ordinary canons of decency and expertise, has led historians to a reexamination of brands of American conservatism previously considered too extreme to be relevant to understanding the present. This work demands a rare combination of talents: an ability to empathize with ways of thinking from which reason recoils, and a moral sense that refuses to normalize it. Miller possesses both in abundance, which is what makes this groundbreaking biography of Robert Welch of the John Birch Society so very valuable.” —Rick Perlstein, author of Reaganland: America’s Right Turn, 1976–1980

Edward H. Miller is associate teaching professor at Northeastern University and the author of Nut Country: Right-Wing Dallas and the Birth of the Southern Strategy, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

EDWARD H. MILLER

A Conspiratorial Life

Robert Welch, the John Birch Society, and the Revolution of American Conservatism

DECEMBER | 456 p. | 15 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth $30.00

- The first major biography of a man who has too often been seen as a fringe political figure, detailing his enormous influence on the Republican Party
- A stunningly detailed assessment of Welch’s remarkable life, from boy genius to self-starting businessman, political visionary, and pariah—and, ultimately, to harbinger of today’s deranged political environment
- Infused with insights from an otherwise unavailable collection of Welch’s papers

Though you may not know his name, Robert Welch (1899–1985)—founder of the John Birch Society—is easily one of the most significant architects of our current political moment. In A Conspiratorial Life, the first biography of Welch, Edward H. Miller delves deep into the life of an overlooked figure whose ideas nevertheless reshaped the American right.

A child prodigy who entered college at age 12, Welch became an unlikely candy magnate, founding the company that created Sugar Daddies, Junior Mints, and other famed confections. In 1958, he funneled his wealth into establishing the organization that would define his legacy and change the face of American politics: the John Birch Society. Though the group’s paranoiac right-wing nativism was dismissed by conservative thinkers like William F. Buckley, its ideas gradually moved from the far-right fringe into the mainstream. By exploring the development of Welch’s political worldview, A Conspiratorial Life shows how the John Birch Society’s rabid libertarianism—and its highly effective grassroots networking—became a profound, yet often ignored or derided influence on the modern Republican Party. Miller convincingly connects the accusatory conservatism of the midcentury John Birch Society to the inflammatory rhetoric of the Tea Party, the Trump administration, Q, and more. As this book makes clear, whether or not you know his name or what he accomplished, it’s hard to deny that we’re living in Robert Welch’s America.
The late Chicagoan George B. Nesbitt could perhaps best be described as an ordinary man with an extraordinary gift for storytelling. In his newly uncovered memoir—written fifty years ago, yet never published—he chronicles in vivid and captivating detail the story of how his upwardly-mobile Midwestern Black family lived through the tumultuous twentieth century.

Spanning three generations, Nesbitt’s tale starts in 1906 with the Great Migration and ends with the Freedom Struggle in the 1960s. He describes his parents’ journey out of the South, his struggle against racist military authorities in World War II, the promise and peril of Cold War America, the educational and professional accomplishments he strove for and achieved, the lost faith in integration, and, despite every hardship, the unwavering commitment by three generations of Black Americans to fight for a better world. Through all of it—with his sharp insights, nuance, and often humor—we see a family striving to lift themselves up in a country that is working to hold them down.

Nesbitt’s memoir includes two insightful forewords: one by John Gibbs St. Clair Drake (1911–90), a pioneer in the study of African American life, the other a contemporary rumination by noted Black studies scholar Imani Perry. A rare first-person, long-form narrative about Black life in the twentieth century, Being Somebody and Black Besides is a remarkable literary-historical time capsule that will delight modern readers.

George B. Nesbitt (1912–2002) was a lawyer and civil rights activist. Prexy Nesbitt is a Presidential Fellow in Peace Studies in the Department of Peace Studies at Chapman University. Zeb Larson is a writer and historian based in Columbus, Ohio.
From the time of Pythagoras, we have been tempted to treat numbers as the ultimate or only truth. This book tells the history of that habit of thought. But more, it argues that the logic of counting sacrifices much of what makes us human, and that we have a responsibility to match the objects of our attention to the forms of knowledge that do them justice. Humans have extended the insights and methods of number and mathematics to more and more aspects of the world, even to their gods and their religions. Today those powers are greater than ever, as computation is applied to virtually every aspect of human activity. But the rules of mathematics do not strictly apply to many things—from elementary particles to people—in the world. By subjecting such things to the laws of logic and mathematics, we gain some kinds of knowledge, but we also lose others. How do our choices about what parts of the world to subject to the logics of mathematics affect how we live and how we die? This question is rarely asked, but it is urgent, because the sciences built upon those laws now govern so much of our knowledge, from physics to psychology. Uncountable sets out to ask it. In chapters proceeding chronologically from Ancient Greek philosophy and the rise of monotheistic religions to the emergence of modern physics and economics, the book traces how ideals, practices, and habits of thought formed over millennia have turned number into the foundation-stone of human claims to knowledge and certainty. But the book is also a philosophical and poetic exhortation to take responsibility for that history, for the knowledge it has produced, and for the many aspects of the world and of humanity that it ignores or endangers. To understand what can be counted and what can’t is to embrace the ethics of purposeful knowing.
DAEL A. NORWOOD

Trading Freedom
How Trade with China Defined Early America

JANUARY | 320 p. | 21 halftones, 2 line drawings | 6 x 9 | Cloth $45.00

● An eye-opening survey of the importance of China to the shape and nature of the United States’s first century
● A wide-ranging assessment that ties together economics, politics, labor, race, and more vis-à-vis what was called the “China trade”
● An important and long-awaited first book by a rising scholar

American Beginnings, 1500–1900

The economic and geographic development of the pre-twentieth-century United States is usually thought of in trans-Atlantic terms, defined by entanglements with Europe and Africa. In Trading Freedom, Dael A. Norwood recasts these common conceptions by looking to Asia, making clear that from its earliest days, the United States has been closely intertwined with China—monetarily, politically, and psychologically.

Norwood details US trade with China from the late eighteenth through the late nineteenth centuries—a critical period in America’s self-definition as a capitalist nation—and shows how global commerce was central to the articulation of that national identity. He examines how much of the country’s early growth and definition was influenced in important ways by its multifarious Chinese relations. Trading Freedom illuminates how crucial Federalist-era debates over political economy and trade policy, the building of the transcontinental railroad, and the looming sectional struggle over slavery were all influenced by Sino-American relations. Deftly weaving together interdisciplinary threads from the worlds of commerce, foreign policy, and immigration, Trading Freedom thoroughly dismantles the idea that American engagement with China is anything new.

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“An impressively ambitious book, surveying US commercial involvement with China from the departure of the Empress of China, which sailed from New York in 1784, to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Books on China and the United States in this period typically cover either trade or immigration—Trading Freedom is the rare book to tackle both.”
—Eliga Gould, University of New Hampshire

Dael A. Norwood is assistant professor of history at the University of Delaware.
Stroll through any American or European city today and you probably won’t get far before seeing a dog being taken for a walk. It’s expected that these domesticated animals can easily navigate sidewalks, streets, and other foundational elements of our built environment. But what if our cities were actually shaped in response to dogs more than we ever realized?

Chris Pearson’s *Dogopolis* boldly and convincingly asserts that human-canine relations were a crucial factor in the formation of modern urban living. Focusing on New York, London, and Paris from the early nineteenth century into the 1930s, Pearson shows that human reactions to dogs significantly remolded them and other contemporary Western cities. It’s an unalterable fact that dogs—often filthy, bellicose, and sometimes off-putting—run away, spread rabies, defecate, and breed wherever they like, so as dogs became more and more common in nineteenth-century middle-class life, cities had to respond to people’s fear of them and revulsion at their least desirable traits. The gradual integration of dogs into city life centered on disgust at dirt, fear of crime and vagrancy, and the promotion of humanitarian sentiments. On the other hand, dogs are some people’s most beloved animal companions, and human compassion and affection for pets and strays were equally powerful forces in shaping urban modernity. *Dogopolis* details the complex interrelations among emotions, sentiment, and the ways we manifest our feelings toward what we love—showing that together they can actually reshape society.
Western ruins have long been understood as objects riddled with temporal contradictions, whether they appear in Baroque poetry and drama, Romanticism’s nostalgic view of history, eighteenth-century paintings of classical subjects, or even recent photographic histories of the ruins of post-industrial Detroit. Decay and Afterlife pivots away from our immediate, visual fascination with ruins, and instead focuses on the textuality of ruins in works about disintegration and survival. Combining an impressive array of literary, philosophical, and historiographical works both canonical and neglected, and encompassing Latin, Italian, French, German, and English sources, Aleksandra Prica addresses ruins as textual forms, examining them in their extraordinary geographical and temporal breadth, highlighting their variability and reflexivity, and uncovering new lines of aesthetic and intellectual affinity. Through theoretically rich close readings, she traverses the longue durée of 800 years of intellectual and literary history, from Seneca and Petrarch to Hegel, Goethe, and Georg Simmel. She tracks Europe’s ruins discourses as they metamorphose over time, identifying unremarked resemblances and resonances, ignored contrasts and tensions, as well as the shared apprehensions and ideas these thinkers bring to light. Throughout, she asks, “What persists in keeping the ruins of a once grand past alive?”

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Disability and child welfare, together and apart, are major concerns in American society. Today, about 125,000 children in foster care are eligible and waiting for adoption, and many children wait more than two years to be adopted—children with disabilities wait even longer.

_Familial Fitness_ is the first book to illustrate the historical dynamics of disability, adoption, and family. It explores disability and difference in depth in the twentieth century American family, particularly how notions and practices of adoption have (and haven’t) accommodated disability, and how the language of risk factors into that complicated relationship.

How have adoption professionals and prospective adoptive parents explicitly weighed the implications of disability and difference while building and sustaining families during the twentieth century? Here we see how the field of adoption moved from widely excluding children with disabilities in the early twentieth century to partially including them at its close. Before World War II, most people assumed children with disabilities were unfit for adoption. But during and after the postwar period, adoption professionals determined that disabled children’s fitness rested on whether agencies and adopters regarded these children as desirable for placement, and whether a growing number of programs and policies to facilitate placement were effective. The book traces this historical process, highlighting forces that overlap with and impact this history.

_Familial Fitness_ ultimately reveals that concerns about, and actions related to, disability invariably shape experiences of familial belonging, fitness, and worth, and, as the author argues, also reflect deep feelings of reticence and love. A compelling historical account of these complex dynamics, _Familial Fitness_ invites its readers to rethink what constitutes the American family itself.
American Exceptionalism
A New History of an Old Idea

IAN TYRRELL

American Exceptionalism is a much-needed, erudite, wide-ranging, and persuasive study. There are many books addressing American exceptionalism but none like this. It is the most critically astute, synthetic, interdisciplinary, and balanced of all the studies made of the topic.”

“Amerian exceptionalism” has been a surprisingly resilient and divisive concept. In this magisterial book, Ian Tyrrell shows that while the term is a relatively new one, the idea that American identity might be historically and globally distinctive emerged with the nation itself. As the country grew, the issue became the degree of exceptionality and how it was expressed. And as the country became a part of the global order, its exceptionalism came increasingly into question. How did a purportedly unique nation explain its entanglement with persistent global topics like slavery and racial discrimination; labor exploitation; settler colonialism; and more? Today, even as demands to honor America’s exceptionalism have grown more strident, Tyrrell argues that the material and moral evidence for it—if there ever was any—has withered away.

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Ian Tyrrell is emeritus professor of history at the University of New South Wales and the author of Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt’s America and Historians in Public: The Practice of American History, 1890–1970, both published by the University of Chicago Press.
“The Queerness of Home is a consequential achievement. Like any historian worth their salt, Vider knows how to tell a tale: this book’s prose is witty and clear as a mountain stream. More than that, it makes an irrefutable case that twentieth-century domestic environments have been momentous for LGBTQ individuals in the modern United States.”
—Scott Herring, author of The Hoarders: Material Deviance in Modern American Culture

Stephen Vider is assistant professor of history and director of the Public History Initiative at Cornell University.

From the Stonewall riots in 1969 to the ACT UP protests of the 1980s and ’90s, histories of queer and trans politics have almost exclusively centered on public activism. In *The Queerness of Home*, Stephen Vider shifts the focus inward, showing that the intimacy of domestic space has been equally crucial to the history of postwar LGBTQ life.

Beginning in the 1940s, LGBTQ activists looked more and more to the home as a site of connection, care, and cultural inclusion. Long portrayed as quintessential outsiders, LGBTQ people creatively reconfigured the American household to make room for their romantic and sexual relationships and communities. They struggled with the conventions of marriage, challenged the gendered codes of everyday acts like cooking, resisted isolation by reimagining the home’s architecture, and contended the racial and class boundaries of kinship and belonging through communes, shelters, and caregiving networks. Retelling LGBTQ history from the inside out, Vider reveals the surprising ways the home became, and remains, a charged site in battles for social and economic justice. LGBTQ people not only realized new forms of community and culture for themselves—they remade the possibilities of home life for everyone.

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Epilogue: The Futures of the Queer Home
Police put Eric Garner in a fatal chokehold for selling cigarettes on a New York City street corner. George Floyd was killed by police outside a store in Minneapolis known as “the best place to buy menthols.” Black smokers overwhelmingly prefer menthol brands such as Kool, Salem, and Newport. All of this is no coincidence. The disproportionate Black deaths and cries of “I can’t breathe” that ring out in our era—because of police violence, COVID-19, or menthol smoking—are intimately connected to a post-1960s history of race and exploitation. In *Pushing Cool*, Keith Wailoo tells the intricate and poignant story of menthol cigarettes for the first time. He pulls back the curtain to reveal the hidden persuaders who shaped menthol buying habits and racial markets across America: the world of tobacco marketers, consultants, psychologists, and social scientists, as well as Black lawmakers and civic groups like the NAACP. Today most Black smokers buy menthols, and calls to prohibit their circulation hinge on a history of the industry’s targeted racial marketing. Ten years ago, when Congress banned flavored cigarettes as criminal enticements to encourage youth smoking, menthol cigarettes were also slated to be banned. Through a detailed study of internal tobacco industry documents, Wailoo exposes why they weren’t and how they remain so popular with Black smokers.

Spanning a century, *Pushing Cool* reveals how the twin deceptions of health and Black affinity for menthol were crafted—and how the industry’s disturbingly powerful narrative has endured to this day.

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**Keith Wailoo** is the Henry Putnam University Professor of History and Public Affairs at Princeton University. His books include *Dying in the City of the Blues, How Cancer Crossed the Color Line*, and *Pain: A Political History*. Along with Dr. Anthony Fauci and others, he won the 2021 Dan David Prize.
S. Pearl Brilmyer is assistant professor of English and comparative literature at the University of Pennsylvania.

**The Science of Character**

**Human Objecthood and the Ends of Victorian Realism**

In 1843, the Victorian political theorist John Stuart Mill outlined a new science, “the science of the formation of character.” Although Mill’s proposal failed as scientific practice, S. Pearl Brilmyer shows that it survived in the work of Victorian novelists, who cultivated a narrative science of human nature. Brilmyer explores this characterological project in the work of such novelists as George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, and Olive Schreiner. Bringing to life Mill’s unrealized dream of a science of character, Victorian realists used fiction to investigate the nature of embodied experience, how traits and behaviors in human and nonhuman organisms emerge and develop, and how aesthetic features—shapes, colors, and gestures—come to take on cultural meaning through certain categories, such as race and sex. In the hands of these authors, Brilmyer argues, literature became a science, not in the sense that its claims were falsifiable or even systematically articulated, but in its commitment to uncovering, through a fictional staging of realistic events, the universal laws governing human life. *The Science of Character* offers brilliant insights into important novels of the period, including Eliot’s *Middlemarch*, and a fuller picture of English realism during the crucial span between 1870 and 1920.
For two thousand years, Hebrew writers used their exile from the Holy Land as a license for invention. The question at the heart of *Figuring Jerusalem* is this: how did these writers bring their imagination “home” in the Zionist century? Sidra DeKoven Ezrahi finds that the same diasporic conventions that Hebrew writers practiced in exile were maintained throughout the first half of the twentieth century. And even after 1948, when the state of Israel was founded but East Jerusalem and its holy sites remained under Arab control, Jerusalem continued to figure in the Hebrew imagination as mediated space. It was only in the aftermath of the Six Day War that the temptations and dilemmas of proximity to the sacred would become acute in every area of Hebrew politics and culture.

*Figuring Jerusalem* ranges from classical texts, biblical and medieval, to the post-1967 writings of S. Y. Agnon and Yehuda Amichai. Ultimately, DeKoven Ezrahi shows that the wisdom Jews acquired through two thousand years of exile, as inscribed in their literary imagination, must be rediscovered if the diverse inhabitants of Jerusalem are to coexist.

Sidra DeKoven Ezrahi is professor emerita of comparative literature at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She is the author of *By Words Alone: The Holocaust in Literature*, *Booking Passage: Exile and Homecoming in the Modern Jewish Imagination*, and two books in Hebrew.
When is writing poetry more labor than inspiration, more like housework than heroics of the mind? In this revisionist study, Katie Kadue shows that some of the authors we credit with groundbreaking literary feats—including Michel de Montaigne and John Milton—conceived of their writing in notably domestic and modest terms, more like putting up preserves than creating something new. In contrast to the vigorous civilizing work associated with the literature of the age and inspired by Virgil’s “Georgics,” poetic labor of the Renaissance emerges here as more often aligned with women’s work. Kadue reveals male authors’ surprising engagements with a feminized georgic mode and shows how it became central to their conceptions of what literature is and could be. This other georgic strain in literature shared the same primary concern as housekeeping: the necessity of constant, almost invisible labor in order to keep the things of the world intact. *Domestic Georgic* brings into focus a conception of literary—as well as scholarly and critical—labor not as a striving for originality and fame but as a form of maintenance work that aims at preserving individual and collective life.

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The “infrathin” was Marcel Duchamp’s name for the thinnest shade of difference: that between, say, the report of a gunshot and the appearance of the bullet hole on its target, or between two objects in a series made from the same mold. In this book, the esteemed literary critic Marjorie Perloff shows how such differences occur at the level of words and argues that it is this infrathin space, this micropoetics of language, that separates poetry from prose. Perloff treats the relationship between Duchamp and Gertrude Stein; ranges over Concrete, Objectivist, and Black Mountain poetry; and gives stunning readings of poets from Eliot, Yeats, and Pound to Samuel Beckett, John Ashbery, and Rae Armantrout. Poetry, Perloff shows us, exists in the play of the infrathin, and it is the poet’s role to create unexpected relationships—verbal, visual, and sonic—from the finest nuances of language.

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Homer, the great poet of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, is revered as a cultural icon of antiquity and a figure of lasting influence. But his identity is shrouded in questions about who he was, when he lived, and whether he was an actual person, a myth, or merely a shared idea. Rather than attempting to solve the mystery of this character, James I. Porter explores the sources of Homer’s mystique and their impact since the first recorded mentions of Homer in ancient Greece.

*Homer: The Very Idea* considers Homer not as a man, but as a cultural invention nearly as distinctive and important as the poems attributed to him, following the cultural history of an idea and of the obsession that is reborn every time Homer is imagined. Offering novel readings of texts and objects, the book follows the very idea of Homer from his earliest mentions to his most recent imaginings in literature, criticism, philosophy, visual art, and classical archaeology.

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Rocco Rubini studies the motives and literary forms in the making of a “tradition,” not understood narrowly, as the conservative, stubborn preservation of received conventions, values, and institutions, but instead as the deliberate effort on the part of writers to transmit a reformulated past across generations. Leveraging Italian thinkers from Petrarch to Gramsci, with stops at prominent humanists in between—including Giambattista Vico, Carlo Goldoni, Francesco De Sanctis, and Benedetto Croce—Rubini gives us an innovative lens through which to view an Italian intellectual tradition that is at once premodern and modern, a legacy that does not depend on a date or a single masterpiece, but instead requires the reader to parse an expanse of writings to uncover deeper transhistorical continuities that span six hundred years. Whether reading work from the fourteenth century, or from the 1930s, Rubini elucidates the interplay of creation and the reception underlying the enactment of tradition, the practice of retrieving and conserving, and the revivification of shared themes and intentions that connect thinkers across time. Building on his award-winning book, *The Other Renaissance*, this will prove a valuable contribution for intellectual historians, literary scholars, and those invested in the continuing humanist legacy.

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**Two**  The Purpose of Literary Criticism: Francesco De Sanctis’s (Anti-)Petrarchism

**Three**  “Do not grow weary of reading, for I do not grow weary of writing”: Goldoni’s Reform of Italian Literature

**Four**  The Vichian Resurrection of Commedia dell’Arte: Reciprocating Modernity between Italy and France

**Five**  Remembering Is Not Thinking: Croce, Gramsci, and Italian Intellectual Autobiography

Conclusion: The Last Renaissance Man
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Long fixated on visual forms, the field of porn studies is overdue for a book-length study of gay pornographic writing. Steven Ruszczycky delivers with an impressively researched work on the ways gay pornographic writing emerged as a distinct genre in the 1960s and went on to shape queer male subjectivity well into the new millennium.

Ranging over four decades, Ruszczycky draws on a large archive of pulp novels and short fiction, lifestyle magazines and journals, reviews, editorial statements, and correspondence. He puts these materials in conversation with works by a number of contemporary writers, including William Carney, Dennis Cooper, Samuel Delany, John Rechy, and Matthew Stadler, and shows that this literary fiction was both informed by gay pornographic writing and amounts to a commentary on the genre’s relation to queer male erotic life. While focused on the years 1966 to 2005, Vulgar Genres reveals that the history of gay pornographic writing during this period informs much of what has happened online over the past twenty years, from cruising to the production of digital pornographic texts. The result is a milestone in porn studies and an important contribution to the history of gay life.
Thinking Literature

*Phenomenal Blackness* examines the changing interdisciplinary investments of key mid-century Black writers and thinkers, including the growing interest in German philosophy and critical theory. Mark Christian Thompson analyzes this shift in intellectual focus across the post-war decades, placing Black Power thought in a philosophical context.

Prior to the 1960s, sociologically oriented thinkers such as W. E. B. Du Bois had understood Blackness as a singular set of socio-historical characteristics. In contrast, writers such as Amiri Baraka, James Baldwin, Angela Y. Davis, Eldridge Cleaver, and Malcolm X were drawn to notions of an African essence, an ontology of Black being. With these perspectives, literary language came to be seen as the primary social expression of Blackness. For this new way of thinking, the works of philosophers such as Adorno, Habermas, and Marcuse were a vital resource, allowing for continued cultural-materialist analysis while accommodating the hermeneutical aspects of Black religious thought. Thompson argues that these efforts to reimagine Black singularity led to a phenomenological understanding of Blackness—a “Black aesthetic dimension” wherein aspirational models for Black liberation might emerge.
What if going to a play in Elizabethan England was more like attending a football match than a Broadway show—or playing in one? In Common Understandings, Poetic Confusion, William N. West proposes a new account of the kind of participatory entertainment expected by the actors and the audience during the careers of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. West finds surprising descriptions of these theatrical experiences in the figurative language of early modern players and playgoers—including understanding, confusion, occupation, eating, and fighting. Such words and ways of speaking are still in use today, but their earlier meanings, like that of theater itself, are subtly, importantly different from our own. Playing was not confined to the actors on the stage but filled the playhouse, embracing audiences and performers in collaborative experiences that did not belong to any one alone but to the assembled, various crowd. What emerged in playing was a kind of thinking and feeling distributed across persons and times that were otherwise distinct. Thrown apples, smashed bottles of beer, and lumbering bears—these and more gave verbal shape to the physical interactions between players and playgoers, creating circuits of exchange, production, and consumption.
Mathematicians David Fisher, Dmitry Kleinbock, and Gregory Soifer highlight in this edited collection the foundations and evolution of research by widely influential Fields Medalist Gregory Margulis. Margulis is unusual in the degree to which his solutions to particular problems have opened new vistas of mathematics; his ideas were central, for example, to developments that led to the recent Fields Medals of Elon Lindenstrauss and Maryam Mirzakhani. *Dynamics, Geometry, Number Theory* introduces these areas, their development, their use in current research, and the connections between them. Divided into four broad sections—Arithmeticity, superrigidity, normal subgroups; Discrete subgroups; Expanders, representations, spectral theory; and Homogeneous dynamics—the chapters have all been written by the foremost experts on each topic with a view to making them accessible both to graduate students and to experts in other parts of mathematics. This was no simple feat: Margulis’s work stands out in part because of its depth, but also because it brings together ideas from different areas of mathematics. Few can be experts in all of these fields, and this diversity of ideas can make it challenging to enter Margulis’s research. *Dynamics, Geometry, Number Theory* provides one remedy to that challenge.

**Contributors**

Uri Bader, Yves Benoist, Victor Beresnevich, Emmanuel Breuillard, Aaron Brown, Jeff Danciger, Todd Drumm, Manfred Einsiedler, Alex Eskin, David Fisher, Alex Furman, Tsahcik Gelander, Yair Glasner, Bill Goldman, Anders Karlsson, Dmitry Kleinbock, Toshiyuki Kobayashi, Elon Lindenstrauss, Alex Lubotzky, Amir Mohammadi, Shahar Mozes, Hee Oh, Federico Rodriguez Hertz, Ilia Smilga, Gregory Soifer, Zhiren Wang, and Philipp Wirth

David Fisher is the Ruth N. Halls Distinguished Professor of Mathematics at Indiana University, Bloomington. Dmitry Kleinbock is professor of mathematics at Brandeis University. Gregory Soifer is professor emeritus of mathematics at Bar-Ilan University, Israel.
We all know the euphoria of intellectual epiphany—the thrill of sudden understanding. But coupled with that excitement is a sense of loss: a moment of epiphany can never be repeated. In *Geometry of Grief*, mathematician Michael Frame draws on a career’s worth of insight—including his work with Benoit Mandelbrot on fractal geometry—and a gift for rendering the complex accessible as he delves into this twinning of understanding and loss. Grief, Frame reveals, can be a moment of possibility.

Frame investigates grief as a response to an irrevocable change in circumstance. This reframing allows us to see parallels between the loss of a loved one or a career and the loss of the elation of first understanding a tricky concept. From this foundation, Frame builds a geometric model of mental states. An object that is fractal, for example, has symmetry of magnification: magnify a picture of a mountain or a coastline—both fractal—and we see echoes of the original shape. Similarly, nested inside great loss are smaller losses. By manipulating this geometry, Frame shows us, we may be able to redirect our thinking in ways that help reduce our pain. Small-scale losses in essence provide laboratories to learn how to meet large-scale losses.

Interweaving original illustrations, clear introductions to advanced topics in geometry, and wisdom gleaned from his own experience with illness and others’ remarkable responses to devastating loss, Frame’s poetic book is a journey through the beautiful complexities of mathematics and life. With both human sympathy and geometrical elegance, it helps us to see how a geometry of grief can open a pathway for bold action.

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The late Daniel Albright was one of the preeminent scholars of musical and literary modernism, leaving behind a rich body of work before his untimely passing. In the essays contained in *Music’s Monisms*, he shows how musical phenomena, like literary ones, can be fruitfully investigated through the lens of monism, the philosophical belief that things that appear to be two are actually one. Albright shows how, in music, despite its many binaries—diatonic vs. chromatic, staccato vs. legato, major vs. minor, tonal vs. atonal—there is always a larger system at work that aims to reconcile all tension and resolve all conflict.

Albright identifies a “radical monism” in the work of modernist poets such as T. S. Eliot and musical works by Wagner, Debussy, Britten, Schoenberg, and Stravinsky, and also delves into figures such as Maeterlinck, Rimbaud, and Yeats along the way. By “radical monism” he means a philosophy that insists on the interchangeability, even the identity, of the basic dichotomies that govern our thinking and modes of organizing the universe. Through a series of close readings of musical and literary works, Albright advances powerful philosophical arguments that not only shed light on these specific figures but also aesthetic experience in general. *Music’s Monisms* is a revelatory work by one of modernist studies’ preeminent figures.

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"Seventy years ago, as a kid, it was my dream that the blues would become loved all over the world and that blues musicians would get the success they deserved. People thought I was crazy. . . . But it came to pass, exactly as I thought it would, and it was my calling to play a part in makin' my dream come true. I had a burning desire to find the blues and to be a part of it. That's the only way I can describe it. That's what my whole life has been about."—from Chapter Nine, "My Blues Dream"

Billy Boy Arnold was born in Chicago in 1935. A harmonica player, guitarist, singer, and songwriter who has played with Muddy Waters, Howlin’ Wolf, and others, his many albums include More Blues on the South Side, Eldorado Cadillac, and The Blues Soul of Billy Boy Arnold. Kim Field is an active musician and the author of Harmonicas, Harps, and Heavy Breathers: The History of the People’s Instrument.
EDWARD J. GILLIN

Sound Authorities
Scientific and Musical Knowledge in Nineteenth-Century Britain

NOVEMBER  |  320 p.  |  33 halftones, 4 tables  |  6 x 9  |  Cloth $50.00

- A compelling account of how music and sound were experienced in Victorian England
- Combines musical analysis with history, science, and religion
- Shows how music and sound contributed to new knowledge

In *Sound Authorities*, Edward J. Gillin focuses on hearing and aurality in Victorian England, claiming that the development of the natural sciences in this era cannot be understood without attending to the study of sound and music.

During this time, scientific practitioners attempted to fashion themselves as authorities on sonorous phenomena, coming into conflict with traditional musical elites as well as religious bodies. Gillin pays attention to sound in both musical and nonmusical contexts, specifically the cacophony of British industrialization. *Sound Authorities* begins with the place of acoustics in early nineteenth-century London, examining scientific exhibitions, lectures, spectacles, workshops, laboratories, and showrooms. He goes on to explore how mathematicians mobilized sound in their understanding of natural laws and their vision of a harmonious order. In closing, Gillin delves into the era’s religious and metaphysical debates over the place of music (and humanity) in nature, the relationship between music and the divine, and the tension between spiritualist understandings of sound and scientific ones.

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Edward J. Gillin is a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Leeds. He is the author of *The Palace of Science: Scientific Knowledge and the Building of the Victorian Houses of Parliament* and *Entente Imperial: British and French Power in the Age of Empire*. He is coeditor, with Horatio Joyce, of *Experiencing Architecture: Society and the Built Environment in the Nineteenth Century*. 
In *Sounds Beyond*, Kevin C. Karnes studies the interconnected alternative music and art scenes in the USSR during the second half of the 1970s, revealing the audacious origins of Estonian composer Arvo Pärt’s most famous music. Karnes shows how Pärt’s work was created within a vital yet forgotten culture of collective experimentation, the Soviet underground.

Mining archives and oral history from across the former USSR, *Sounds Beyond* carefully situates modes of creative experimentation within their late socialist contexts. In documenting Pärt’s work, Karnes reveals the rich creative culture that thrived covertly in the USSR and the network of figures that made underground performances possible: students, audio engineers, sympathetic administrators, star performers, and aspiring DJs. *Sounds Beyond* advances a new understanding of Pärt’s music as an expression of the commitments shared, nurtured, and celebrated by many in Soviet underground circles. At the same time, this story attests to the lasting power of Pärt’s music. Dislodging the mythology of the solitary creative genius, Karnes shows that Pärt’s work was impossible without community.

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Jazz manouche—a genre known best for its energetic, guitar-centric swing tunes—is among France’s most celebrated musical practices of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. It centers on the recorded work of famed guitarist Django Reinhardt and is named for the Manouche subgroup of Romanies, also known somewhat pejoratively as “Gypsies,” to which Reinhardt belonged. French Manouches are publicly lauded as bearers of this jazz tradition, a practice in which many take pleasure and pride, while facing pervasive discrimination at the same time. Jazz manouche uncovers a contradiction at the heart of France’s assimilationist republican ideals: the music is portrayed as quintessentially French even as Manouches themselves endure treatment as racial others.

In this book, Siv B. Lie explores how this music is used to construct divergent ethnoracial and national identities in a context where discussions of race are otherwise censured. Weaving together ethnographic and historical analysis, Lie shows that jazz manouche becomes a source of profound ambivalence as it generates ethnoracial difference and socioeconomic exclusion. As the first full-length ethnographic study of French jazz to be published in English, this book enriches anthropological, ethnomusicological, and historical scholarship on global jazz, race and ethnicity, and citizenship while showing how music can be an important but insufficient tool in struggles for racial and economic justice.
Feasting and Fasting in Opera
From Renaissance Banquets to the Callas Diet

NOVEMBER | 336 p. | 14 halftones, 1 line drawing | 6 x 9 | Cloth $45.00

A delightful exploration of the role of food in opera and operatic culture
Spans several centuries of Italian opera, including Verdi and Puccini
Will appeal to all music lovers and readers interested in food history

In this book, opera scholar Pierpaolo Polzonetti explores how convivial culture shaped the birth of opera and opera-going rituals until the mid-nineteenth century, when eating and drinking at the opera house were still common. Through analyses of convivial scenes in operas, the book also shows how the consumption of food and drink, and sharing or the refusal to do so, define characters’ identity and relationships.

Feasting and Fasting in Opera moves chronologically from around 1480 to the middle of the nineteenth century, when Wagner’s operatic reforms banished refreshments during the performance and mandated a darkened auditorium and absorbed listening. The book focuses on questions of comedy, pleasure, embodiment, and indulgence—looking at fasting, poisoning, food disorders, body types, diet, and social, ethnic, and gender identities—in both tragic and comic operas from Monteverdi to Puccini. Polzonetti also sheds new light on the diet Maria Callas underwent in preparation for her famous performance as Violetta, the consumptive heroine of Verdi’s La traviata. Neither food lovers nor opera scholars will want to miss Polzonetti’s page-turning and imaginative book.

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Sing and Sing On
Sentinel Musicians and the Making of the Ethiopian American Diaspora

Kay Kaufman Shelemay is the G. Gordon Watts Professor of Music and African American studies at Harvard University. She is the author or editor of many books, including Soundscapes: Exploring Music in a Changing World and Let Jasmine Rain Down: Song and Remembrance among Syrian Jews, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
FRANCESCA VELLA

Networking Operatic Italy

NOVEMBER | 256 p. | 14 halftones, 14 line drawings | 6 x 9 | Cloth $55.00

- An eye-opening account of opera in post-unification Italy
- Shows how opera productions traveled across the peninsula
- Closely examines music criticism, music technology, and staging

*Opera Lab: Explorations in History, Technology, and Performance*

In *Networking Operatic Italy*, Francesca Vella explores how networks of opera production and critical discourse shaped Italian cultural identity during the years before and after the country’s unification in 1861. Vella sheds light on the vibrancy and complexity of nineteenth-century Italian operatic culture, its engagement with early technologies, and the inherent mobility of operatic productions as they physically traveled across the peninsula.

Through a series of case studies, Vella explores musical criticism in the Italian press as well as specific operatic works, singers, and theatrical stagings. She also develops new tools for rethinking nineteenth-century operatic Italy by drawing inspiration from mobility studies and media archaeology. The author traces the politics of movement within and between multiple locations by attending to opera’s encounters with technologies of communication and transportation, including the new railway, understood as a medium of operatic dissemination as well as a new part of opera’s media infrastructure. Ultimately, Vella’s book challenges many of our assumptions and leaves us with a radically new picture of operatic networks in nineteenth-century Italy.

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Francesca Vella is a British Academy post-doctoral fellow and an affiliated lecturer in music at the University of Cambridge.
Mozart’s opera *Don Giovanni* has long inspired myths about eros and masculinity. Over time, its performance history has revealed a growing trend toward critique—an increasing effort on the part of performers and directors to highlight the violence and predatoriness of the libertine central character, alongside the suffering and resilience of his female victims.

In “*Don Giovanni* Captured,” Richard Will sets out to analyze more than a century’s worth of recorded performances of the opera, tracing the ways it has changed from one performance to another and from one generation to the next. Will consults both audio recordings, starting with wax cylinders and 78s, as well as video recordings, including DVDs, films, and streaming videos. Seen as a historical record, opera recordings are a potent reminder of the refusal of works such as *Don Giovanni* to sit still. As Will points out, recordings and other media shape our experience of opera as much as live performance. By choosing a work with such a rich and complex tradition of interpretation, Will helps us see *Don Giovanni* as a standard-bearer for evolving ideas about desire and power, both on and off the stage.
Miguel de Beistegui is professor of philosophy at the University of Warwick. He is the author of many books, including The Government of Desire: A Genealogy of the Liberal Subject, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

For de Beistegui, stupidity is not simply the opposite of intelligence or common sense; spite is not only a moral vice, distinct from the exercise of thought; and superstition is not reducible to a set of false beliefs. Rather, he argues, thoughtlessness grows from within thought itself. Thought Under Threat alerts us to the blind-spots in our thinking and shows how thought itself can be used to ward them off, making possible productive deliberation, and, ultimately, a thinking community.

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Artful Truths
The Philosophy of Memoir

- Presents an engaging, accessible philosophical tour of the memoir
- Contains many compelling examples drawn from literature
- Will appeal broadly to lovers of fiction and nonfiction

*Artful Truths* offers a concise guide to the fundamental philosophical questions that arise when writing a literary work about your own life. Bringing a philosopher’s perspective to a general audience, Helena de Bres addresses what a memoir is, how the genre relates to fiction, memoirists’ responsibilities to their readers and subjects, and the question of why to write a memoir at all. Along the way, she delves into a wide range of philosophical issues, including the nature of the self, the limits of knowledge, the idea of truth, the obligations of friendship, the relationship between morality and art, and the question of what makes a life meaningful.

Written in a clear and conversational style, it offers a resource for those who write, teach, and study memoirs, as well as those who love to read them. With a combination of literary and philosophical knowledge, de Bres takes the many challenges directed at memoirists seriously, while ultimately standing in defense of a genre that, for all its perplexities—and maybe partly because of them—continually proves to be both beloved and valuable.

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*Artful Truths* is wonderful, beautifully written, consistently amusing, and very useful. De Bres unpacks all the philosophical and ethical questions imaginable surrounding the genre of memoir and charges fearlessly into accusations against the form, examining and dissecting each doubt before celebrating the genre with panache.”—Phillip Lopate, author of *The Art of the Personal Essay*

Helena de Bres is associate professor of philosophy at Wellesley College. Her personal essays, public philosophy, and humor writing have appeared in *The Point, New York Times, Rumpus, Aeon Magazine,* and *McSweeney’s Internet Tendency,* and she’s currently writing a memoir about the nature and value of philosophy.
In *Rousseau, Nietzsche, and the Image of the Human*, Paul Franco examines the relationship between Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Friedrich Nietzsche, arguably the two most influential shapers and explorers of the moral and cultural imagination of late modernity. Both thinkers leveled radical critiques of modern life, but those critiques differed in important respects. Whereas Rousseau focused on the growing inequality of modern society and the hypocrisy, self-division, and loss of civic virtue it spawned, Nietzsche decried the democratic equality he identified with Rousseau and the loss of individual and cultural greatness it entailed. Franco argues, however, that Rousseau and Nietzsche are more than mere critics; they both put forward powerful alternative visions of how we ought to live. Franco focuses specifically on their views of the self and its realization, their understandings of women and the relation between the sexes, and their speculative conceptions of politics. While there are many similarities in their positive visions, Franco argues that it is the differences between them from which we have most to learn.

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Jean-Paul Sartre’s *Critique of Dialectical Reason*, released to great fanfare in 1960, has since then receded in philosophical visibility. However, as Sartre’s reputation is now making a comeback, it is time for a reappraisal of his later work. In *Practice, Power, and Forms of Life*, philosopher Terry Pinkard interprets Sartre’s late work as a fundamental reworking of his earlier work, especially in terms of his understanding of the possibility of communal action as genuinely free, which the French philosopher had previously argued was impossible.

Pinkard shows how Sartre figured in contemporary debates about the use of the first-person and how this informed his theory of action. Pinkard reveals how Sartre was led back to Hegel, which itself was spurred on by his newfound interest in Marxism in the 1950s. Pinkard also argues that Sartre took up Heidegger’s critique of existentialism, developing a new post-Marxist theory of the way actors exhibit the class relations of their form of life in their actions, and showing how genuine freedom is present only in certain types of “we” relationships. Pinkard argues that Sartre constructed a novel position on freedom that has yet to be adequately taken up and thought through in philosophy and political theory. Through Sartre, Pinkard advances an argument that contributes to the history of philosophy as well as contemporary and future debates on action and freedom.

**Terry Pinkard** is a University Professor at Georgetown University. He is the author of many books, including *Does History Make Sense? Hegel on the Historical Shapes of Justice.*
In After Parmenides, Tom Rockmore takes us all the way back to the beginning of philosophy. Parmenides held that thought and being are one: what we know is what is. For Rockmore, this established both the good view that we should think of the world in terms of what the mind constructs as knowable entities as well as the bad view that there is some non-mind-dependent “thing”—the world, the real—which we can know or fail to know. No, Rockmore says: what we need to do is give up on the idea that there is any extra-mental “real” for us to know. We know, become acquainted with, objects of cognition that our mind constructs. After Parmenides illustrates the contest between variants of the “standard” view and variants of the “non-standard, constructivist view” in the history of philosophy, from Plato and Aristotle, Descartes and Locke, Leibniz, Spinoza, Hume, Kant, post-Kantians including Fichte, Hegel, and Schopenhauer, Marx, the early pragmatists, analytic philosophy, contemporary French speculative realism, and more. This ambitious but accessibly written book shows how new connections can be made in the history of philosophy when it is reread through a new lens.

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In the year 62, citing health issues, the Roman philosopher Seneca withdrew from public service and devoted his time to writing. His letters from this period offer a window into his experience as a landowner, a traveler through Roman Italy, and a man coping with the onset of old age. They describe the roar of the arena, the festival of Saturnalia, and the perils of the Adriatic Sea, and they explain his thoughts about political power, the treatment of slaves, the origins of civilization, and the key points of Stoic philosophy.

This selection of fifty of his letters brings Seneca to readers in a fresh modern voice and shows how, as a philosopher, he speaks to our time. Above all, these letters explore the inner life of the individual: from the life of heedless vanity to the first interest in philosophy, to true friendship, self-determination, and personal excellence.

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Lucius Annaeus Seneca (4BCE–65CE) was a Roman Stoic philosopher, dramatist, and advisor to Emperor Nero. Margaret Graver is the Aaron Lawrence Professor in Classics at Dartmouth College. Her publications include Cicero on the Emotions: Tusculan Disputations 3 and 4; Stoicism and Emotion; and, in collaboration with A.A. Long, a complete translation of Seneca’s Letters on Ethics. A.A. Long is chancellor’s professor of classics emeritus and affiliated professor of philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley. His books include Greek Models of Mind and Self and Epictetus: How to be Free.
“Within the arc of this beautiful book, readers will find two sources of wonder: that Collier’s gift for poetry was, from the beginning, complete, and that the poems have also found a way to deepen with each succeeding volume.”—Linda Gregerson, author of Prodigal

Michael Collier is the author of eight collections of poems, including An Individual History, a finalist for the Poet’s Prize, and The Ledge, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. He is emeritus professor of English at the University of Maryland and emeritus director of the Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers’ Conferences. He has received numerous honors, including a fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation and an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and he was the poet laureate of the State of Maryland from 2001 to 2004. He currently lives in Vermont.

The Missing Mountain
New and Selected Poems

SEPTEMBER | 160 p. | 6 x 9 | Paper $20.00

Phoenix Poets

The Missing Mountain describes a long, distinguished career as both a poet and teacher. It highlights all the things that we’ve come to depend on in Michael Collier’s poetry: his wide range of reference, his ability to formulate surprising connections, and his depth of intelligence and emotion. Where most contemporary poets look for the metaphorical in the literal, Collier does the opposite: he takes a hard look at “how things actually are,” giving readers a crystal clear view of his observations, from fraught relations between family members and between lovers, to pedophilic priests and the ethics of beekeeping, to explorations in the densest of forests, ruminations into the most forbidding of deserts, and down to the terrors of the bottom of the ocean. In the section of new poems, Collier turns to the other animals who share our planet. Here we find an array of recognizable characters: an irascible stray cat with an unlikely dependent, an opossum; an imperious—if clueless—dog; a sage, world-weary goat; and the touching domesticity of bluebirds. So much could we learn from our fellow creatures, if we tried; and, after all the centuries of human consumption, how little we’ve actually learned from each other: “If they would stay just where they are all morning,” Collier writes of some industrious crows he chances upon in a clearing, “they’d be the monument to the history they’re looking for.”

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Phoenix Poets

Blue in Green is a book that is equal parts subtle intelligence and generosity of heart. In it, Chiyuma Elliott creates a unique voice that returns again and again to the question of what we expect from one another, and how that question is transformed instead into a question of what we owe each other. This notion of reversal plays out in the construction of the poems where, unlike so many of her contemporaries who come to poetry through prose techniques, Elliott’s voice emerges through a complex shifting of phrase and syntax between lines or in mid-phrase. We don’t, for example, get a straightforward story of what caused the trauma of, say, cancer or abuse; rather, we hear impressions, half-formed ideas that rise and fall in the speaker’s voice as it moves through the nature of the trauma, and experience the effects of the disorder that is the center of our everyday relationships through speech. Put another way: when a crisis overshadows the ordinary, disrupting the collective labor that we pursue together in love, friendship, and work, the hardship itself, in a kind of role-reversal, becomes a collaborator, necessitating new conceptions of relationships and proposing new modes of engagement, different rules of exchange. The book’s forms also reflect this transformed idea of reciprocity: ekphrastic poems, normally reserved for visual artworks, instead describe modern jazz songs (including the title poem); letters and letter fragments are written to no one in particular, to the planet, to the universe; and highly allusive free verse poems defy convention with troubled, wildly variable line lengths. The phrase “When I was a wave” recurs throughout the book in unpredictable places, sometimes as a title, sometimes in the middle of a poem, each time telling a different story about expectation, intimacy, and the risk inherent in any relationship. Blue in Green is a graceful, tough-minded, beautifully crafted collection, full of wit and elegance.

“Elliott’s quite amazing Blue in Green is an intricate series of forays and restatements, an ongoing investigation of the language of the world and a search less for ‘meaning’ than among versions of possibility, a search not unlike the sketches in the song that lends its title to the book, the song that takes the good listener beyond the song itself. And here, the good reader’s escorted past and beneath the terms of common capture and into reference as points of ecstatic departure, as openings. There’s startling power in Blue in Green, there’s news here that stays news.”—C. S. Giscombe, author of Ohio Railroads

Chiyuma Elliott is assistant professor of African American studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and the author of At Most, California Winter League, and Vigil. A former Stegner Fellow, Elliott has published poems in the African American Review, Notre Dame Review, PN Review, and Callaloo, among others. She has received fellowships from the American Philosophical Society, Cave Canem, and the Vermont Studio Center.
Praise for Schwartz

“Lloyd Schwartz is the master of the poetic one-liner.”—David Kirby, New York Times

Book Review

“A major poet with a gentle, comic soul.”
—Roger Rosenblatt, Kenyon Review

Newsletter

Lloyd Schwartz is the Frederick S. Troy Professor of English Emeritus at the University of Massachusetts Boston, a longtime commentator on classical music and the arts for National Public Radio’s Fresh Air, and a noted editor of Elizabeth Bishop’s poetry and prose. He has been awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism, Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Arts fellowships in poetry, and the poet laureateship of the city of Somerville, Massachusetts. His poems have appeared in the New Yorker, New Republic, and Atlantic. Among his poetry books are Little Kisses, Cairo Traffic, and Goodnight, Gracie, all published by the University of Chicago Press.

Who’s on First?
New and Selected Poems

For more than four decades, readers and critics have found Lloyd Schwartz’s poems unlike anyone else’s—a rare combination of the heartbreaking and the hilarious. With his ear for the poetry of the vernacular, Schwartz offers us a memorable cast of characters—both real and imagined, foolish and oracular. Readers experience his mother’s piercing flashes of memory, the perverse comic wisdom of Gracie Allen, the uninhibited yet loving exhibitionists of antique pornography, and eager travelers crossing America in a club-car or waiting in a Brazilian airport. Schwartz listens to these people without judging—understanding that they are all trying to live their lives, whenever possible, with tenderness, humor, and grace.

Who’s on First? brings together a selection of poems from all of Schwartz’s previous collections along with eagerly awaited new poems, highlighting his formal inventiveness in tangling and untangling the yarn of comedy and pathos. Underlying all of these poems is the question of what it takes and what it costs to make art.

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Recognized for his “wildly original” poetry and his “uncanny and unparalleled ability to blend lyric and narrative,” Atsuro Riley deepens here his uncommon mastery and tang. In *Heard-Hoard*, Riley has “razor-exacted” and “raw-wired” an absorbing new sequence of poems, a vivid weavework rendering an American place and its people.

At once an album of tales, a portrait gallery, and a soundscape; an “inscritched” dirt-mural and hymnbook, *Heard-Hoard* encompasses a chorus of voices shot through with (mostly human) histories and mysteries, their “old appetites as chronic as tides.” From the crackling story-man calling us together in the primal circle to Tammy figuring “time and time that yonder oak,” this collection is a profound evocation of lives and loss and lore.

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“A landscape charged with the bright light of discernment, where emotions are stirred by rhythmic torsion and sonic density.”—Julie Carr, judge, Alice Fay di Castagnola Award from the Poetry Society of America

*Atsuro Riley* is the author of *Romey’s Order*, also published by the University of Chicago Press, which was the recipient of the Whiting Writers’ Award, the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, *The Believer* Poetry Award, and the Witter Bynner Award from the Library of Congress. His work has been honored with the Lannan Foundation Literary Fellowship, the Pushcart Prize, and the Wood Prize given by *Poetry* magazine. Brought up in the South Carolina lowcountry, Riley lives in San Francisco.
Political participation is a costly activity with little clear payoff. And yet, millions of Americans vote, many donate their time and money to campaigns, and even more spend time becoming informed on issues they will have almost no influence over. Even more puzzling, some racial groups, like African Americans, whose members are least obviously able to bear the costs of participation are more likely to engage than other resource-rich groups, like Asian Americans.

What explains this?

To answer this question, Allison P. Anoll draws on a rich mix of interviews, surveys, and experiments with the four largest racial groups in America to look at the power of social norms in a community, specifically a civic duty norm, as an explanation for the variation in political participation across different racial and ethnic communities. Beliefs about how best to honor the past and help those in need centrally define concepts of obligation, Anoll finds, but whether these feelings of duty connect to politics depends on each group’s distinct history and continued patterns of racial segregation. Her findings offer a thought-provoking explanation for why some people participate in politics and others do not, while also providing a window into opportunities for change, pointing to how traditionally marginalized groups can be mobilized into the political sphere.
The extraordinary nature of the Trump presidency has spawned a resurgence in the study of the presidency and a rising concern about the power of the office. In *Power Shifts*, John Dearborn explores the development of the idea of the representative presidency, that the president alone is elected by a national constituency, and thus the only part of government who can represent the nation against the parochial concerns of members of Congress, and its relationship to the growth of presidential power in the twentieth century. Dearborn asks why Congress conceded so much power to the Chief Executive, with the support of particularly conservative members of the Supreme Court. He discusses the debates between Congress and the Executive and the arguments offered by politicians, scholars, and members of the judiciary about the role of the president in the American state. He asks why so many bought into the idea of the representative, and hence, strong presidency despite unpopular wars, failed foreign policies, and parochial actions that favor only the president’s supporters. This is a book about the power of ideas in the development of the American state.
Lisa Jane Disch is professor of political science at the University of Michigan. She has published four books. Most recently, she coedited The Oxford Handbook of Feminist Theory and The Constructivist Turn in Political Representation.

In *Making Constituencies* Lisa Jane Disch takes on the critiques of contemporary democracy grounded in a pessimistic view of voters’ engagement and knowledge and arguments about the limits of political representation. Contemporary work on voting emphasizes the lack of knowledge and time invested in politics by most voters. Voters take their cues for voting from groups with which they feel allegiance for reasons unrelated to their social or political concerns. Citizens, too often subject to manipulation, support candidates who will act against their real interests. We think of our elected representatives as simply supporting the views of voters and interest groups who are responsible for their election instead of actively engaging voters.

Disch argues against both views. She contends that voter participation is not as limited as many argue and that representation plays a more active role in organizing and engaging voters. She argues for an idea of representation as mobilization, engaging and involving citizens in causes that do represent their interests and helping to give voters the ideas and information necessary to actively participate in the political system.

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Pollsters and pundits armed with the best public opinion polls failed to predict the election of Donald Trump in 2016. Is this because we no longer understand what the American public is? In *A Troubled Birth*, Susan Herbst argues that we need to return to earlier meanings of “public opinion” to understand our current climate.

Herbst contends that the idea that there was a public—whose opinions mattered—emerged during the Great Depression, with the diffusion of radio, the devastating impact of the economic collapse on so many people, the appearance of professional pollsters, and Franklin Roosevelt’s powerful rhetoric. She argues that public opinion about issues can only be seen as a messy mixture of culture, politics, and economics—in short, all the things that influence how people live. Herbst deftly pins down contours of public opinion in new ways and explores what endures and what doesn’t in the extraordinarily troubled, polarized, and hyper-mediated present. Before we can ask the most important questions about public opinion in American democracy today, we must reckon yet again with the politics and culture of the 1930s.

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The politics of inclusion is about more than hate, exclusion, and discrimination. It is a window into the moral character of contemporary liberal democracies. *The Struggle for Inclusion* introduces a new method to the study of public opinion: to probe, step by step, how far non-Muslim majorities are willing to be inclusive, where they draw the line, and why they draw it there and not elsewhere. Those committed to liberal democratic values and their concerns are the focus, not those advocating exclusion and intolerance.

Notwithstanding the turbulence and violence of the last decade over issues of immigration and of Muslims in the West, the results of this study demonstrate that the largest number of citizens in contemporary liberal democracies are more open to inclusion of Muslims than has been recognized. Not less important, the book reveals limits on inclusion that follow from the friction between liberal democratic values. This pioneering work thus brings to light both pathways to progress and polarization traps.
For decades now, pundits and political scientists have been pointing to a major demographic change that’s underway in the United States. Demographers project that whites will become a minority of the US population and that minority groups will jointly comprise a majority before 2050.

*Diversity's Child* appraises the political ramifications of this change. Efrén O. Pérez deftly argues that America’s changing demographics are forging a new identity for many as people of color—that unifies the political outlook of assorted minority groups. Drawing on opinion surveys of multiple minority groups, social science experiments with minority adults, content analyses of newspapers and congressional archives, and in-depth interviews with minority individuals, Pérez makes two key points. First, a person of color’s identity does exist, and we can reliably measure it, as well as distinguish it from other identities that minorities hold. Second, across a wide swath of circumstances, identifying as a person of color profoundly shapes how minorities view themselves and their political system. *Diversity’s Child* is a vital and engaging look at America’s identity politics as well as at how people of color think about racial disparities and how politics can best solve them.

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From the climate crisis to the opioid crisis to the Coronavirus crisis, the language of crisis is everywhere around us and ubiquitous in contemporary American politics and policymaking. But for every problem that political actors describe as a crisis, there are myriad other equally serious ones that are not described in this way. Why has the term crisis been associated with some problems but not others? What has crisis come to mean, and what work does it do?

In *When Bad Things Happen to Privileged People*, Dara Z. Strolovitch brings a critical eye to the taken-for-granted political vernacular of crisis. Using systematic analyses to trace the evolution of the use of the term crisis by both political elites and outsiders, Strolovitch unpacks the idea of “crisis” in contemporary politics and demonstrates that crisis is itself an operation of politics. She shows that racial justice activists innovated the language of crisis in an effort to transform racism from something understood as natural and intractable and to cast it instead as a policy problem that could be remedied. Dominant political actors later seized on the language of crisis to compel the use of state power, but often in ways that compounded rather than alleviated inequality and injustice. In this eye-opening and important book, Strolovitch demonstrates that understanding crisis politics is key to understanding the politics of racial, gender, and class inequalities in the early twenty-first century.

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**Dara Z. Strolovitch** is professor of women’s, gender, and sexuality studies, American studies, and political science at Yale University, and she is coeditor of the *American Political Science Review*. She is the author of *Affirmative Advocacy: Race, Class, and Gender in Interest Group Politics*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Today the United States is home to more unauthorized immigrants than at any time in the country’s history. As scrutiny around immigration has intensified, border enforcement has tightened. The result is a population of new Americans who are more entrenched than ever before. Crossing harsher, less porous borders makes entry to the US a permanent, costly enterprise. And the challenges don’t end once they’re here.

In *The Border Within*, journalist Kalee Thompson and economist Tara Watson examine the costs and ends of America’s immigration-enforcement complex, particularly its practices of internal enforcement: the policies and agencies, including ICE, aimed at removing unauthorized immigrants living in the US. Thompson and Watson’s economic appraisal of immigration’s costs and benefits is interlaid with first-person reporting of families who personify America’s policies in a time of scapegoating and fear. The result is at once enlightening and devastating.

Thompson and Watson examine immigration’s impact on every aspect of American life, from the labor force to social welfare programs to tax revenue. The results paint an overwhelmingly positive picture of what non-native Americans bring to the country, including immigration’s tendency to elevate the wages and skills of those who are native born. Their research also finds a stark gap between the realities of America’s immigrant population and the policies meant to uproot them: America’s internal enforcements are grounded in shock and awe more than any reality of where and how immigrants live. The objective, it seems, is to deploy “chilling effects”—performative displays aimed at producing upstream effects on economic behaviors and decision-making among immigrants. The ramifications of these fear-based policies extends beyond immigrants themselves; they have impacts on American citizens living in immigrant families as well as on the broader society.

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Revision is a kind of writing, argues William Germano, indeed the only writing that ultimately counts. That’s because only revision makes a piece of writing worth the time and attention of readers. With the wit and wisdom that distinguished his now classic guides *Getting It Published* and *From Dissertation to Book*, Germano explains how to get your writing up to the level where it matters not just to yourself but to others.

*On Revision* goes far beyond the usual advice to cut for concision, discussing revision as expansion, structural revision across the larger span of a work, revision as response to one’s audience, and revision as rethinking. Although full of practical advice, this book is no mere how-to, and to approach it only as a guide wouldn’t do it justice. It is also a learned, deeply thoughtful essay on what impels revising, and on the writer’s task.

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In-depth interviews and close observation are essential to the work of social scientists, but inserting one’s researcher-self into the lives of others can be daunting, especially early on. Esteemed sociologist Annette Lareau is here to help. Lareau’s clear, insightful, and personal guide is not your average methods text. It promises to reduce researcher anxiety while illuminating the best methods for first-rate research practice.

As the title of this book suggests, Lareau considers listening to be the core element of interviewing and observation. A researcher must listen to people as she collects data, listen to feedback as she describes what she is learning, listen to the findings of others as they delve into the existing literature on topics, and listen to herself in order to sift and prioritize some aspects of the study over others. By listening in these different ways, researchers will discover connections, reconsider assumptions, catch mistakes, develop and assess new ideas, weigh priorities, ponder new directions, and undertake numerous adjustments—all of which will make their contributions clearer and more valuable.

Accessibly written and full of practical, easy-to-follow guidance, this book will help both novice and experienced researchers to do their very best work. Qualitative research is an inherently uncertain project, but with Lareau’s help, you can alleviate anxiety and focus on success.

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CLASS 200: New Studies in Religion

The letters of Paul have been used to support and condone a host of evils over the span of more than two millennia: racism, slavery, imperialism, misogyny, and anti-Semitism, to name a few. Despite, or in some cases because of, this history, readers of Paul have felt compelled to reappropriate his letters to fit liberal or radical politics, seeking to set right the evils done in Paul’s name. Starting with the language of excrement, refuse, and waste in Paul’s letters, Profaning Paul looks at how Paul’s “shit” is recycled and reconfigured. It asks why readers, from liberal Christians to academic biblical scholars to political theorists and philosophers, feel compelled to make Paul into a hero, mining his words for wisdom. Following the lead of feminist, queer, and minoritized scholarship, Profaning Paul asks what would happen if we stopped recycling Paul’s writings. By profaning the status of his letters as sacred texts, we might open up new avenues for imagining political figurations to meet our current and coming political, economic, and ecological challenges.

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We are living in a time of radical uncertainty, faced as we are with serious political, ecological, economic, epidemiological, and social problems that both dramatically affect us in the present and imperil our future. What brings religious scholars Constance M. Furey, Sarah Hammerschlag, and Amy Hollywood together in this volume is a shared conviction that “reading helps us live with and through the unknown,” including times like these. For them, the nature of reading raises questions fundamental to how we think about our political futures and modes of human relation.

Each essay suggests different ways to characterize the object of devotion and the stance of the devout subject before it. Furey writes about devotion in terms of vivification, energy, and artifice; Hammerschlag in terms of commentary, mimicry, and fetishism; and Hollywood in terms of anarchy, antinomianism, and atopia. They are interested in literature not as providing models for ethical, political, or religious life, but as creating the site in which the possible—and the impossible—transport the reader, enabling new forms of thought, habits of mind, and modes of life. Ranging from German theologian Martin Luther to French-Jewish philosopher Sarah Kofman to American poet Susan Howe, this volume is not just a reflection on forms of devotion, it is also an impassioned enactment of devotion itself.

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JOHN LARDAS MODERN

**Neuromatic**

Or, A Particular History of Religion and the Brain

OCTOBER | 392 p. | 76 halftones | 6 x 9 | Cloth $97.50 Paper $32.50

- An eclectic new book by a leading scholar of religion
- Explores varied efforts to locate religious experience in the brain
- Ranges widely from eighteenth-century anatomy to modern neuroscience

*Class 200: New Studies in Religion*

In *Neuromatic*, religious studies scholar John Lardas Modern offers a sprawling and critical examination of the history of the cognitive revolution and current attempts to locate all that is human in the brain, including spirituality itself. *Neuromatic* is a wildly original take on the entangled histories of science and religion that lie behind our brain-laden present: from eighteenth-century revivals to the origins of neurology and mystic visions of mental piety in the nineteenth century; from cyberneticians, Scientologists, and parapsychologists in the twentieth century, to contemporary claims to have discovered the neural correlates of religion.

What Modern reveals via this grand tour is that our ostensibly secular turn to the brain is bound up at every turn with the religion it discounts, ignores, or actively dismisses. In foregrounding the myths, ritual schemes, and cosmic concerns that have accompanied idealizations of neural networks and inquiries into their structure, *Neuromatic* takes the reader on a dazzling and disturbing ride through the history of our strange subservience to the brain.

*John Lardas Modern* is professor of religious studies at Franklin & Marshall College. He is the author of *The Bop Apocalypse: The Religious Visions of Kerouac, Ginsberg, and Burroughs* and *Secularism in Antebellum America*, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Hair, teeth, fingernails, pieces of bone—bodily fragments supposedly from the Buddha himself have a complicated history. These relics have long served as objects of veneration for many Buddhists, and unsurprisingly, when Western colonial powers subjugated populations in South Asia, they used, manipulated, and even destroyed these relics to exert control. In this account of colonial Portuguese and British dealings with one of the most famous relics of the Buddha—the tooth relic—John S. Strong treats us to a masterful analysis of this relic's contested origins, its manipulation by colonial powers, and its multiple functions across several colonial contexts.

Strong revisits two well-known stories about the West’s encounter with Buddhism in South Asia. The first story concerns a tooth identified by the Portuguese as being a relic of the Buddha in the mid-sixteenth century. This tooth was taken by the Portuguese from Sri Lanka back to Goa where it was publicly crushed, burned, and thrown into a river as a display of colonial power. The second story concerns another tooth, also identified as a relic of the Buddha and first enshrined at the end of the sixteenth century. After the British conquered Kandy in the second decade of the nineteenth century, they realized the value of this tooth for furthering their colonial ambitions, and what followed was a long and complicated history of British interactions with the tooth up through Sri Lankan independence in 1948 and beyond. Through a meticulous study of these two encounters, Strong reveals the importance of multicultural cosmopolitan objects for understanding the history of Buddhism in South Asia.

John S. Strong is the Charles A. Dana Emeritus Professor of Religious Studies at Bates College. He is the author of several books, including Relics of the Buddha and Buddhism: An Introduction.
Synthesis

This book explores the significance of fermentation phenomena, both as life processes and as technologies, in Japanese scientific culture. Victoria Lee’s careful study documents how Japanese scientists and skilled workers sought to use the microbe’s natural processes to create new products, from soy-sauce mold starters to MSG, vitamins to statins. In traditional brewing houses as well as in the food, fine chemical, and pharmaceutical industries across Japan, they showcased their ability to deal with the enormous sensitivity and variety of the microbial world.

Charting developments in fermentation science from the turn of the twentieth century, when Japan was an industrializing country on the periphery of the world economy, to 1980 when it had emerged as a global technological and economic power, Lee highlights the role of indigenous techniques in modern science as it took shape in Japan. In doing so, she reveals how knowledge of microbes lay at the heart of some of Japan’s most prominent technological breakthroughs in the global economy.

At a moment when twenty-first-century developments in the fields of antibiotic resistance, the microbiome, and green chemistry suggest that the traditional eradication-based approach to the microbial world is unsustainable, twentieth-century Japanese microbiology provides a new, broader vantage for understanding and managing microbial interactions with society.

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What is experimental knowledge, and how do we get it? While there is general agreement that experiment is a crucial source of scientific knowledge, how experiment generates that knowledge is far more contentious. In this book, philosopher of science James Mattingly explains how experiments function. Specifically, he discusses what it is about experimental practice that transforms observations of what may be very localized, particular, isolated systems into what may be global, general, integrated empirical knowledge. Mattingly argues that the purpose of experimentation is the same as the purpose of any other knowledge-generating enterprise—to change the state of information of the knower. This trivial-seeming point has a non-trivial consequence: to understand a knowledge-generating enterprise, we should follow the flow of information. Therefore, the account of experimental knowledge Mattingly provides is based on understanding how information flows in experiments: what facilitates that flow, what hinders it, and what characteristics allow it to flow from system to system, into the heads of researchers, and finally into our store of scientific knowledge.

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Jennifer McElwain is the 1711 Chair of Botany at Trinity College Dublin, where she is also director of Trinity College Botanic Garden. She is the author of many publications, including *The Evolution of Plants*. Marlene Hill Donnelly is a scientific illustrator for the Field Museum in Chicago. She has illustrated three children’s books, including *Big Tracks, Little Tracks*. Ian Glasspool is a research scientist and paleobotanist living in Maine. He has authored or coauthored fifty scientific articles.

While today’s Greenland is largely covered in ice, in the time of the dinosaurs the area was a lushly forested, tropical zone. *Tropical Arctic* tracks a ten-million-year window of Earth’s history when global temperatures soared and the vegetation of the world responded.

A project over eighteen years in the making, *Tropical Arctic* is the result of a unique collaboration between two paleobotanists, Jennifer C. McElwain and Ian J. Glasspool, and award-winning scientific illustrator Marlene Hill Donnelly. They began with a simple question: “What was the color of a fossilized leaf?” *Tropical Arctic* answers that question and more, allowing readers to experience Triassic Greenland through three reconstructed landscapes and an expertly researched catalog of extinct plants. A stunning compilation of paint and pencil art, photos, maps, and engineered fossil models, *Tropical Arctic* blends art and science to bring a lost world to life. Readers will also enjoy a front-row seat to the scientific adventures of life in the field, with engaging anecdotes about analyzing fossils and learning to ward off polar bear attacks.

*Tropical Arctic* explains our planet’s story of environmental upheaval, mass extinction, and resilience. By looking at Earth’s past, we see a glimpse of the future of our warming planet—and learn an important lesson for our time of climate change.

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The image most of us have of whalers includes harpoons and intentional trauma. Yet eating commercially caught seafood leads to whales’ entanglement and slow death in rope and nets, and the global shipping routes that bring us readily available goods often lead to death by collision. We—all of us—are whalers, marine scientist and veterinarian Michael J. Moore contends. But we do not have to be.

Drawing on over forty years of fieldwork with humpback, pilot, fin, and in particular, North Atlantic right whales—a species whose population has declined more than twenty percent since 2017—Moore takes us with him as he performs whale necropsies on animals stranded on beaches, in his independent research alongside whalers using explosive harpoons, and as he tracks injured whales to deliver sedatives. The whales’ plight is a complex, confounding, and disturbing one. We learn of existing but poorly enforced conservation laws and of perennial (and often failed) efforts to balance the push for fisheries profit versus the protection of endangered species caught by accident.

But despite these challenges, Moore’s tale is an optimistic one. He shows us how technologies for rope-less fishing and the acoustic tracking of whale migrations make a dramatic difference. And he looks ahead with hope as our growing understanding of these extraordinary creatures fuels an ever-stronger drive for change.

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“This is a truly compelling, captivating, and in places heart-wrenching story of one scientist’s journey through a career dealing with a highly endangered species whose very predicament is our fault and whose recovery is also our responsibility, as bycatch is preventable. The power lies with the reader. We are all consumers and hence all culpable in the environmental costs of fish products and goods and services transported at sea. Coexistence is possible, perhaps within our lifetime, and Moore’s book lays the foundation for work yet to come on how to make that coexistence a reality.”—Moira Brown, Canadian Whale Institute

Michael J. Moore is a veterinary scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He lives in Marion, MA.
Niels Bohr was a central figure in quantum physics, well known for his work on atomic structure and his contributions to the Copenhagen interpretation of quantum mechanics. In this book, philosopher of science Slobodan Perović explores the way Bohr practiced and understood physics and analyzes its implications for our understanding of modern science. Perović develops a novel approach to Bohr’s understanding of physics and his method of inquiry, presenting an exploratory symbiosis of historical and philosophical analysis that uncovers the key aspects of Bohr’s philosophical vision of physics within a given historical context.

To better understand the methods that produced Bohr’s breakthrough results in quantum phenomena, Perović clarifies the nature of Bohr’s engagement with the experimental side of physics and lays out the basic distinctions and concepts that characterize his approach. Rich and insightful, Perović’s take on the early history of quantum mechanics and its methodological ramifications sheds vital new light on one of the key figures of modern physics.

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“Perović offers a novel and refreshingly unorthodox interpretation of Bohr’s seminal contributions to quantum physics and their philosophical implications. Adopting a method of historically sensitive analysis, he argues convincingly that the great Dane came to his overarching hypotheses, including the complementarity principle, by inductive reasoning inherently based on experiments. He skilfully defends Bohr against the charges that his epistemological and methodological views were amateurish armchair philosophy. Perović’s book on Bohr’s vision is recommendable from a scientific, historical, and philosophical perspective.”—Helge Størnholm

Slobodan Perović is professor of the history and philosophy of science at the University of Belgrade. His work has been featured in the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics, Foundations of Science, and Synthese, among others.
The idea that a woman may leave a biological trace on her gestating offspring has long been a commonplace folk intuition and a matter of scientific intrigue, but the form of that idea—and its staggering implications for maternal well-being and reproductive autonomy—has changed dramatically over time. Beginning with the advent of modern genetics at the turn of the twentieth century, biomedical scientists dismissed any notion that a mother—except in cases of extreme deprivation or injury—could alter her offspring’s traits. Consensus asserted that a child’s fate was set by a combination of its genes and post-birth upbringing.

Over the last fifty years, however, this consensus was dismantled, and today, research on the intrauterine environment and its effects on the fetus is emerging as a robust program of study in medicine, public health, psychology, evolutionary biology, and genomics. Collectively, these sciences argue that a woman’s experiences, behaviors, and physiology can have life-altering effects on offspring development. Tracing a genealogy of ideas about heredity and maternal-fetal effects, The Maternal Imprint offers a critical analysis of conceptual and ethical issues provoked by the striking rise of epigenetics and fetal origins science in postgenomic biology today.

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Sarah S. Richardson is professor of the history of science and of studies of women, gender, and sexuality at Harvard University. She directs the Harvard GenderSci Lab and is the author of Sex Itself: The Search for Male and Female in the Human Genome, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Nobel Prize–winning physicist Enrico Fermi (1901–54) is known for his work on experimental particle physics, quantum theory, and statistical mechanics; his contributions to the Manhattan Project; and for his particular ability to condense complicated problems into approximations for understanding and testing theory in a variety of scientific disciplines.

Unearthing Fermi’s Geophysics opens a window onto two underrepresented facets of this extraordinary thinker: Fermi’s contributions as a teacher and to the field of geophysics. Drawing on Fermi’s handwritten calculations and notes, many of which are reproduced here in photographic facsimile, physicists Gino C. Segrè and John D. Stack have reconstructed a coursebook of Fermi’s insights into the physics of a range of geological and atmospheric phenomena. From gravity on Earth to thermodynamics in the atmosphere, the physics of raindrops, the Coriolis effect in hurricanes, tidal physics, earthquakes and seismic waves, Earth’s magnetism, atmospheric electricity, and much more, Unearthing Fermi’s Geophysics reveals the hidden workings of the world above, around, and below us—and of the mind of a great scientist who was able to bring those physical workings to light.

Praise for The Pope of Physics


“Superb. . . . A definitive study of Fermi’s life and work.”—Wall Street Journal

“Impressive. . . . Both intelligent and extremely engaging.”—Washington Post

“Humane, scientifically astute, and beautifully written.”—Physics Today

Gino Segrè is professor emeritus in and former chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Pennsylvania. Most recently he is coauthor with Bettina Hoerlin of The Pope of Physics: Enrico Fermi and the Birth of the Atomic Age.

John Stack is professor emeritus and former associate head for graduate programs in physics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
Carbon Technocracy
Energy Regimes in Modern East Asia

Studies of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Carbon Technocracy illustrates how the rise of the fossil fuel economy in East Asia was mutually shaped by the emergence of technocratic governance in China and Japan by looking closely at the Fushun colliery in Manchuria. The colliery changed hands between the Imperial Japanese, Nationalist Chinese, and Communist Chinese governments over the first half of the twentieth century and once boasted the largest coal mining operations in East Asia.

Victor Seow examines how the Japanese and Chinese regimes became committed to large-scale, state-led energy extraction efforts even as concerns swirled over economic growth, resource scarcity, and national autarky. Pivotal to this process was the development and employment of technologies of extraction: from methods such as open-pit mining and shale oil distillation, which enabled the extraction of carbon energy, to mechanisms such as finger printing and calorie counting, which made possible a more efficient extraction of the human labor undergirding the entire enterprise.

For all their differences, the regimes shared technocratic visions of industrial development based on extensive fossil fuel production and use. The reliance on carbon energy to sustain the entire system engendered a widespread tension that persists today, a tension between the fear of scarcity and a faith in finding near limitless supply, often thanks to science and technology.

“The clarity of Seow’s thinking, the felicity of his prose, and the significance of his topic will ensure quite a large audience among modern East Asian historians, energy historians, and the many scholars in environmental studies and environmental humanities who focus on carbon-driven climate change. Clearly written and very thoughtfully conceived.”—Thomas G. Andrews, University of Colorado Boulder

Victor Seow is assistant professor of the history of science at Harvard University. A historian of technology, science, and industry, he specializes in China and Japan and in histories of energy and work.
In recent years, tech companies such as Google and Facebook have rocked the world as they have seemingly revolutionized the culture of work. We’ve all heard stories of lounges outfitted with ping pong tables, kitchens with kombucha on tap, and other amenities that supposedly foster creative thinking. Nothing could seem further from earlier workplaces associated with a different revolution in capitalism: factories, in which employees are required to perform highly circumscribed tasks as quickly as possible to meet quotas—for next to no pay. However, as Moritz Altenried shows in *The Digital Factory*, these types of workplaces are not so far from the Googleplex as we might think. While recent accounts of the transformation of labor after the demise of the factory highlight the creative, communicative, immaterial, or artistic features of contemporary labor, Altenried uncovers the factory-like conditions in which many new digital workers perform their jobs. These workers, such as video game testers, social media content moderators, and Amazon fulfillment center workers, perform highly repetitive, unskilled tasks for low and often contingent wages. Altenried combines five years of qualitative research with an analysis of infrastructural technologies to give us a first-hand account of many new forms of digital labor that drive contemporary capitalism. He shows that though today’s factories might look and feel different than they did 150 years ago, they still follow the same logics and produce the same unequal outcomes.

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Elijah Anderson has been a vital voice in our national conversation on race for forty years. His ethnographies have provided intimate and sharply insightful looks into urban Black life, making his work a touchstone for anyone hoping to understand the lived reality and structural underpinnings of racism in America. His newest book, *Black in White Space*, chronicles moments in which Black people are jarringly and often violently treated as outsiders—a birder in Central Park, a jogger in a rural Georgia town, or a college student lounging on an elite university quad. Anderson shows that due to expansions in racial equality over the past fifty years, Black Americans increasingly gain access to elite white spaces. But instances of discrimination and harassment serve to remind us that racial barriers are firmly entrenched—for the elite, the middle-class, and the poor alike. This isn’t just a book about elite Black people in white spaces. Anderson also delves into the stratifications and stereotypes that have made black and white spaces so persistently separate and difficult to break through, showing that regardless of the social or economic position of a Black person, the stereotype of the iconic ghetto looms in the white imagination, associating all Black people with crime, drugs, and poverty. From conversations on the street corners of Philadelphia with Black men who can’t get work to Anderson’s own morning jogs through a Cape Cod vacation town, he gathers a wealth of stories to shed new light on the urgent and dire persistence of racial discrimination in our country.

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We know a lot about how clothing and shoes are made cheaply, but very little about the process when they are made beautifully. In The Perfect Fit, Claudio E. Benzecry looks at the craft that goes into designing shoes for women in the US market, revealing that this creative process takes place on a global scale. Based on unprecedented behind-the-scenes access, The Perfect Fit offers an ethnographic window into the day-to-day life of designers, fit models, and technicians as they put together samples and prototypes, showing how expert work is a complement to and a necessary condition for factory exploitation.

Benzecry looks at the decisions and constraints behind how shoes are designed and developed, from initial inspiration to the mundane work of making sure a size seven stays constant. In doing so, he also fosters an original understanding of how globalization works from the ground up. Drawing on five years of research in New York, China, and Brazil, The Perfect Fit reveals how creative decisions are made, the kinds of expertise involved, and the almost impossible task of keeping the global supply chain humming.
Our recent election as well as the responses to the protests about the death of Blacks at the hands of the police has brought forward the question of racism among white voters. In *Racial Resentment in the Political Mind* Darren W. Davis and David C. Wilson explore the idea that racial resentment, rather than simply racial prejudice, is the basis for growing resistance among whites to efforts to improve the circumstances faced by minorities in this country. The authors start with the idea that there is growing sentiment among whites that they are “losing-out” and “being cut in line” by Blacks and other minorities, as reflected in an emphasis on diversity and inclusion, multiculturalism, trigger warnings, and political correctness, an increase in African Americans occupying powerful and prestigious positions, and the election of Barack Obama as the first Black president. The culprits, as they see it, are undeserving Blacks, as well as other minorities, who are perceived to benefit unfairly from, and take advantage of, resources that come at whites’ expense. This rewarding of unearned resources challenges the status quo and the “rules of the game,” especially as they relate to justice and deservingness. Such reactions may not stem from racial prejudice or hatred toward Blacks; instead, they may result from threats to whites’ sense of justice, entitlement, and status. This sentiment is occurring among everyday citizens who do not subscribe to hate-filled racial or nationalistic ideologies but rather seek to treat everyone respectfully and equally, even those who are different, and understand that rejecting others because of racial prejudice is offensive.

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In *The Diasporic Condition*, Ghassan Hage engages with the diasporic Lebanese community as a shared lifeworld, defining a common cultural milieu that transcends spatial and temporal distance—a collective mode of being here termed the “diasporic condition.” Encompassing a complicated transnational terrain, Hage’s long-term ethnography takes us from Mehj and Jalleh in Lebanon to Europe, Australia, South America, and North America, analyzing how Lebanese migrants and their families have established themselves in their new homes while remaining socially, economically, and politically related to Lebanon and to each other.

At the heart of *The Diasporic Condition* lies a critical anthropological question: how does the study of a particular socio-cultural phenomenon expand our knowledge of modes of existing in the world? As Hage establishes what he terms the “lenticular condition,” he breaks down the boundaries between “us” and “them,” “here” and “there,” showing that this lenticular mode of existence increasingly defines everyone’s everyday life.

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In *Speculative Communities*, Aris Komporozos-Athanasiou examines the ways that financial speculation has moved beyond markets to shape fundamental aspects of our social and political lives. As ordinary people make exceptional decisions—such as the American election of a populist demagogue or the British vote to leave the European Union—they are moving from time-honored and -tested practices of governance, toward the speculative promise of a different kind of future. Even our methods of building community have shifted to the speculative realm as social media platforms enable and amplify alternative visions of the present and future—these are the “speculative communities” that now shape our personal and political realities. For Komporozos-Athanasiou, “to speculate” means increasingly “to connect,” to endorse uncertainty preemptively, and often daringly, as a means of social survival. Finance has thus become the model for society writ large. These financial systems have taken a notable turn in our current era, however. Contemporary capitalism sees the risk-taking, entrepreneurial person being refashioned as a politically disoriented, speculative subject, who embraces the future’s radical uncertainty rather than averting it. As Komporozos-Athanasiou shows, virtual marketplaces, new social media, and dating apps function as finance’s speculative infrastructures, leading to a new type of imagination across economy and society.
The sociology of “social deviants” flourished in the United States at midcentury, studying the lives of outsiders such as homosexuals, Jews, disabled people, drug addicts, and political radicals. But in the next decades, many of these downcast figures would become the architects of new social movements, activists in revolt against institutions, the state, and social constraint. As queer theory gained prominence as a subfield of the humanities in the late 1980s, it seemed to inherit these radical, activist impulses—challenging not only gender and sexual norms, but the nature of society itself.

With Underdogs, Heather Love shows that queer theorists inherited as much from sociologists as they did from activists. Through theoretical and archival work, Love traces the connection between midcentury studies of deviance and the anti-normative, anti-essentialist field of queer theory. While sociologists saw deviance as an inevitable fact of social life, queer theorists embraced it as a rallying cry. A robust interdisciplinary history of the field, Underdogs stages a reencounter with the practices and communities that underwrite radical queer thought.

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As autism has become a widely prevalent diagnosis, we have grown increasingly desperate to understand it. Whether by placing baseless blame on vaccinations or seeking a genetic cause, Americans have struggled to understand what autism is and where it comes from. In Autistic Intelligence, Douglas W. Maynard and Jason Turowetz focus on a different origin of autism: the diagnostic process. By looking at how autism is diagnosed, they ask us to question the norms we use to measure autistic behavior against, why we understand autistic behavior as disordered, and how we go about assigning that disorder to particular people.

To do so, the authors take a close look at a clinic in which children are assessed for and diagnosed with autism. Their research draws on hours observing assessment evaluations among psychologists, pediatricians, parents, and children in order to make plain the systems, language, and categories that clinicians rely upon when making their assessments. Those diagnostic tools determine the kind of information doctors can gather about children, and indeed, those assessments affect how children act. Autistic Intelligence shows that autism is not a stable category, but the result of an interpretive act, and in the process of diagnosing children with autism, we often miss all of the unique contributions they make to the world around them.

Douglas W. Maynard is the Maureen T. Hallinan Professor of Sociology, emeritus at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He is author or editor of numerous books, including Bad News, Good News: Conversational Order in Everyday Talk and Clinical Settings, also published by the University of Chicago Press. Jason Turowetz is post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Siegen in Germany.
It is well-known that there is a complicated relationship between Native American Tribes and the US government. Relations between Tribes and the federal government are dominated by the principle that the government is supposed to engage in meaningful consultations with the Tribes about issues that affect them.

In *Cooperation without Submission*, Justin B. Richland, an associate justice of the Hopi Appellate Court and ethnographer, closely examines the language employed by both Tribes and government agencies in over eighty hours of meetings between the two. Richland shows how Tribes conduct these meetings using language that demonstrates their commitment to nation-to-nation interdependency, while federal agents appear to approach these consultations with the assumption that federal law is supreme and ultimately authoritative. In other words, Native American Tribes see themselves as nations with some degree of independence, entitled to recognition of their sovereignty over Tribal lands, while the federal government acts to limit that authority. In this vital book, Richland sheds light on the ways the Tribes use their language to engage in “cooperation without submission.”

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Philanthropy plays a huge role in supporting the provision of many public goods in contemporary societies. As a result, decisions that affect public outcomes and people’s diverse interests are often dependent on the preferences and judgments of the rich. Political theorist Emma Saunders-Hastings argues that philanthropy is a deeply political activity. She asks readers to look at how the power wielded by philanthropy impacts democracy and deepens political inequality by enabling the wealthy to exercise outsized influence in public life and by putting in place paternalistic relationships between donors and their intended beneficiaries. If philanthropy is to be made compatible with a democratic society of equals, it must be judged not simply on the benefits it brings but on its wider political consequences. Timely and thought-provoking, *Private Virtues, Public Vices* will challenge readers’ thoughts on what philanthropy is and how it truly affects us.

*Emma Saunders-Hastings* is assistant professor in political science at the Ohio State University. Her writing on philanthropy has appeared in the *Journal of Politics*, the *Boston Review*, and *Effective Altruism: Philosophical Issues*. 
The rise of the Information Age and of a data-driven economy may well be what distinguish the current era. We are able to enjoy the digital devices that define our times not only because of Silicon Valley innovations but also because of a burgeoning trade in dense substances like coltan, tin, tungsten, and tantalum, which can hold high electrical charges. As anthropologist James H. Smith argues, these minerals—what Congolese call the “black minerals”—are also incredibly socially dense: they bring into being vast divisions of labor, from hole owners, work managers, and diggers to porters and middlemen, alongside all sorts of ancillary businesses, from tool makers and food vendors to creditors.

In *The Eyes of the World*, Smith disassembles the devices in our pockets, tracing their provenance through the Global North and to the Congo, which has suffered through many iterations of the so-called resource curse. While acknowledging the role that mineral extraction has played in fueling the Congolese wars of the past several decades, Smith ultimately shows how mining can be more or less peaceful, inclusive, and stabilizing—depending very much on how it is accomplished. While global watch groups tend to espouse Western-style bureaucratic methods that center transparency, the modes of collaboration that best support the peace and productivity of small-scale artisanal mining are, Smith shows, much more complicated. Stakeholders in these markets engage different temporalities and socialities—often encompassing networks that include ancestors and forests—as well as different understandings of peace, the state, and well-being.
When two airplanes were flown into the World Trade Center towers on September 11, 2001, Americans watched in uncomprehending shock as first responders struggled to react to the situation on the ground. Another remarkable and heroic feat was taking place in the air: more than 550 air traffic control centers across the country coordinated their efforts to ground 4,000 flights in just two hours—an achievement all the more impressive considering the unprecedented nature of the task. In Dead Reckoning, Diane Vaughan explores the complex work of air traffic controllers—work that is built upon a close relationship between human organizational systems and technology and is remarkably safe given the high level of risk. Vaughan observed the distinct skill sets of air traffic controllers—from 1998 to today—and the ways their workplaces changed to adapt to technological developments and public and political pressures. She chronicles the ways these forces affected their jobs, from their relationships with one another and the layouts of their offices, to their understandings of their job and its place in society. To fully understand the dynamic interplay of these forces, Vaughan traces the profession to its origins, uncovering how it has incorporated new technologies and adapted organizational practices in dead reckoning, the process of deducing the future position of an object in space. Vaughan shows how technological development changes all workplaces; every organization must use dead reckoning to predict their future place in our ever-changing social space.

Diane Vaughan is professor of sociology and international and public affairs at Columbia University. She is the author of many books including The Challenger Launch Decision: Risky Technology, Culture, and Deviance at NASA, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
As the nineteenth century came to a close and questions concerning the future of African American life reached a fever pitch, many social scientists and reformers approached post-emancipation Black life as an empirical problem that could be systematically solved with the help of new technologies like the social survey, photography, and film. What ensued was nothing other than a “racial data revolution,” one which rendered African American life an inanimate object of inquiry in the name of social order and racial regulation. At the very same time, African American cultural producers and intellectuals such as W. E. B. Du Bois, Kelly Miller, Sutton Griggs, and Zora Neale Hurston staged their own kind of revolution, un-disciplining racial data in ways that captured the dynamism of Black social life.

*The Matter of Black Living* excavates the dynamic interplay between racial data and Black aesthetic production that shaped late nineteenth-century social, cultural, and literary atmosphere. Through assembling previously overlooked archives and seemingly familiar texts, Womack shows how these artists and writers recalibrated the relationship between data and Black life. The result is a fresh and nuanced take on the history of documenting Blackness. *The Matter of Black Living* charts a new genealogy from which we can rethink the political and aesthetic work of racial data, a task that has never been more urgent.

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