Black Paper
Writing in a Dark Time
Teju Cole

A wide-ranging collection of essays from a celebrated master of the form.

“Darkness is not empty,” writes Teju Cole in Black Paper, a collection of essays that meditate on what it means to keep our humanity—and witness the humanity of others—in a time of darkness. Cole is well known as a master of the essay form, and in Black Paper he is writing at the peak of his skill, as he models how to be closely attentive to experience—to not just see and take in, but to think critically about what we are seeing and not seeing.

Wide-ranging in their subject matter, the essays are connected by ethical questions about what it means to be human and what it means to bear witness, recognizing how our individual present is informed by a collective past. Cole’s writings in Black Paper approach the fractured moment of our history through a constellation of interrelated concerns: confrontation with unsettling art, elegies both public and private, the defense of writing in a time of political upheaval, the role of the color black in the visual arts, the use of shadow in photography, and the links between literature and activism. Throughout, Cole gives us intriguing new ways of thinking about the color black and its numerous connotations. As he describes the carbon copy process in his epilogue: “Writing on the top white sheet would transfer the carbon from the black paper onto the bottom white. Black transported the meaning.”

Teju Cole is a novelist, photographer, critic, curator, and the author of six books, which include Open City, Blind Spot, and, most recently, his photobook Fernweh. He was the photography critic of the New York Times Magazine from 2015 until 2019. A 2018 Guggenheim Fellow, he is currently the Gore Vidal Professor of the Practice of Creative Writing at Harvard.

Praise for Cole

“[Cole is] an emissary for our best selves. He is sampling himself for our benefit, hoping for enlightenment, and seeking to provide pleasure to us through his art. May his realm expand.”—Norman Rush, New York Review of Books

“The places he can go, you feel, are just about limitless.”—Dwight Garner, New York Times
The Other Dark Matter

The Science and Business of Turning Waste into Wealth and Health

Lina Zeldovich

Grossly ambitious and rooted in scientific scholarship, The Other Dark Matter shows how human excrement can be a life-saving, money-making resource—if we make better use of it.

The average person produces about four hundred pounds of excrement a year. More than seven billion people live on this planet. Holy crap!

Because of the diseases it spreads, we have learned to distance ourselves from our waste, but the long line of engineering marvels we’ve created to do so—from Roman sewage systems and medieval latrines to the immense, computerized treatment plants we use today—has also done considerable damage to the earth’s ecology. Now scientists tell us: we’ve been wasting our waste. When recycled correctly, this resource, cheap and widely available, can be converted into a sustainable energy source, act as an organic fertilizer, provide effective medicinal therapy for antibiotic-resistant bacterial infection, and much more.

In clear, engaging prose that draws on her extensive research and interviews, Lina Zeldovich documents the massive redistribution of nutrients and sanitation inequities across the globe. She profiles the pioneers of poop upcycling, from startups in African villages to innovators in American cities that convert sewage into fertilizer, biogas, crude oil, and even life-saving medicine. She breaks taboos surrounding sewage disposal and shows how hygienic waste repurposing can help battle climate change, reduce acid rain, and eliminate toxic algal blooms. Ultimately, she implores us to use our innate organic power for the greater good. Don’t just sit there and let it go to waste.

Lina Zeldovich is a writer and editor specializing in the journalism of solutions. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Reader’s Digest, Smithsonian, Popular Science, Scientific American, Atlantic, Newsweek, and many other popular outlets. An immigrant from the former Soviet Union, she lives in New York City and keeps a compost pile in her backyard.
Gen Z, Explained
The Art of Living in a Digital Age
Roberta Katz, Sarah Ogilvie, Jane Shaw, and Linda Woodhead

An optimistic and nuanced portrait of a generation that has much to teach us about how to live and collaborate in our digital world.

Born since the mid-1990s, Generation Z is the first generation never to know the world without the internet, and it is the most diverse generation yet. As Gen Z starts to emerge into adulthood and enter the workforce, what do we really know about them? And what can we learn from them? Gen Z, Explained is the authoritative portrait of this significant generation. It draws on extensive interviews that display this generation’s candor, surveys that explore their views and attitudes, and a vast database of their astonishingly inventive lexicon to build a comprehensive picture of their values, daily lives, and outlook. Gen Z emerges here as an extraordinarily thoughtful, promising, and perceptive generation—one that is sounding a warning to their elders about the world around them of a complexity and depth the “OK, Boomer” phenomenon could only suggest.

Much of the existing literature about Gen Z has been highly judgmental. In contrast, this book provides a deep and nuanced understanding of a generation facing a future of enormous challenges, from climate change to civil unrest. What’s more, they are facing this future head-on, relying on themselves and their peers to work collaboratively to solve these problems. As Gen Z, Explained shows, this group of young people is as compassionate and imaginative as any that has come before, and understanding the way they tackle issues may enable us to envision new kinds of solutions. This portrait of Gen Z is ultimately optimistic one, suggesting they have something to teach all of us about how to live and thrive in this digital world.

Roberta Katz is an anthropologist at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University. Sarah Ogilvie is a linguist at the University of Oxford. Jane Shaw is a historian at the University of Oxford. Linda Woodhead is a sociologist at Lancaster University.

“This extraordinarily rich and empathetic account of Gen Z offers a groundbreaking understanding of this generation’s habits and motivations without reducing them to the sum of their posts and tweets. This work excels in unpacking the subtle ways that identity formation and presentation of self are seamlessly interwoven with digital communication for zoomers. Parents, teachers, and anyone who cares about our future as a society should read this deeply informed contribution to the research on Gen Z.”—Devorah Heitner, author of Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive and Survive in Their Digital World
When Wisconsin governor Scott Walker stood shoulder to shoulder with President Trump and Speaker of the House Paul Ryan at the White House in July 2017, they painted a glorious picture of his state’s future. Foxconn, the enormous China-based electronics firm, was promising to bring TV manufacturing back to the United States with a $10 billion investment and 13,000 well-paying jobs. They actually were making America great again, they crowed.

Two years later, the project was in shambles. Ten thousand construction workers were supposed to have been building what Trump had promised would be “the eighth wonder of the world.” Instead, land had been seized, homes had been destroyed, and hundreds of millions of municipal dollars had been committed for just a few hundred jobs—nowhere near enough for Foxconn to earn the incentives Walker had shoveled at them. In Foxconned, journalist Lawrence Tabak details the full story of this utter collapse, which was disturbingly inevitable.

As Tabak shows, everything about Foxconn was a disaster. But worse, he reveals how the economic incentive infrastructure across the country is broken, leading to waste, cronyism, and the steady transfer of tax revenue to corporations. Tabak details every kind of financial chicanery, from eminent domain abuse to good old-fashioned looting—all to benefit a coterie of consultants, politicians, and contractors. With compassion and care, he also reports the distressing stories of the many individuals whose lives were upended by Foxconn.

Powerful and resonant, Foxconned is both the definitive autopsy of the Foxconn fiasco and a dire warning to communities and states nationwide.

Lawrence Tabak is a journalist whose work has appeared in numerous publications, including the New York Times, American Prospect, Salon, Forbes, and the Atlantic. He is based in Madison, Wisconsin.
The Border Within
The Economics of Immigration in an Age of Fear

Tara Watson and Kalee Thompson

An eye-opening analysis of the costs and effects of immigration and immigration policy, both on American life and on new Americans.

For decades, immigration has been one of the most divisive, contentious topics in American politics. And for decades, urgent calls for its policy reform have gone mostly unanswered. As the discord surrounding the modern immigration debate has intensified, border enforcement has tightened. Crossing harsher, less porous borders makes unauthorized entry to the United States a permanent, costly undertaking. And the challenges don’t end on the other side.

At once enlightening and devastating, The Border Within examines the costs and ends of America’s interior enforcement—the policies and agencies, including ICE, aimed at removing immigrants already living in the country. Economist Tara Watson and journalist Kalee Thompson pair rigorous analysis with deeply personal stories from immigrants and their families to assess immigration’s effects on every aspect of American life, from the labor force to social welfare programs to tax revenue. What emerges is a critical, utterly complete examination 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.

News coverage has prompted many to question the humanity of American immigration policies; The Border Within opens a conversation of whether it is effective. The United States spends billions each year on detention and deportation, all without economic gain and at a great human cost. With depth and discipline, the authors dissect the shock-and-awe policies that make up a broken, often cruel system, while illuminating the lives caught in the chaos. It is an essential work with far-reaching implications for immigrants and non-immigrants alike.

Tara Watson is professor of economics at Williams College and a coeditor of the Journal of Human Resources, the leading academic journal in labor economics. Kalee Thompson is a journalist and senior editor at Wirecutter. She is the author of Deadliest Sea: The Untold Story Behind the Greatest Rescue in Coast Guard History.
Democracy in the Time of Coronavirus
Danielle Allen

From a leading political thinker, this book is both an invaluable playbook for meeting our current moment and a stirring reflection on the future of democracy itself.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated some of the strengths of our society, including the rapid development of vaccines. But the pandemic has also exposed its glaring weaknesses, such as the failure of our government to develop and quickly implement strategies for tracing and containing outbreaks as well as widespread public distrust of government prompted by often confusing and conflicting choices—to mask, or not to mask. Even worse is that over half a million deaths and the extensive economic devastation could have been avoided if the government had been prepared to undertake comprehensive, contextually-sensitive policies to stop the spread of the disease.

In Democracy in the Time of Coronavirus, leading political thinker Danielle Allen untangles the US government’s COVID-19 victories and failures to offer a plan for creating a more resilient democratic polity—one that can better respond to both the present pandemic and future crises. Looking to history, Allen also identifies the challenges faced by democracies in other times that required strong government action. In an analysis spanning from ancient Greece to the Reconstruction Amendments and the present day, Allen argues for the relative effectiveness of collaborative federalism over authoritarian compulsion and for the unifying power of a common cause. But for democracy to endure, we—as participatory citizens—must commit to that cause: a just and equal social contract and support for good governance.

Danielle Allen is the James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University, where she is also the principal investigator for the Democratic Knowledge Project. Among her many books, she is the author of Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality and, most recently, coeditor of Difference without Domination: Pursuing Justice in Diverse Democracies, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Black in White Space
The Enduring Impact of Color in Everyday Life
Elijah Anderson

From the vital voice of Elijah Anderson, Black in White Space sheds fresh light on the dire persistence of racial discrimination in our country.

A birder strolling in Central Park. A college student lounging on a university quad. Two men sitting in a coffee shop. Perfectly ordinary actions in ordinary settings—and yet, they sparked jarring and inflammatory responses that attracted national media coverage. Why? In essence, Elijah Anderson would argue, because these were Black people existing in white spaces.

In Black in White Space, Anderson brings his immense knowledge and ethnography to bear in this timely study of the racial barriers that are still firmly entrenched in our society at every class level. Regardless of the social or economic position of a Black person, the stubborn stereotype of the ghetto looms in the white imagination and subconsciously connects all Black people with crime, drugs, and poverty. From Philadelphia street corner conversations to Anderson’s own morning jogs through a Cape Cod vacation town, he probes a wealth of experiences to shed new light on the urgent and dire persistence of racial discrimination in our country.

An unwavering truthteller in our national conversation on race, Anderson has shared intimate and sharp insights into Black life for decades. Vital and eye-opening, Black in White Space will be a must-read for anyone hoping to understand the lived realities of Black people and the structural underpinnings of racism in America.

Elijah Anderson is the Sterling Professor of Sociology and of African American Studies at Yale University. His past books include A Place on the Corner and Streetwise, both also published by the University of Chicago Press, as well as Code of the Street and The Cosmopolitan Canopy.
Being Somebody and Black Besides
An Untold Memoir of Midcentury Black Life

George B. Nesbitt

Edited by Prexy Nesbitt and Zeb Larson
With Forewords by Imani Perry and St. Clair Drake

An immersive multigenerational memoir that recounts the hopes, injustices, and triumphs of a Black family fighting for access to the American dream in the twentieth century.

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.
On Revision
The Only Writing That Counts
William Germano

A trusted editor turns his attention to the most important part of writing: revision.

So you’ve just finished writing something? Congratulations! Now revise it. Because revision is about getting from good to better, and it’s only finished when you decide to stop. But where to begin? In On Revision, William Germano shows authors how to take on the most critical stage of writing anything: rewriting it.

For more than twenty years, thousands of writers have turned to Germano for his insider’s take on navigating the world of publishing. A professor, author, and veteran of the book industry, Germano knows what editors want and what writers need to know: Revising is not just correcting typos. Revising is about listening and seeing again. Revising is a rethinking of the principles from the ground up to understand why the writer is doing something, why they’re going somewhere, and why they’re taking the reader along with them.

On Revision steps back to take in the big picture, showing authors how to hear their own writing voice and how to reread their work as if they didn’t write it. On Revision will show you how to know when your writing is actually done—and, until it is, what you need to do to get it there.

William Germano is the author of several books, including Getting It Published: A Guide for Scholars and Anyone Else Serious about Serious Books and From Dissertation to Book, both also published by the University of Chicago Press. His most recent book, co-written with Kit Nicholls, is Syllabus: The Remarkable, Unremarkable Document That Changes Everything. He has served as editor-in-chief at Columbia University Press, vice president and publishing director at Routledge, and dean of the faculty of humanities and social sciences at the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, where he is now professor of English literature.
Geometry of Grief
Reflections on Mathematics, Loss, and Life

Michael Frame

In this profound and hopeful book, a mathematician and celebrated teacher shows how mathematics may help all of us—even the math-averse—to understand and cope with grief.

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.

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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.

Michael Frame retired in 2016 as adjunct professor of mathematics at Yale University. He is coauthor of Fractal Worlds: Grown, Built, and Imagined and coeditor of Benoit Mandelbrot: A Life in Many Dimensions.
A Conspiratorial Life

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

Edward H. Miller

The first biography of Robert Welch, who founded the John Birch Society and planted some of modern conservatism’s most insidious seeds.

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 paranoid 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.

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.
The Blues Dream of Billy Boy Arnold

Billy Boy Arnold with Kim Field

The frank, funny, and unforgettable autobiography of a living legend of Chicago blues.

Simply put, Billy Boy Arnold is one of the last men standing from the Chicago blues scene’s raucous heyday. What’s more, unlike most artists in this electrifying melting pot, who were Southern transplants, Arnold—a harmonica master who shared stages with Bo Diddley, Muddy Waters, and Howlin’ Wolf, plus a singer and hitmaker in his own right who first recorded the standards “I Wish You Would” and “I Ain’t Got You”—was born right here and has lived nowhere else. This makes his perspective on Chicago blues, its players, and its locales all the rarer and all the more valuable. Arnold has witnessed musical generations come and go, from the decline of prewar country blues to the birth of the electric blues and the worldwide spread of rock and roll. Working here in collaboration with writer and fellow musician Kim Field, he gets it all down. The Blues Dream of Billy Boy Arnold is a remarkably clear-eyed testament to more than eighty years of musical love and creation, from Arnold’s adolescent quest to locate the legendary Sonny Boy Williamson, the story of how he named Bo Diddley Bo Diddley, and the ups and downs of his seven-decade recording career. Arnold’s tale—candidly told with humor, insight, and grit—is one that no fan of modern American music can afford to miss.

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.
We Are All Whalers

The Plight of Whales and Our Responsibility

Michael J. Moore

Relating his experiences caring for endangered whales, a veterinarian and marine scientist shows we can all share in the salvation of these imperiled animals.

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.

Michael J. Moore is a veterinary scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He lives in Marion, MA.
Homer: The Very Idea

James I. Porter

The story of our ongoing fascination with Homer, the man and the myth.

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.

James I. Porter is the Irving Stone Professor of Literature at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of numerous books, including Nietzsche and the Philology of the Future, The Invention of Dionysus: An Essay on ‘The Birth of Tragedy’, and The Sublime in Antiquity. He has also edited several books and is a coauthor of Postclassicisms, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Seneca
Fifty Letters of a Roman Stoic
Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Translated with an Introduction and Commentary by
Margaret Graver and A. A. Long

A selection of Seneca’s most significant letters that illuminate his philosophical and personal life.

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.

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.
Debra Bricker Balken offers the first ever complete biography of Harold Rosenberg’s brilliant, fiercely independent life and the five decades in which he played a leading role in US cultural, intellectual, and political history.

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.

Debra Bricker Balken is an independent scholar, writer, and curator with a focus on American modernism and contemporary art. She is the author of Mark Tobey, Threading Light, and Arthur Dove, A Catalogue Raisonné of Paintings and Things.
To Live Is to Resist
The Life of Antonio Gramsci

Jean-Yves Frétigné

Translated by Laura Marris
With a foreword by Nadia Urbinati

This in-depth biography of Italian intellectual Antonio Gramsci casts new light on his life and writing, emphasizing his unflagging spirit, even in the many years he spent in prison.

One of the most influential political thinkers of the twentieth century, Antonio Gramsci (1891–1937) has left an indelible mark on philosophy and critical theory. His innovative work on history, society, power, and the state has influenced several generations of readers and political activists, and even shaped important developments in postcolonial thought. But Gramsci’s thinking is scattered across the thousands of notebook pages he wrote while he was imprisoned by Italy’s fascist government from 1926 until shortly before his death.

To guide readers through Gramsci’s life and works, historian Jean-Yves Frétigné offers To Live Is to Resist, an accessible, compelling, and deeply researched portrait of an extraordinary figure. Throughout the book, Frétigné emphasizes Gramsci’s quiet heroism and his unwavering commitment to political practice and resistance. Most powerfully, he shows how Gramsci never surrendered, even in conditions that stripped him of all power—except, of course, the power to think.

Jean-Yves Frétigné is maître de conférences in the Department of History at the University of Rouen in Normandy, France. He is the author of several books published in French and Italian. This is his first book published in English. Laura Marris is a poet, essayist, and translator. Her recent translations include Albert Camus’s The Plague, Geraldine Schwarz’s Those Who Forget, and Louis Guilloux’s Blood Dark.

From the foreword

“To live is to resist”—Jean-Yves Frétigné could not have chosen a better title for his biography of Antonio Gramsci, which offers an excellent portrait of an extraordinary figure.”—Nadia Urbinati, Columbia University
Tropical Arctic
Lost Plants, Future Climates, and the Discovery of Ancient Greenland
Jennifer C. McElwain, Marlene Hill Donnelly, and Ian J. Glasspool

An illustrated visit to the tropical arctic of 205 million years ago when Greenland was green.

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.

Jennifer C. 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 J. Glasspool is a research scientist and paleobotanist living in Maine. He has authored or coauthored fifty scientific articles.
Uncountable
A Philosophical History of Number and Humanity from Antiquity to the Present

David Nirenberg and Ricardo L. Nirenberg

Ranging from math to literature to philosophy, Uncountable explains how numbers triumphed as the basis of knowledge—and compromise our sense of humanity.

Our knowledge of mathematics has structured much of what we think we know about ourselves as individuals and communities, shaping our psychologies, sociologies, and economies. In pursuit of a more predictable and more controllable cosmos, we have extended mathematical insights and methods to more and more aspects of the world. Today those powers are greater than ever, as computation is applied to virtually every aspect of human activity. Yet, in the process, are we losing sight of the human? When we apply mathematics so broadly, what do we gain and what do we lose, and at what risk to humanity?

These are the questions that David and Ricardo L. Nirenberg ask in Uncountable, a provocative account of how numerical relations became the cornerstone of human claims to knowledge, truth, and certainty. There is a limit to these number-based claims, they argue, which they set out to explore. The Nirenbergs, father and son, bring together their backgrounds in math, history, literature, religion, and philosophy, interweaving scientific experiments with readings of poems, setting crises in mathematics alongside world wars, and putting medieval Muslim and Buddhist philosophers in conversation with Einstein, Schrödinger, and other giants of modern physics. The result is a powerful lesson in what counts as knowledge and its deepest implications for how we live our lives.

David Nirenberg is dean of the Divinity School at the University of Chicago, where he also teaches in the Committee of Social Thought and the Department of History. His books include Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition; Neighboring Faiths: Islam, Christianity, and Judaism in the Middle Ages and Today; and Communities of Violence: Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages. After doing research in mathematics for a dozen years, David’s father, Ricardo L. Nirenberg, turned to his other calling: philosophy and literature. He has published numerous essays, short fiction, and the novels Cry Uncle and Wave Mechanics: A Love Story. He is the founder and editor of the literary journal Offcourse.
Pushing Cool
Big Tobacco, Racial Marketing, and the Untold Story of the Menthol Cigarette

Keith Wailoo

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.

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.

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.
Heard-Hoard

Atsuro Riley

Winner of the Alice Fay di Castagnola Award from the Poetry Society of America, this new collection of verse from Atsuro Riley offers a vivid weavework rendering and remembering an American place and its people.

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 “inscratched” 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.

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.

“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
Blue in Green

Chiyuma Elliott

Poems that address interpersonal connections while navigating life and care amid disease and disaster.

Collaboration runs through the heart of this collection. Human relationships—particularly in families—shape the poems in *Blue in Green*, as they consider how the question of what we expect from one another evolves into a question of what we owe. When cancer overshadows the ordinary—engrossing the labor of love, work, and friendship—disease becomes a collaborator and proposes new rules of exchange.

The forms of Elliott’s works highlight reciprocity. Here you’ll find ekphrastic poems that describe modern jazz songs, letters and letter fragments, and free verse poems in wildly variable line lengths. “When I was a wave,” the speaker repeats, each time telling a different story about intimacy and risk. *Blue in Green* moves through the struggle of processing the damaging interpersonal reverberations of racism, sexism, and environmental damage, while navigating intertwined personal and political incarnations of care. While a slow-growing disease burns its way through the speaker’s body, these poems reveal the feeling of perpetually existing in the shadow of catastrophe and document the slow and strange process of coming to terms with that way of living.

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.
The Missing Mountain
New and Selected Poems
Michael Collier

A collection of poetry spanning the career of distinguished poet Michael Collier.

Whether Michael Collier is writing about an airline disaster, a friendship with a disgraced Catholic bishop, his father’s encounter with Charles Lindbergh, Lebanese beekeepers, a mother’s sewing machine, or a piano in the woods, he does so with the syntactic verve, scrupulously observed detail, and a flawless ear that has made him one of America’s most distinguished poets. These poems cross expanses, connecting the fear of missing love and the bliss of holding it, the ways we speak to ourselves and language we use with others, and deep personal grief and shadows of world history.

The Missing Mountain brings together a lifetime of work, chronicling Collier’s long and distinguished career as a poet and teacher. These selections, both of previously published and new poems, chart the development of Collier’s art and the cultivations of his passions and concerns.

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.

“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
Who’s on First?
New and Selected Poems
Lloyd Schwartz

New and selected poems by renowned poet Lloyd Schwartz.

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.

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.
The New Female Antihero
The Disruptive Women of Twenty-First-Century US Television
Sarah Hagelin and Gillian Silverman

The New Female Antihero examines the hard-edged spies, ruthless queens, and entitled slackers of twenty-first-century television.

The last ten years have seen a shift in television storytelling toward increasingly complex storylines and characters. In this study, Sarah Hagelin and Gillian Silverman zoom in on a key figure in this transformation: the archetype of the female antihero. Far from the sunny, sincere, plucky persona once demanded of female characters, the new female antihero is often selfish and deeply unlikeable.

In this entertaining and insightful study, Hagelin and Silverman explore the meanings of this profound change in the role of women characters. In the dramas of the new millennium, they show, the female antihero is ambitious, conniving, even murderous; in comedies, she is self-centered, self-sabotaging, and anti-aspirational. Across genres, these female protagonists eschew the part of good girl or role model. In their rejection of social responsibility, female antiheroes thus represent a more profound threat to the status quo than do their male counterparts. From the devious schemers of Game of Thrones, The Americans, Scandal, and Homeland, to the joyful failures of Girls, Broad City, Insecure, and SMILF, female antiheroes register a deep ambivalence about the promises of liberal feminism. They push back against the myth of the modern-day super-woman—she who “has it all”—and in so doing, they give us new ways of imagining women’s lives in contemporary America.

Sarah Hagelin is associate professor of English and director of Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Colorado Denver. She is the author of Reel Vulnerability: Power, Pain, and Gender in Contemporary American Film and Television. Gillian Silverman is associate professor of English and director of graduate studies at the University of Colorado Denver. She is the author of Bodies and Books: Reading and the Fantasy of Communion in Nineteenth-Century America.

“\nIf you love television’s bad women more than you should, you’ll love The New Female Antihero. By including the hit comedies Broad City and Girls alongside series about killers and assassins, Hagelin and Silverman reveal the larger implications of these unruly women as threats to traditional femininity. You’ll never watch TV’s difficult women in quite the same way again.”—Linda Mizejewski, Ohio State University
Exposes the intimate relationship between big finance and higher education inequality in America.

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.

*Charlie Eaton* is assistant professor of sociology at the University of California, Merced.
Private Virtues, Public Vices
Philanthropy and Democratic Equality
Emma Saunders-Hastings

A thought-provoking challenge to our ideas about philanthropy, marking it as a deeply political activity that allows the wealthy to dictate more than we think.

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 outsize 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.
A Troubled Birth

The 1930s and American Public Opinion

Susan Herbst

We need to go back to the beginning of the idea of “public opinion” and a mass public to understand what the American public has become.

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.

Susan Herbst is university professor of political science and president emeritus at the University of Connecticut. She is author of many books and articles including Rude Democracy: Civility and Incivility in America. She is coeditor of the Chicago Studies in American Politics series, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Bette Davis Black and White

Julia A. Stern

Bette Davis’s career becomes a vehicle for a deep examination of American race relations.

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.

*Julia A. Stern* is the Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence and professor of English at Northwestern University. She is the author of *The Plight of Feeling: Sympathy and Dissent in the Early American Novel* and *Mary Chesnut’s Civil War Epic*, both published by the University of Chicago Press.

“*A prescient book about white people who mean well but fall short. . . . There is no other book in which the author takes herself as the object of reception study and, in so doing, exposes the lived aspect of the US race and class divide. The reader who is initially drawn to this book because of a fascination with stardom will find a deeply insightful, impeccably researched study of American culture.*”

—Jane Gaines, author of *Pink-Slipped: What Happened to Women in the Silent Film Industries?*
Artful Truths
The Philosophy of Memoir
Helena de Bres

Offers a philosophical perspective on the nature and value of writing a memoir.

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.

“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.
The Culture of Male Beauty in Britain

From the First Photographs to David Beckham

Paul R. Deslandes

A heavily illustrated history of two centuries of male beauty in British culture.

Spanning the decades from the rise of photography to the age of the selfie, this book traces the complex visual and consumer cultures that shaped masculine beauty in Britain, examining the realms of advertising, health, pornography, psychology, sport, and celebrity culture. Paul R. Deslandes chronicles the shifting standards of male beauty in British culture—from the rising cult of the athlete to changing views on hairlessness—while connecting discussions of youth, fitness, and beauty to growing concerns about race, empire, and degeneracy. From earlier beauty show contestants and youth-obsessed artists, the book moves through the decades into considerations of disfigured soldiers, physique models, body-conscious gay men, and celebrities such as David Beckham and David Gandy who populate the worlds of television and social media.

Deslandes calls on historians to take beauty and gendered aesthetics seriously while recasting how we think about the place of physical appearance in historical study, the intersection of different forms of high and popular culture, and what has been at stake for men in “looking good.”

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.
Following conflicting desires for an Aztec crown, this book explores the possibilities of repatriation.

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.

Khadija von Zinnenburg Carroll is an Austrian-Australian artist and historian. She is chair of Global Art at the University of Birmingham and the author of *Art in the Time of Colony*, *The Importance of Being Anachronistic*, *Botanical Drift*, and *Bordered Lives*. 
The Maternal Imprint

The Contested Science of Maternal-Fetal Effects

Sarah S. Richardson

Leading scholar of science and gender Sarah S. Richardson charts the untold history of the idea that a woman’s health and behavior during pregnancy can have long-term effects on her descendants’ health and welfare.

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.

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.
Value in Art
Manet and the Slave Trade
Henry M. Sayre

Art historian Henry M. Sayre traces the origins of the term “value” in art criticism, revealing the politics that define Manet’s art.

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 origin of this usage to one of art history’s most famous and racially charged paintings, Édouard Manet’s Olympia.

Art critics once described light and dark in painting in terms of musical metaphor—higher and lower tones, notes, and scales. Sayre shows that it was Émile Zola who introduced the new “law of values” in an 1867 essay on Manet. Unpacking the intricate contexts of Zola’s essay and of several related paintings by Manet, Sayre argues that Zola’s usage of value was intentionally double coded—an economic metaphor for the political economy of slavery. In Manet’s painting, Olympia and her maid represent objects of exchange, a commentary on the French Empire’s complicity in the ongoing slave trade in the Americas.

Expertly researched and argued, this bold study reveals the extraordinary weight of history and politics that Manet’s painting bears. Locating the presence of slavery at modernism’s roots, Value in Art is a surprising and necessary intervention in our understanding of art history.

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.
Conflict Graffiti
From Revolution to Gentrification
John Lennon

This study examines the waves of graffiti that occur before, during, and after a conflict—important tools of political resistance that make protest visible and material.

Graffiti makes for messy politics. In film and television, it is often used to create a sense of danger or lawlessness. In bathroom stalls, it is the disembodied expression of gossip, lewdness, or confession. But it is also a resistive tool of protest, making visible the disparate voices and interests that come together to make a movement.

In Conflict Graffiti, John Lennon dives into the many permutations of graffiti in conflict zones—ranging from the protest graffiti of the Black Lives Matter movement in Ferguson and the Tahrir Square demonstrations in Egypt, to the tourist-attraction murals on the Israeli Separation Wall and the street art that has rebranded Detroit and post-Katrina New Orleans. Graffiti has played a crucial role in the revolutionary movements of these locales, but as the conflict subsides a new graffiti and street art scene emerges—often one that ushers in postconflict consumerism, gentrification, militarization, and anesthetized forgetting.

Graffiti has an unstable afterlife, fated to be added to, transformed, overlaid, photographed, interpreted, or painted over. But as Lennon concludes, when protest movements change and adapt, graffiti is also uniquely suited to shapeshift with them.

John Lennon is associate professor of English at the University of South Florida. He is the author of Boxcar Politics: The Hobo in U.S. Literature and Culture, 1869–1956 and coeditor of Working-Class Literature(s): Historical and International Perspectives.
The Aeneid
Virgil

Translated by David Ferry
Introduction by Richard F. Thomas

Updated English edition of Virgil’s *Aeneid* with new introduction and glossary.

This volume represents the most ambitious project of distinguished poet David Ferry’s life: a complete translation of Virgil’s *Aeneid*. Ferry has long been known as the foremost contemporary translator of Latin poetry, and his translations of Virgil’s *Eclogues* and *Georgics* have become standards. He brings to the *Aeneid* the same genius, rendering Virgil’s formal, metrical lines into an English that is familiar, all while surrendering none of the poem’s original feel of the ancient world. In Ferry’s hands, the *Aeneid* becomes once more a lively, dramatic poem of daring and adventure, of love and loss, devotion and death.

This edition includes a new introduction by Richard F. Thomas, along with a new glossary of names that makes the book even more accessible for students and for general readers who may need help acclimating to Virgil’s world.

David Ferry is the author of a number of books of poetry and has translated several works from classical languages. He was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, was awarded the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize for lifetime achievement, and won the 2012 National Book Award for Poetry. Richard F. Thomas is the George Martin Lane Professor of the Classics at Harvard University.
American Warsaw
The Rise, Fall, and Rebirth of Polish Chicago
Dominic A. Pacyga

A comprehensive and engaging history of a century of Polish immigration and influence in Chicago.

For more than a century, Chicago has been home to one of the largest Polish populations outside of Poland, and the group has had an enormous influence on the city’s culture and politics. Yet, until now, there has not been a comprehensive history of the Chicago Polonia.

With American Warsaw, award-winning historian and Polish American Dominic A. Pacyga chronicles more than a century of immigration, and later emigration back to Poland, showing how the community has continually redefined what it means to be Polish in Chicago. He takes us from the Civil War Era until today, focusing on how three major waves of immigrants, refugees, and fortune seekers shaped and then redefined the Polonia. Pacyga also traces the movement of Polish immigrants from the peasantry to the middle class and from urban working-class districts dominated by major industries to suburbia. He documents Polish Chicago’s alignments and divisions: with other Chicago ethnic groups; with the Catholic Church; with unions, politicians, and City Hall; and even among its own members. And he explores the ever-shifting sense of Polskość, or “Polishness.”

Today Chicago is slowly being eclipsed by other Polish immigrant centers, but it remains a vibrant—and sometimes contentious—heart of the Polish-American experience. American Warsaw is a sweeping story that expertly depicts a people who are deeply connected to their historical home and, at the same time, fiercely proud of their adopted city. As Pacyga writes, “While we were Americans, we also considered ourselves to be Poles. In that strange Chicago ethnic way, there was no real difference between the two.”

Dominic A. Pacyga is professor emeritus of history in the Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences at Columbia College Chicago. His books include Polish Immigrants and Industrial Chicago: Workers on the South Side, 1881–1922; Chicago: A Biography; and Slaughterhouse: Chicago’s Union Stock Yard and the World It Made, all from the University of Chicago Press. Pacyga is the 2014 Mieczyslaw Haiman Award winner for exceptional and sustained contribution to the study of Polish Americans.
Hearing Beethoven
A Story of Musical Loss and Discovery
Robin Wallace

Wallace demystifies the narratives of Beethoven's approach to his hearing loss and instead explores how Beethoven did not “conquer” his deafness; he adapted to life with it.

We’re all familiar with the image of a fierce and scowling Beethoven, struggling doggedly to overcome his rapidly progressing deafness. That Beethoven continued to play and compose for more than a decade after he lost his hearing is often seen as an act of superhuman heroism. But the truth is that Beethoven’s response to his deafness was entirely human. And by demystifying what he did, we can learn a great deal about Beethoven’s music. Perhaps no one is better positioned to help us do so than Robin Wallace, who not only has dedicated his life to the music of Beethoven but also has close personal experience with deafness. One day, Wallace’s late wife, Barbara, found she couldn’t hear out of her right ear—the result of radiation administered to treat a brain tumor early in life. Three years later, she lost hearing in her left ear as well. Over the eight and a half years that remained of her life, despite receiving a cochlear implant, Barbara didn’t overcome her deafness or ever function again like a hearing person.

Wallace shows here that Beethoven didn’t do those things, either. Rather than heroically overcoming his deafness, Beethoven accomplished something even more challenging: he adapted to his hearing loss and changed the way he interacted with music, revealing important aspects of its very nature in the process. Wallace tells the story of Beethoven’s creative life, interweaving it with his and Barbara’s experience to reveal aspects that only living with deafness could open up. The resulting insights make Beethoven and his music more accessible and help us see how a disability can enhance human wholeness and flourishing.

Robin Wallace is professor of musicology at Baylor University. He is the author of Beethoven’s Critics and Take Note: An Introduction to Music through Active Listening.
Land and Wine

The French Terroir

Charles Frankel

A tour of the French winemaking regions to illustrate how the soil, underlying bedrock, relief, and microclimate shape the personality of a wine.

In Land and Wine, Charles Frankel takes readers on a tour of the French winemaking regions to illustrate how the soil, underlying bedrock, relief, and microclimate shape the personality of a wine. The book’s twelve chapters each focus in depth on a different region, including the Loire Valley, Alsace, Burgundy, Champagne, Provence, the Rhône valley, and Bordeaux, to explore the full meaning of terroir. In this approachable guide, Frankel describes how Cabernet Franc takes on a completely different character depending on whether it is grown on gravel or limestone; how Sauvignon yields three different products in the hills of Sancerre when rooted in limestone, marl, or flint; how Pinot Noir will give radically different wines on a single hill of Burgundy as the vines progress upslope; and how the soil of each château in Bordeaux has a say in the blend ratios of Merlot and Cabernet-Sauvignon. Land and Wine provides a detailed understanding of the variety of French wine as well as a look at the geological history of France, complete with volcanic eruptions, a parade of dinosaurs, and a menagerie of evolution that has left its fossils flavoring the vineyards.

Both the uninitiated wine drinker and the informed gourmand will find much to savor in this fun guide that Frankel has spiked with anecdotes about winemakers and historic wine enthusiasts—revealing which kings, poets, and philosophers liked which wines best—while offering travel tips and itineraries for visiting the wineries today.

“Charles Frankel’s Land and Wine recounts the story of wine in France from a unique geological perspective, highlighting the influence of the land and soil on the quality and style of the wines. In doing so, Frankel demystifies the idea of ‘terroir’ and offers approachable anecdotes that will entertain and appeal to wine enthusiasts.”—Decanter

Born in Paris, Charles Frankel is a science writer and lecturer specializing in geology and planetary exploration. His books include The End of the Dinosaurs: Chicxulub Crater and Mass Extinctions and Worlds on Fire.
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.

James Mattingly is associate professor in the Department of Philosophy at Georgetown University.
Unearthing Fermi’s Geophysics

Gino C. Segrè and John D. Stack

Follow—for the first time—Nobel laureate and legendary teacher Enrico Fermi’s lost course on geophysics.

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.

Gino C. 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 D. Stack is professor emeritus and former associate head for graduate programs in physics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Praise for The Pope of Physics

“An assured and informative biography of the pioneering nuclear scientist.”—New York Times Book Review

“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
Carbon Technocracy
Energy Regimes in Modern East Asia

Victor Seow

A penetrating look at the deep links between energy extraction and technocratic governance through the history of what was once East Asia’s biggest coal mine.

The coal-mining town of Fushun in China’s Northeast is home to a monstrous open pit, once the largest in Asia. Across the twentieth century, this pit grew like a widening maw, as various Chinese and Japanese states endeavored to unearth Fushun’s purportedly “inexhaustible” carbon resources. Today, the depleted pit remains a wondrous and terrifying monument to fantasies of a fossil-fueled future and to the technologies mobilized in attempts to turn those developmentalist dreams into reality.

In *Carbon Technocracy*, Victor Seow uses the remarkable story of the Fushun colliery to chart how the fossil fuel economy emerged in tandem with the rise of the modern technocratic state. Taking coal as an essential feedstock of national wealth and power, Chinese and Japanese bureaucrats, engineers, and industrialists pursued intensive energy extraction and deployed new technologies like open-pit mining and hydraulic stowage to maximize their hauls—efforts that nevertheless relied heavily on human labor. Under the carbon energy regime, countless workers here and elsewhere would be subjected to both the productivist demands of states and markets and the dangers of an increasingly exploited earth.

Although Fushun is no longer the coal capital it once was, the pattern of aggressive fossil-fueled development that enabled its ascent endures. As we confront a planetary crisis precipitated by the profligate consumption of carbon, it holds urgent lessons. This is a groundbreaking exploration of how the mutual production of energy and power came to define industrial modernity and the wider world that carbon made.

“*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.
From Data to Quanta
Niels Bohr’s Vision of Physics
Slobodan Perović

The first comprehensive philosophical and historical account of the experimental foundations of Niels Bohr’s practice of physics.

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.

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.

“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 skillfully 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 Stjernholm Kragh, Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen
The Arts of the Microbial World

Fermentation Science in Twentieth-Century Japan

Victoria Lee

The first in-depth study of Japanese fermentation science in the twentieth century.

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.

Victoria Lee is assistant professor of the history of science and technology at Ohio University.
Neuromatic
or, A Particular History of Religion and the Brain

John Lardas Modern

John Lardas Modern offers a powerful and original critique of neurology’s pivotal role in religious history.

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.
Modern Art and the Remaking of Human Disposition

Emmelyn Butterfield-Rosen

How artists at the turn of the twentieth century broke with traditional ways of posing the bodies of human figures to reflect modern understandings of human consciousness.

With this book, Emmelyn Butterfield-Rosen brings a new formal and conceptual rubric to the study of turn-of-the-century modernism, transforming our understanding of the era’s canonical works. Butterfield-Rosen analyzes a hitherto unexamined formal phenomenon in European art: how artists departed from conventions for posing the human figure that had long been standard. In the decades around 1900, artists working in different countries and across different media began to present human figures in strictly frontal, lateral, and dorsal postures. The effect, both archaic and modern, broke with the centuries-old tradition of rendering bodies in torsion, with poses designed to simulate the human being’s physical volume and capacity for autonomous thought and movement. This formal departure destabilized prevailing visual codes for signifying the existence of the inner life of the human subject.

Exploring major works by Georges Seurat, Gustav Klimt, and the dancer and choreographer Vaslav Nijinsky—replete with new archival discoveries—Modern Art and the Remaking of Human Disposition combines intensive formal analysis with inquiries into the history of psychology and evolutionary biology. In doing so, it shows how modern understandings of human consciousness and the relation of mind to body were materialized in art through a new vocabulary of postures and poses.

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.
Theory of Form
Gerhard Richter and Art in the Age of Pragmatism

Florian Klinger

A pragmatist conception of artistic form, through a study of the painter Gerhard Richter.

In this study of the practice of contemporary painter Gerhard Richter, Florian Klinger proposes a fundamental change in the way we think about art today. In reaction to the exhaustion of the modernist-postmodernist paradigm’s negotiation of the “essence of art,” he takes Richter to pursue a pragmatist model that understands artistic form as action. Here form is no longer conceived according to what it says—as a vehicle of expression, representation, or realization of something other than itself—but strictly according to what it does.

Through its doing, Klinger argues, artistic form is not only more real but also more shared than non-artistic reality, and thus enables interaction under conditions where it would otherwise not be possible. It is a human practice aimed at testing and transforming the limits of shared reality, urgently needed in situations where such reality breaks down or turns precarious. Drawing on pragmatist thought, philosophical aesthetics, and art history, Klinger’s account of Richter’s practice offers a highly distinctive conceptual alternative for contemporary art in general.

Florian Klinger is associate professor of Germanic studies at the University of Chicago.
Diversity’s Child

People of Color and the Politics of Identity

Efrén O. Pérez

An incisive look at how America’s continued demographic explosion has spurred the development of a new identity as people of color.

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.

Efrén O. Pérez is professor of political science and psychology at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he directs the Race, Ethnicity, Politics & Society Lab. He is the author of *Unspoken Politics: Implicit Attitudes and Political Thinking*. 
Public division is not new; in fact, it is the lifeblood of politics, and political representatives have constructed divisions throughout history to mobilize constituencies.

Since the turn of the twenty-first century, the idea of a divided United States has become commonplace. In the wake of the 2020 election, some commentators warned that the American public was the most divided it has been since the Civil War. Political scientists, political theorists, and public intellectuals have suggested that uninformed, misinformed, and disinfomed voters are at the root of this division. Some are simply unwilling to accept facts or science, which makes them easy targets for elite manipulation. It also creates a grass-roots political culture that discourages cross-partisan collaboration in Washington.

Yet, manipulation of voters is not as grave a threat to democracy in America as many scholars and pundits make it out to be. The greater threat comes from a picture that partisans use to rally their supporters: that of an America sorted into opposing camps so deeply rooted that they cannot be shaken loose and remade. *Making Constituencies* proposes a new theory of representation as mobilization to argue that divisions like these are not inherent in society, but created, and political representatives of all kinds forge and deploy them to cultivate constituencies.

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*. 
The Struggle for Inclusion

Muslim Minorities and the Democratic Ethos

Elisabeth Ivarsflaten and Paul M. Sniderman

An incisive investigation of the struggle for inclusion of Muslim immigrants in contemporary liberal democracies.

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.

Elisabeth Ivarsflaten is professor of political science and scientific director of the Digital Social Science Core Facility at the University of Bergen, Norway. Paul M. Sniderman is the Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr., Professor of Public Policy at Stanford University and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is, most recently, author of *The Democratic Faith* and coauthor of *Paradoxes of Liberal Democracy: Islam, Western Europe and the Danish Cartoon Crisis.*
Until the eighteenth century, Western societies were hierarchical ones. Since then, they have transformed themselves into societies dominated by two features: participatory democracy and the protection of human rights. In Modern Isonomy, distinguished political theorist Gerald Stourzh unites these ideas as “isonomy.”

The ideal, Stourzh argues, is a state, and indeed a world, in which individual rights, including the right to participate in politics equally, are clearly defined and possessed by all. Stourzh begins with ancient Greek thought contrasting isonomy—which is associated with the rule of the many—with “gradated societies,” oligarchies, and monarchies. He then discusses the American experiment with the development of representative democracy as well as the French Revolution, which proclaimed that all people are born and remain free and with equal rights. But progress on the creation and protection of rights for all has been uneven. Stourzh discusses specifically the equalization of slaves, peasants, women, Jews, and indigenous people. He demonstrates how deeply intertwined the protection of equal rights is with the development of democracy and gives particular attention to the development of constitutional adjudication, notably the constitutional complaint of individuals. He also discusses the international protection human rights. Timely and thought-provoking, Modern Isonomy is an erudite exploration of political and human rights.

Gerald Stourzh is professor emeritus at the University of Vienna. He is the author of several books in English and German, including Benjamin Franklin and American Foreign Policy, published by the University of Chicago Press. Cynthia Peck-Kubaczek is an editor, writer, and translator for the Austrian Academy of Sciences and The Vienna Review.
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 alone, is the basis for the growing resistance among whites toward efforts to improve the circumstances faced by minorities.

The authors argue that there is a growing sentiment among whites that they are “losing-out” and “being cut in line” by Black people 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 positions, and the election of Barack Obama. The culprits, as many white people see it, are undeserving people of color, who are perceived to benefit unfairly from, and take advantage of, resources that come at whites’ expense. This rewarding of unearned resources is seen as a challenge to the status quo. Yet, as Davis and Wilson reveal, such reactions may not stem only from racial prejudice or hatred; instead, they may be a defensive posture, resulting from threats to whites’ sense of justice, entitlement, and status. Their research finds racial resentment, stemming from beliefs about justice, fairness, and deservingness, makes ordinary citizens appear racist. Informative and thought-provoking, *Racial Resentment in the Political Mind* adds a much-needed dimension to a timely topic.

**Darren W. Davis** is the Lilly Presidential Fellow and a professor of American politics at the University of Notre Dame. He is coauthor of *Perseverance in the Parish? Religious Attitudes from a Black Catholic Perspective* and *Negative Liberty: Public Opinion and the Terrorist Attacks on America*. **David C. Wilson** is professor of political science and psychological and brain sciences at the University of Delaware and senior associate dean for the social sciences.
The Obligation Mosaic
Race and Social Norms in US Political Participation

Allison P. Anoll

This evocative book reveals how the obligations Americans feel to the past and the poor are shaped by the histories and expectations of their race.

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.

Allison P. Anoll is assistant professor of political science at Vanderbilt University.
When Bad Things Happen to Privileged People
Race, Gender, and What Makes a Crisis in America

Dara Z. Strolovitch

A deep and thought-provoking examination of crisis politics and their implications for power and marginalization in the United States.

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.

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.
That the president uniquely represents the national interest is a political truism, yet this idea has been transformational, shaping the efforts of Congress to remake the presidency and testing the adaptability of American constitutional government.

The emergence of the modern presidency in the first half of the twentieth century transformed the American government. But surprisingly, presidents were not the primary driving force of this change—it was Congress. Through a series of statutes, lawmakers endorsed presidential leadership in the legislative process and augmented the chief executive’s organizational capacities.

But why did Congress grant presidents this power? In *Power Shifts*, John A. Dearborn shows that legislators acted on the idea of presidential representation. Congress subordinated its own claims to stand as the nation’s primary representative institution and designed reforms that assumed the president, selected by the country rather than states or districts, was the superior steward of national interest. In the process, Congress recast the nation’s chief executive as its chief representative.

As Dearborn demonstrates, the full extent to which Congress’s reforms rested on the idea of presidential representation was revealed when that notion’s validity was thrown into doubt. In the 1970s, Congress sought to restore its place in a rebalanced system, but legislators also found that their earlier success at institutional reinvention constrained their efforts to reclaim authority. Chronicling the evolving relationship between the presidency and Congress across a range of policy areas, *Power Shifts* exposes a fundamental dilemma in an otherwise proud tradition of constitutional adaptation.

*John A. Dearborn* is a postdoctoral associate and lecturer at Yale University, holding appointments in the Center for the Study of Representative Institutions at the MacMillan Center, the Policy Lab at the Institution for Social and Policy Studies, and the Department of Political Science. He is the coauthor of *Phantoms of a Beleaguered Republic: The Deep State and the Unitary Executive.*
The Dream of Absolutism
Louis XIV and the Logic of Modernity
Hall Bjørnstad

*The Dream of Absolutism* examines the political aesthetics of power under Louis XIV.

What was absolutism, and how did it work? What was the function of the ostentatious display surrounding Louis XIV at Versailles? What is gained—and what is lost—by approaching such expressions of absolutism as propaganda, as present-day scholars tend to do?

In this sweeping reconsideration of absolutist culture, Hall Bjørnstad argues that the exuberance of Louis XIV’s reign was not top-down propaganda in any modern sense, but rather a dream dreamt collectively, by king, court, image-makers, and nation alike. Bjørnstad explores this dream through a sustained close analysis of a corpus of absolutist artifacts, ranging from Charles Le Brun’s famous paintings in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles via the king’s secret *Mémoires* to two little-known particularly extravagant verbal and textual celebrations of the king. The dream of absolutism, Bjørnstad concludes, lives at the intersection of politics and aesthetics. It is the carrier of a force that emerges as a glorious image; a participatory emotional reality that requires reality to conform to it. It is a dream, finally, that still shapes our collective political imaginary today.

Hall Bjørnstad is associate professor of French at Indiana University, Bloomington, where he also directs the Renaissance Studies Program. He is the author of a monograph on Blaise Pascal, coeditor of *Walter Benjamin’s Hypothetical French Trauerspiel* and *Universal History and the Making of the Global*, and the editor of *Borrowed Feathers: Plagiarism and the Limits of Imitation in Early Modern Europe*. 
Educating the Enemy

Teaching Nazis and Mexicans in the Cold War Borderlands

Jonna Perrillo

Compares the privileged educational experience offered to the children of relocated Nazi scientists in Texas with the educational disadvantages faced by Mexican American students living in the same city.

Educating the Enemy begins with the 144 children of Nazi scientists who moved to El Paso, Texas, in 1946 as part of the military program called Operation Paperclip. These German children were bused daily from a military outpost 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. Their rapid assimilation offered evidence that American public schools played a vital role in ensuring the victory of democracy over fascism.

Jonna Perrillo not only tells this fascinating story of Cold War educational policy, but she draws an important contrast with another, much more numerous population of children in the El Paso public schools: Mexican Americans. Like everywhere else in the Southwest, Mexican American children in El Paso were segregated into “Mexican” schools, where the children received a vastly different educational experience. Not only were they penalized for speaking Spanish—the only language all but a few spoke due to segregation—they were tracked for low-wage and low-prestige careers, with limited opportunities for economic success. 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.

Jonna Perrillo is associate professor of English education at the University of Texas at El Paso. She is the author of Uncivil Rights: Teachers, Unions, and the Battle for School Equity, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Dogopolis
How Dogs and Humans Made Modern New York, London, and Paris
Chris Pearson

Dogopolis suggests a surprising source of urban innovation in the history of three major cities: human-canine relationships.

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.

“Dogopolis is a beautifully presented book with an evocative historical voice and great confidence and flair. It is also a lot of fun to read. Pearson offers a treasure trove of details about the shared lives of humans and dogs across three rapidly urbanizing cities that epitomized urban modernity, and deals with themes at the heart of urban history in his examination of the public and private spaces; class, gender, and race relationships; and public health and disease.”—Neil Pemberton, Manchester University
Intimate States
Gender, Sexuality, and Governance in Modern US History

Edited by Margot Canaday, Nancy F. Cott, and Robert O. Self

Fourteen essays examine the unexpected relationships between government power and intimate life in the last 150 years of United States history.

The last few decades have seen a surge of historical scholarship that analyzes state power and expands our understanding of governmental authority and the ways we experience it. At the same time, studies of the history of intimate life—marriage, sexuality, child-rearing, and family—also have blossomed. Yet these two literatures have not been considered together in a sustained way. This book, edited and introduced by three preeminent American historians, aims to close this gap, offering powerful analyses of the relationship between state power and intimate experience in the United States from the Civil War to the present.

The fourteen essays that make up Intimate States argue that “intimate governance”—the binding of private daily experience to the apparatus of the state—should be central to our understanding of modern American history. Our personal experiences have been controlled and arranged by the state in ways we often don’t even see, the authors and editors argue; correspondingly, contemporary government has been profoundly shaped by its approaches and responses to the contours of intimate life, and its power has become so deeply embedded into daily social life that it is largely indistinguishable from society itself. Intimate States makes a persuasive case that the state is always with us, even in our most seemingly private moments.

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.

“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
American Exceptionalism
A New History of an Old Idea
Ian Tyrrell

A powerful dissection of a core American myth.

The idea that the United States is unlike every other country in world history is a surprisingly resilient one. Throughout his distinguished career, Ian Tyrrell has been one of the most influential historians of the idea of American exceptionalism, but he has never written a book focused solely on it until now. The notion that American identity might be exceptional emerged, Tyrrell shows, from the belief that the nascent early republic was not simply a postcolonial state but a genuinely new experiment in an imperialist world dominated by Britain. Prior to the Civil War, American exceptionalism fostered declarations of cultural, economic, and spatial independence. As the country grew in population and size, becoming a major player in the global order, its exceptionalist beliefs came more and more into focus—and into question. Over time, a political divide emerged: those who believed that America’s exceptionalism was the basis of its virtue and those who saw America as either a long way from perfect or actually fully unexceptional, and thus subject to universal demands for justice. Tyrrell masterfully articulates the many forces that made American exceptionalism such a divisive and definitional concept. Today, he notes, the demands that people acknowledge America’s exceptionalism have grown ever more strident, even as the material and moral evidence for that exceptionalism—to the extent that there ever was any—has withered away.

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.
Making Mexican Chicago
From Postwar Settlement to the Age of Gentrification
Mike Amezcua

An exploration of how the Windy City became a postwar Latinx metropolis in the face of white resistance.

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.

Mike Amezcua is assistant professor of history at Georgetown University.

“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
An examination of how the postwar United States twisted its ideal of “the free flow of information” into a one-sided export of values and a tool with global consequences.

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.

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.*
Trading Freedom
How Trade with China Defined
Early America

Dael A. Norwood

Trading Freedom explores the surprisingly rich early history of US-China trade and its unexpected impact on the developing republic.

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.

Dael A. Norwood is assistant professor of history at the University of Delaware.

"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
Posterity
Inventing Tradition from Petrarch to Gramsci
Rocco Rubini

Reading a range of Italian works, Rubini considers the active transmittal of traditions through generations of writers and thinkers.

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.

Rocco Rubini is associate professor of Italian in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Chicago, with joint appointments in the Committee on Theater and Performance Studies and in the Fundamentals Program. He is the author of *The Other Renaissance: Italian Humanism between Hegel and Heidegger*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Familial Fitness

Disability, Adoption, and Family in Modern America

Sandra M. Sufian

The first social history of disability and difference in American adoption, from the Progressive Era to the end of the twentieth century.

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 while many children wait more than two years to be adopted, children with disabilities wait even longer. In Familial Fitness, Sandra M. Sufian uncovers how disability operates as a fundamental category in the making of the American family, tracing major shifts in policy, practice, and attitudes about the adoptability of disabled children over the course of the twentieth century.

Chronicling the long, complex history of disability, Familial Fitness explores how notions and practices of adoption have—and haven’t—accommodated disability, and how the language of risk enters into that complicated relationship. 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. As Sufian traces this historical process, she examines the forces that shaped, and continue to shape, access to the social institution of family and invites readers to rethink the meaning of family itself.

Sandra M. Sufian is professor of health humanities and history in the Department of Medical Education at the University of Illinois School of Medicine and associate professor of disability studies in the University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Disability and Human Development. She is the author of several books, including Healing the Land and the Nation: Malaria and the Zionist Project in Palestine, 1920–1947, also published by the University of Chicago Press. She is the cofounder of the Cystic Fibrosis Reproductive and Sexual Health Collaborative and serves on the editorial board of Disability Studies Quarterly.

“With nuance and razor-sharp analysis, Sufian combines related work in adoption studies and disability studies to offer a searching, critical, careful history lesson. Each chapter is rigorously researched and argued; each encapsulates its time period in unexpected ways. This book is a necessity and a major achievement.”
—Susan Schweik, University of California, Berkeley
Lives of the Great Languages

Arabic and Latin in the Medieval Mediterranean

Karla Mallette

The story of how Latin and Arabic spread across the Mediterranean to create a cosmopolitan world of letters.

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.

"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.
Encounters in the New World
Jesuit Cartography of the Americas
Mirela Altic

Analyzing more than one hundred and fifty historical maps, this book traces the Jesuits’ significant contributions to mapping and mapmaking from their arrival in the New World.

In 1540, in the wake of the tumult brought on by the Protestant Reformation, Saint Ignatius of Loyola founded the Society of Jesus, also known as the Jesuits. The Society’s goal was to revitalize the faith of Catholics and to evangelize to non-Catholics through 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 analyzes more than one hundred fifty of their 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, placing it in the context of their worldwide undertakings in the fields of science and art. Altic’s analysis also shows the incorporation of indigenous knowledge into the Jesuit maps, effectively making them an expression of cross-cultural communication—even as they were tools of colonial expansion. This ambiguity, she reveals, reflects the complex relationship between missions, knowledge, and empire. Far more than just a physical survey of unknown space, Jesuit mapping of the New World was in fact the most important link to enable an exchange of ideas and cultural concepts between the Old World and the New.

Mirela Altic is a specialist in map history with a keen interest in missionary cartography and the early modern encounter. She is professor of the history of cartography at the University of Zagreb (Croatia) and currently serves as vice-chair of the International Cartographic Association Commission on the History of Cartography and president of the Society for the History of Discoveries.
The Matter of Black Living

The Aesthetic Experiment of Racial Data, 1880–1930

Autumn Womack

Examining how turn-of-the-century Black cultural producers’ experiments with new technologies of racial data produced experimental aesthetics.

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.

Autumn Womack is assistant professor of African American Studies and English at Princeton University.
Devotion

Three Inquiries in Religion, Literature, and Political Imagination

Constance M. Furey, Sarah Hammerschlag, and Amy Hollywood

Three religious scholars delve into the potential of literature as a site of radical transformation.

We are living in a time of radical uncertainty, faced with serious political, ecological, economic, epidemiological, and social problems. What brings scholars of religion 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. They argue that what we read and what reading itself demands of us open new ways of imagining our political futures and our lives.

Each chapter in this book 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 ways 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 and their critical and creative import, but is also a powerful enactment of devotion itself.

John S. Strong unravels the storm of influences shaping the received narratives of two iconic sacred objects.

Bodily relics such as hairs, teeth, fingernails, pieces of bone—supposedly from the Buddha himself—have long served as objects of veneration for many Buddhists. Unsurprisingly, when Western colonial powers subjugated populations in South Asia, they used, manipulated, redefined, and even destroyed these objects in an effort to exert control.

In *The Buddha’s Tooth*, John S. Strong examines Western stories, from the sixteenth to the twentieth century, surrounding two significant Sri Lankan sacred objects, in order to illuminate and concretize colonial attitudes toward Asian religions. First, he analyzes a tale about the Portuguese capture of a tooth identified as a relic of the Buddha in the mid-sixteenth century and its subsequent public destruction in Goa. Second, he switches gears to look at the nineteenth-century saga of British dealings with another tooth relic of the Buddha—the famous Daladā enshrined in a temple in Kandy—from 1815 when it was taken over by English forces to 1954 when it was visited by Queen Elizabeth II. As Strong reveals, the stories of both the Portuguese Tooth and the Kandyan Tooth reflect nascent and developing Western understandings of Buddhism, realizations of the cosmopolitan nature of the tooth, and tensions between secular and religious interests.

**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.*
Profaning Paul

Cavan W. Concannon

A critical reconsideration of the repeated use of the biblical letters of Paul.

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.

Cavan W. Concannon is associate professor of religion at the University of Southern California. He is the author of Assembling Early Christianity: Trade, Networks, and the Letters of Dionysios of Corinth and “When You Were Gentiles”: Specters of Ethnicity in Roman Corinth and Paul’s Corinthian Correspondence. He is codirector of the Mediterranean Connectivity Initiative and has excavated at Corinth and Ostia Antica.
Listening to People
A Practical Guide to Interviewing, Participant Observation, Data Analysis, and Writing It All Up

Annette Lareau

A down-to-earth, practical guide for interview and participant observation and analysis.

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.

Annette Lareau is the Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Endowed Term Professor in the Social Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of a number of award-winning works including Unequal Childhoods and Home Advantage. She is the past president of the American Sociological Association.
The Perfect Fit
Creative Work in the Global Shoe Industry
Claudio E. Benzecry

_The Perfect Fit_ shows us how globalization works through the many people and places involved in making women’s shoes.

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.

Claudio E. Benzecry is associate professor of communication studies and sociology (by courtesy) at Northwestern University. He is the author of _The Opera Fanatic: Ethnography of an Obsession_ and the coeditor of _Social Theory Now_, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Autistic Intelligence

Interaction, Individuality, and the Challenges of Diagnosis

Douglas W. Maynard and Jason Turowetz

Autistic Intelligence examines the diagnostic process to question how we understand autism as a category and to better recognize its intelligence and uncommon sense.

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 postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Siegen in Germany.
The Digital Factory
The Human Labor of Automation
Moritz Altenried

*The Digital Factory* reveals the surprising and hidden human labor that supports today’s digital capitalism.

The workers of today’s digital factory include those in Amazon warehouses, delivery drivers, Chinese gaming workers, Filipino content moderators, and rural American search engine optimizers. Repetitive yet stressful, boring yet often emotionally demanding, these jobs require little formal qualification but can demand a large degree of cultural knowledge. This work is often hidden behind the supposed magic of algorithms and thought to be automated, but it is in fact highly dependent on human labor.

Contemporary digital laborers are not as far removed from a typical auto assembly line as we might think. Moritz Altenried takes us inside today’s digital factories, showing that they take very different forms, including gig economy platforms, video games, and Amazon warehouses. As Altenried shows, these digital factories often share surprising similarities with factories from the industrial age. As globalized capitalism and digital technology continue to transform labor around the world, Altenried offers a timely and poignant exploration of how these changes are restructuring the social division of labor and its geographies as well as the stratifications and lines of struggle.

Moritz Altenried is professor at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.
Speculative Communities

Living with Uncertainty in a Financialized World

Aris Komporozos-Athanasiou

*Speculative Communities* investigates the financial world’s influence on the social imagination, unraveling its radical effects on our personal and political lives.

In *Speculative Communities*, Aris Komporozos-Athanasiou examines the ways that speculation has moved beyond financial 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 new, more uncertain future. This book shows how even our methods of building community have shifted to the speculative realm as social media platforms enable and amplify our volatile wagers.

For Komporozos-Athanasiou, “to speculate” means increasingly “to connect,” to endorse the unknown pre-emptively, and often daringly, as a means of social survival. Grappling with the question of how more uncertainty can lead to its full-throated embrace rather than dissent, *Speculative Communities* shows how finance has become the model for society writ large. As Komporozos-Athanasiou argues, virtual marketplaces, new social media, and dating apps bring finance’s opaque infrastructures into the most intimate realms of our lives, leading to a new type of speculative imagination across economy, culture, and society.

*Aris Komporozos-Athanasiou* is associate professor of sociology at University College London.
Dead Reckoning
Air Traffic Control, System Effects, and Risk

Diane Vaughan

Vaughan unveils the complicated and high-pressure world of air traffic controllers as they navigate technology and political and public climates, and shows how they keep the skies so safe.

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. Congruently, another remarkable and heroic feat was taking place in the air: more than six hundred and fifty air traffic control facilities across the country coordinated their efforts to ground four thousand 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 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 workspace to their understandings of their job and its place in society. The result is a nuanced and engaging look at an essential role that demands great coordination, collaboration, and focus—a role that technology will likely never be able to replace. Even as the book conveys warnings about complex systems and the liabilities of technological and organizational innovation, it shows the kinds of problem-solving solutions that evolved over time and the importance of people.

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.
The Diasporic Condition
Ethnographic Explorations of the Lebanese in the World

Ghassan Hage

Bridging the gap between migration studies and the anthropological tradition, Ghassan Hage illustrates that transnationality and its attendant cultural consequences are not necessarily at odds with classic theory.

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.

Ghassan Hage is professor of anthropology and social theory at the University of Melbourne in Australia. He is the author of several books, including *White Nation*, *Against Paranoid Nationalism*, *After-Politics*, and *Is Racism an Environmental Threat?*
The Eyes of the World

Mining the Digital Age in the Eastern DR Congo

James H. Smith

The Eyes of the World focuses on the lives and experiences of Eastern Congolese people involved in extracting and transporting the minerals needed for digital devices.

The digital devices that define our era exist not only because of Silicon Valley innovations, but due to a burgeoning trade in dense, artisanally mined substances like tantalum, tin, and tungsten. As James H. Smith argues, in the Eastern DR Congo these minerals are also socially dense, fueling movement and collaborations that encompass diverse actors, geographies, temporalities, and dimensions.

Based on long-term research, The Eyes of the World examines how Eastern Congolese understand the work in which they are engaged, the forces pitted against them, and the total process through which substances in the earth and forest are converted into commodified resources. Smith shows how the experience of violent dispossession has fueled a bottom-up social theory that valorizes movement and collaboration—one that directly confronts tracking initiatives designed to ensure that the minerals in digital devices are “conflict free” by excluding certain actors and places. While global watch groups espouse Western-style bureaucratic methods that prioritize transparency and purity, Smith explains why Congolese understand these exclusionary interventions as potentially violent and predatory efforts to further separate them and their histories from supposedly “clean” technologies.

James H. Smith is professor of anthropology at the University of California, Davis. He is the author of Bewitching Development, also published by the University of Chicago Press, and coauthor of Email from Ngeti.
Cooperation without Submission

Indigenous Jurisdictions in Native Nation–US Engagements

Justin B. Richland

A meticulous and thought-provoking look at how Tribes use language to engage in “cooperation without submission.”

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.”

Justin B. Richland is an associate justice of the Hopi Appellate Court as well as associate professor of anthropology at the University of California, Irvine, and faculty fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He is the author of several works on the contemporary legal systems and practices of Native American Nations, including Introduction to Tribal Legal Studies and Arguing with Tradition: The Language of Law in Hopi Tribal Court, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Law and the Economy in a Young Democracy
India 1947 and Beyond
Tirthankar Roy and Anand V. Swamy

An essential history of India’s economic growth since 1947 and the legal reforms that have allowed it to settle in the shadow of the stagnating effects of colonial rule.

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.

Tirthankar Roy is professor of economic history at the London School of Economics. Anand V. Swamy is the Willmott Family Third Century Professor of Economics at Williams College in Massachusetts. They are the coauthors of Law and the Economy in Colonial India, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Esteemed literary critic Marjorie Perloff reconsiders the nature of the poetic, examining its visual, grammatical, and sound components.

The “infrathin” was Marcel Duchamp’s playful name for the most minute shade of difference: that between the report of a gunshot and the appearance of the bullet hole, or between two objects in a series made from the same mold. “Eat” is not the same thing as “ate.” The poetic, Marjorie Perloff suggests, can best be understood as the language of infrathin. For in poetry, whether in verse or prose, words and phrases that are seemingly unrelated in ordinary discourse are realigned by means of sound, visual layout, etymology, grammar, and construction so as to “make it new.”

In her revisionist “micropoetics,” Perloff draws primarily on major modernist poets from Stein and Yeats to Beckett, suggesting that the usual emphasis on what this or that poem is “about,” does not do justice to its infrathin possibilities. From Goethe’s eight-line “Wanderer’s Night Song” to Eliot’s *Four Quartets*, to the minimalist lyric of Rae Armantrout, *Infrathin* is designed to challenge our current habits of reading and to answer the central question: what is it that makes poetry poetry?

Marjorie Perloff is the Sadie Dernham Patek Professor of Humanities Emerita at Stanford University and the Florence R. Scott Professor of English Emerita at the University of Southern California. She is the author of many books on poetry, including *Radical Artifice*, *Wittgenstein’s Ladder*, and *Unoriginal Genius*. 
Phenomenal Blackness
Black Power, Philosophy, and Theory
Mark Christian Thompson

This unorthodox account of 1960s Black thought rigorously details the field’s debts to German critical theory and explores a forgotten tradition of Black singularity.

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, andMarcuse 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.

Mark Christian Thompson is professor of English at Johns Hopkins University, where he also serves as chair of the English department. He is the author of three books, most recently Anti-Music: Jazz and Racial Blackness in German Thought between the Wars.
The Science of Character

Human Objecthood and the Ends of Victorian Realism

S. Pearl Brilmyer

The Science of Character makes a bold new claim for the power of the literary by showing how Victorian novelists used fiction to theorize how character forms.

In 1843, the Victorian philosopher John Stuart Mill called for the establishment of a new science, “the science of the formation of character.” Although Mill’s proposal failed as scientific practice, S. Pearl Brilmyer maintains that it found its true home in realist fiction of the period, which employed the literary figure of character to investigate the nature of embodied experience. Bringing to life Mill’s unrealized dream of a science of character, novelists such as George Eliot, Thomas Hardy, and Olive Schreiner turned to narrative to explore how traits and behaviors in 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. Engaged with materialist science and philosophy, these authors transformed character from the liberal notion of the inner truth of an individual into a materially determined figuration produced through shifts in the boundaries between the body’s inside and outside. In their hands, 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 laws governing physical and affective life. The Science of Character redraws late Victorian literary history to show how women and feminist novelists pushed realism to its aesthetic and philosophical limits in the crucial span between 1870 and 1920.

S. Pearl Brilmyer is assistant professor of English and comparative literature at the University of Pennsylvania.
Figuring Jerusalem
Politics and Poetics in the Sacred Center
Sidra DeKoven Ezrahi

Figuring Jerusalem explores how Hebrew writers have imagined Jerusalem, both from the distance of exile and from within its sacred walls.

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.
Domestic Georgic

Labors of Preservation from Rabelais to Milton

Katie Kadue

Inspired by Virgil’s *Georgics*, this study conceptualizes Renaissance poetry as a domestic labor.

When is literary production more menial than inspired, 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 surprisingly modest and domestic terms. In contrast to the monumental ambitions associated with the literature of the age, and picking up an undercurrent of Virgil’s *Georgics*, poetic labor of the Renaissance emerges here as often aligned with so-called women’s work. Kadue reveals how male authors’ engagements with a feminized georgic mode 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 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.

**Katie Kadue** is a Harper-Schmidt Fellow in the Society of Fellows and assistant collegiate professor in the humanities at the University of Chicago.
Common Understandings, Poetic Confusion

Playhouses and Playgoers in Elizabethan England

William N. West

A new account of playgoing in Elizabethan England, in which audiences participated as much as performers.

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.

William N. West is associate professor of English, comparative literary studies, and classics at Northwestern University. He is the author of As If: Essays in "As You Like It" and Theatres and Encyclopedias in Early Modern Europe. He also edits the journal Renaissance Drama.
Decay and Afterlife
Form, Time, and the Textuality of Ruins, 1100 to 1900

Aleksandra Prica

Covering 800 years of intellectual and literary history, Prica considers the textual forms of ruins.

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 postindustrial Detroit. Decay and Afterlife pivots away from our immediate, visual fascination with ruins, focusing instead 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 close readings, she traverses eight hundred years of intellectual and literary history, from Seneca and Petrarch to Hegel, Goethe, and Georg Simmel. She tracks European discourses on ruins as they metamorphose over time, identifying surprising resemblances and resonances, ignored contrasts and tensions, as well as the shared apprehensions and ideas that come to light in the excavation of these discourses.

Aleksandra Prica is assistant professor of German literature at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
Rousseau, Nietzsche, and the Image of the Human

Paul Franco

Rousseau and Nietzsche presented two of the most influential critiques of modern life and much can still be learned from their respective analyses.

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.

*Paul Franco* is the Barry N. Wish Professor of Government and Social Studies at Bowdoin College. He is the author or editor of six books, including *Nietzsche’s Enlightenment: The Free-Spirit Trilogy of the Middle Period* and *Leo Strauss on Hegel*, both also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Just before the summer of 1982, French philosopher Michel Foucault gave a series of lectures at Victoria University in Toronto. In these lectures, which were part of his project of writing a genealogy of the modern subject, he is concerned with the care and cultivation of the self, a theme that becomes central to the second, third, and fourth volumes of his *History of Sexuality*. Throughout his career, Foucault had always been interested in the question of how constellations of knowledge and power produce and shape subjects, and in the last phase of his life, he became especially interested not only in how subjects are formed by these forces, but in how they ethically constitute themselves.

In this lecture series and accompanying seminar, Foucault focuses on antiquity, starting with classical Greece, the early Roman Empire, and concluding with Christian monasticism in the fourth and fifth centuries AD. Foucault traces the development of a new kind of verbal practice—"speaking the truth about oneself"—in which the subject increasingly comes to be defined by its inner thoughts and desires. He deemed this new form of "hermeneutical" subjectivity important not just for historical reasons but also due to its enduring significance in modern society.

*Michel Foucault* (1926–84) was a French philosopher and historian who held the Chair of the History of Systems of Thought at the Collège de France. His many books in English include *The Order of Things*, *Discipline and Punish*, *The History of Sexuality*, and "Discourse and Truth" and "Parrēsia," the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press. *Henri-Paul Fruchaud* is an editor of Michel Foucault's posthumous works. *Daniele Lorenzini* is assistant professor of philosophy and deputy director of the Centre for Research in Post-Kantian European Philosophy at the University of Warwick. *Daniel Louis Wyche* is visiting assistant professor of religious studies at Albion College.
Philosopher Terry Pinkard revisits Sartre’s later work, illuminating a pivotal stance in Sartre’s understanding of freedom and communal action.

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 reveals how Sartre was drawn back to Hegel, a move that was itself incited by Sartre’s newfound interest in Marxism. Pinkard argues that Sartre constructed a novel position on freedom that has yet to be adequately taken up and analyzed within 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*. 
Thought under Threat
On Superstition, Spite, and Stupidity
Miguel de Beistegui

_Thought Under Threat_ combats the forces diminishing the role of critical thinking from our political and cultural spheres.

_Thought Under Threat_ is an attempt to understand the tendencies that threaten thinking from within. These tendencies have always existed, but today they are on the rise and frequently encouraged even in our democracy. People “disagree” with science and distrust experts. Political leaders appeal to the hearts and guts of “the people,” rather than their critical faculties. Stupidity has become a right, if not a badge of honor; thinking is considered “elitist.”

For Miguel de Beistegui, however, thinking is intrinsically democratic, a crucial part of exercising freedom.

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.

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.
After Parmenides
Idealism, Realism, and Epistemic Constructivism

Tom Rockmore

Engages with one of the oldest philosophical problems—the relationship between thought and being—and offers a fresh perspective with which to approach the long history of this puzzle.

In *After Parmenides*, Tom Rockmore takes us all the way back to the beginning of philosophy when Parmenides asserted that thought and being are one: what we know is what is. This idea created a division between what the mind constructs as knowable entities and the idea that there is also a mind-independent real, which we can know or fail to know. To counter this, Rockmore argues that we need to give up on the idea of this real, and instead focus on the objects of cognition that our mind constructs. Though we cannot know mind-independent objects as they “really” are, we can and do know objects as they appear to us. If we construct the object we seek to know, then it corresponds to what we think about it.

*After Parmenides* charts the continual engagement with these ideas of the real and the knowable throughout philosophical history from Plato and Aristotle to Descartes, Kant, Fichte, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Marx, and others. This ambitious book shows how new connections can be made in the history of philosophy when it is reread through a new lens.

Tom Rockmore is professor of philosophy and a McAnulty College Distinguished Professor at Duquesne University. He is the author of numerous books, including *Kant and Idealism; In Kant’s Wake: Philosophy in the Twentieth Century;* and *Hegel, Idealism, and Analytic Philosophy.*
Vulgar Genres

Gay Pornographic Writing and Contemporary Fiction

Steven Ruszczycky

*Vulgar Genres* examines gay pornographic writing, showing how literary fiction was both informed by pornography and amounts to a commentary on the genre’s relation to queer male erotic life.

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. 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.

*Steven Ruszczycky* is assistant professor of English and teaches in Women’s, Gender, and Queer Studies at California Polytechnic State University. He is coeditor, with T. Dean and D. Squires, of *Porn Archives*. 
Underdogs
Social Deviance and Queer Theory
Heather Love

A pathbreaking genealogy of queer theory that traces its roots to an unexpected source: sociological research on marginal communities in the era before Stonewall.

The sociology of “social deviants” flourished in the United States at mid-century, 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.

Heather Love is professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of Feeling Backward: Loss and the Politics of Queer History.
The Queerness of Home
Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of Domesticity after World War II

Stephen Vider

Vider uncovers how LGBTQ people reshaped domestic life in the postwar United States.

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 contested 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.

“*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*
Sounds Beyond
Arvo Pärt and the 1970s Soviet Underground

Kevin C. Karnes

*Sounds Beyond* charts the origins of Arvo Pärt’s most famous music, which was created in dialogue with underground creative circles in the USSR.

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.

Kevin C. Karnes is professor of music and associate dean for the arts at Emory University. He is the author of *Arvo Pärt’s Tabula Rasa*, *A Kingdom Not of This World: Wagner, the Arts, and Utopian Visions in Fin-de-Siècle Vienna*, and *Music, Criticism, and the Challenge of History*. 
Networking Operatic Italy

Francesca Vella

A study of the networks of opera production and critical discourse that shaped Italian cultural identity during and after Unification.

Opera’s role in shaping Italian identity has long fascinated both critics and scholars. Whereas the romance of the Risorgimento once spurred analyses of how individual works and styles grew out of and fostered specifically “Italian” sensibilities and modes of address, more recently scholars have discovered the ways in which opera has animated Italians’ social and cultural life in myriad different local contexts.

In Networking Operatic Italy, Francesca Vella reexamines this much-debated topic by exploring how, where, and why opera traveled on the mid-nineteenth-century peninsula, and what this mobility meant for opera, Italian cities, and Italy alike. Focusing on the 1850s to the 1870s, Vella attends to opera’s encounters with new technologies of transportation and communication, as well as its continued dissemination through newspapers, wind bands, and singing human bodies. Ultimately, this book sheds light on the vibrancy and complexity of nineteenth-century Italian operatic cultures, challenging many of our assumptions about an often exoticized country.

Francesca Vella is a British Academy postdoctoral fellow and an affiliated lecturer in music at the University of Cambridge.
“Don Giovanni” Captured considers the life of a single opera, engaging with the entire history of its recorded performance.

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.

Richard Will is professor of music at the University of Virginia. His publications include The Characteristic Symphony in the Age of Haydn and Beethoven and Engaging Haydn: Culture, Context, and Criticism.
Feasting and Fasting in Opera
From Renaissance Banquets to the Callas Diet

Pierpaolo Polzonetti

Feasting and Fasting in Opera shows that the consumption of food and drink is an essential component of opera, both on and off stage.

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.

Pierpaolo Polzonetti is the Jan and Beta Popper Professor of Music at University of California, Davis. He is the author of Italian Opera in the Age of the American Revolution, which won the American Musicological Society’s Lockwood Book Award. He is coeditor, with Anthony R. DelDonna, of the Cambridge Companion to Eighteenth-Century Opera.
Sound Authorities
Scientific and Musical Knowledge in Nineteenth-Century Britain
Edward J. Gillin

*Sound Authorities* shows how experiences of music and sound played a crucial role in nineteenth-century scientific inquiry in Britain.

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.

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*. 
Music’s Monisms
Disarticulating Modernism
Daniel Albright

Daniel Albright investigates musical phenomena through the lens of monism, the philosophical belief that things that appear to be two are actually one.

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 *Music’s Monisms*, he shows how musical and literary phenomena alike can be fruitfully investigated through the lens of monism, a philosophical conviction that does away with the binary structures we use to make sense of reality. Albright shows that despite music’s many binaries—diatonic vs. chromatic, major vs. minor, tonal vs. atonal—there is always a larger system at work that aims to reconcile tension and resolve 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. Radical monism insists on the interchangeability, even the sameness, 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 on aesthetic experience in general. *Music’s Monisms* is a revelatory work by one of modernist studies’ most distinguished figures.

Daniel Albright (1945–2015) was the Ernest Bernbaum Professor of Literature at Harvard University. He was the author or editor of many books, including *Untwisting the Serpent* and *Modernism and Music*, both also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Django Generations
Hearing Ethnorace, Citizenship, and Jazz Manouche in France
Siv B. Lie

*Django Generations* shows how relationships between racial identities, jazz, and national belonging become entangled in France.

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.

Siv B. Lie is assistant professor of music at the University of Maryland.
Sing and Sing On
Sentinel Musicians and the Making of the Ethiopian American Diaspora

Kay Kaufman Shelemay

A sweeping history of Ethiopian musicians during and following the 1974 Ethiopian revolution.

Sing and Sing On is the first study of the forced migration of musicians out of the Horn of Africa dating from the 1974 Ethiopian revolution, a political event that overthrew one of the world’s oldest monarchies and installed a brutal military regime. Musicians were among the first to depart the region, their lives shattered by revolutionary violence, curfews, and civil war. Reconstructing the memories of forced migration, Sing and Sing On traces the challenges musicians faced amidst revolutionary violence and the critical role they played in building communities abroad.

Drawing on the recollections of dozens of musicians, Sing and Sing On details personal, cultural, and economic hardships experienced by musicians who have resettled in new locales abroad. Kay Kaufman Shelemay highlights their many artistic and social initiatives and the ways they have offered inspiration and leadership within and beyond a rapidly growing Ethiopian American diaspora. While musicians held this role as sentinels in Ethiopian culture long before the revolution began, it has taken on new meanings and contours in the Ethiopian diaspora. The book details the ongoing creativity of these musicians while exploring the attraction of return to their Ethiopian homeland over the course of decades abroad. Ultimately, Shelemay shows that musicians are uniquely positioned to serve this sentinel role as both guardians and challengers of cultural heritage.

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.
Dynamics, Geometry, Number Theory
The Impact of Margulis on Modern Mathematics
Edited by David Fisher, Dmitry Kleinbock, and Gregory Soifer

This definitive synthesis of mathematician Gregory Margulis’s research brings together leading experts to cover the breadth and diversity of disciplines Margulis’s work touches upon.

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.

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.
Enlarged Edition

No Place of Grace
Antimodernism and the Transformation of American Culture, 1880–1920

T. J. Jackson Lears

With a New Foreword by Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen

A new edition of a classic work of American history that eloquently examines the rise of antimodernism at the turn of the twentieth century.

First published in 1981, T. J. Jackson Lears’s No Place of Grace is a landmark book in American studies and American history, acclaimed for both its rigorous research and the deft fluidity of its prose. A study of responses to the emergent culture of corporate capitalism at the turn of the twentieth century, No Place of Grace charts the development of contemporary consumer society through the embrace of antimodernism—the effort among middle- and upper-class Americans to recapture feelings of authentic experience. Rather than offer true resistance to the increasingly corporatized bureaucracy of the time, however, antimodernism helped accommodate Americans to the new order—it was therapeutic rather than oppositional, a striking forerunner to today’s self-help culture. And yet antimodernism contributed a new dynamic as well, “an eloquent edge of protest,” as Lears puts it, which is evident even today in anti-consumerism, sustainable living, and other practices. This new edition, with a lively and discerning foreword by Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, celebrates the fortieth anniversary of this singular work of history.

T. J. Jackson Lears is the Board of Governors Distinguished Professor of History at Rutgers University and the author of numerous books, including Rebirth of a Nation: The Making of Modern America, 1877–1920 and Fables of Abundance: A Cultural History of Advertising in America.
Economic Analysis and Infrastructure Investment

Edited by Edward L. Glaeser and James M. Poterba

This volume draws together current research on the economics of infrastructure investment, reviewing the state of research on several key topics and providing a roadmap for future exploration.

Policy makers often call for increased public spending on infrastructure, which can include a broad range of investments from maintenance on and new construction of roads and bridges to spending on digital networks that will expand access to high-speed broadband. Some point to near-term macro-economic benefits and job creation, others to the long-term effects of infrastructure spending on productivity and economic growth. This volume explores the links between infrastructure investment and economic outcomes and analyzes key economic issues in the funding and management of infrastructure projects. It includes new research on the short-run stimulus effects of infrastructure spending, develops new estimates of the stock of US infrastructure capital, and explores incentive aspects of public-private partnerships with particular attention to the allocation of risk in such projects. The volume provides a reference for researchers seeking to expand the study of infrastructure issues and for policy makers tasked with determining the appropriate level of infrastructure spending.

Edward L. Glaeser is the Fred and Eleanor Glimp Professor of Economics at Harvard University and a research associate and director of the working group on urban economics at the National Bureau of Economic Research. James M. Poterba is the Mitsui Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and president of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Economics of Research and Innovation in Agriculture
Edited by Petra Moser

This volume offers an empirical, applied-economic framework to the different elements of agricultural R&D, particularly as they relate to the shift from public to private funding.

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.

Petra Moser is professor of economics at New York University, a research fellow of the Center for Economic Policy Research, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Crime and Justice, Volume 50
A Review of Research
Edited by Michael Tonry

An interdisciplinary approach to core issues in criminology.

Since 1979 the Crime and Justice series has presented a review of the latest international research, providing expertise to enhance the work of sociologists, psychologists, criminal lawyers, justice scholars, and political scientists. The series explores a full range of issues concerning crime, its causes, and its cures. In both the review and the thematic volumes, Crime and Justice offers an interdisciplinary approach to address core issues in criminology.

Michael Tonry is the McKnight Presidential Professor of Criminal Law and Policy and Director of the Institute on Crime and Public Policy at the University of Minnesota.
Established in 1998, *Afterall* is a journal of contemporary art that provides in-depth analysis of art and its social, political, and philosophical contexts. Each issue provides the reader with well-researched contributions that discuss each artist’s work from different perspectives. Contextual essays and other texts discussing events, works, or exhibitions further develop the thematic focus of each issue. Issue 52 includes work from Kapwani Kiwanga, Natasa Petresin Bachelez, Sepake Angiama, Jonas Staal, Ana Texeira Pinto, Ghalya Saadawi, Aldo Tambellini, Darby English, and Enrico Camporesi.

Amanda Carneiro is a researcher and currently works as an assistant curator at the Museu de Arte de São Paulo. Nav Haq is associate director at the Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp where he is responsible for the development of the artistic program. Amber Husain is a writer, editor, and researcher living and working in London. She is a managing editor of *Afterall* Books. Mark Lewis is a Canadian artist and filmmaker. He lives and works in London. Adeena May is a researcher and curator. He is the managing editor of *Afterall* and a lecturer at Lausanne University of Art and Design, Switzerland. Charles Stankievech is an artist, writer, and curator. He is associate professor and director of visual studies in the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design at the University of Toronto.
Founded in 1968, the Metropolitan Museum Journal is a blind, peer-reviewed scholarly journal published annually that features original research on the history, interpretation, conservation, and scientific examination of works of art in the Museum’s collection. Its scope encompasses the diversity of artistic practice from antiquity to the present day. The Journal encourages contributions offering critical and innovative approaches that will further our understanding of works of art.

The board of the Metropolitan Museum of Art consists of Niv Allon, Jean-François de Lapérouse, Isabelle Duvernois, Maryam Ekhtiar, Melanie Holcomb, Mark McDonald, Iris Moon, Joseph Scheier-Dolberg, Oscar Tang, Agnes Hsu-Tang, and Sylvia Yount.
Osiris, Volume 36

Therapeutic Properties: Global Medical Cultures, Knowledge, and Law

Edited by Helen Tilley

An edited volume offering a comparative analysis of the complex interplay between medicine and law across the globe.

This volume of Osiris takes as its point of departure a simple premise: we have yet to fully flesh out the complex historical interplay between medicine and law across the globe. Therapeutic Properties takes an inventive look at the issue, presenting welcome insights on the worldwide ascendancy of biomedicine, the persistence of nonofficial and unorthodox approaches to healing, and the legal contexts that have served to shape these dynamics.

The contributions draw upon source material from the Americas, Africa, Western Europe, the Caribbean, and Asia to trace the influence of penal and civil codes, courts and constitutions, and patents and intellectual properties on not only health practices but also the very foundations of state-sanctioned medicine. The authors explore, too, how institutions of global governance, including those underpinning empires and trade, have historically created feedback loops that enabled laws and regulatory regimes to spread, amplifying their effects and standardizing approaches to diseases, drugs, professions, personhood, and well-being along the way. Highlighting the payoff of interdisciplinary and transnational analyses, this volume adroitly teases apart how different actors fought to write the rules of global health, rendering certain approaches to life and death irrelevant and invisible, others pathological and punishable by law, and others still, normal and natural.

Helen Tilley is associate professor of history at Northwestern University. She is the author of Africa as a Living Laboratory: Empire, Development, and the Problem of Scientific Knowledge, 1870–1950, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Pure Adulteration
Cheating on Nature in the Age of Manufactured Food

Benjamin R. Cohen

Benjamin R. Cohen uses the pure-food crusades at the turn of the twentieth century to provide a captivating window onto the origins of manufactured foods in the United States.

In the late nineteenth century, extraordinary changes in food and agriculture gave rise to new tensions in the ways people understood, obtained, trusted, and ate their food. This was the Era of Adulteration, and its concerns have carried forward to today: How could you tell the food you bought was the food you thought you bought? Could something manufactured still be pure? Is it okay to manipulate nature far enough to produce new foods but not so far that you question its safety and health? How do you know where the line is? And who decides?

In *Pure Adulteration*, Benjamin R. Cohen follows farmers, manufacturers, grocers, hucksters, housewives, politicians, and scientific analysts as they struggled to demarcate and patrol the ever-contingent, always contested border between purity and adulteration, and as, at the end of the nineteenth century, the very notion of a pure food changed.

Benjamin R. Cohen is associate professor at Lafayette College. He is the author of *Notes from the Ground: Science, Soil, and Society in the American Countryside* and the coeditor of *Acquired Tastes: Stories about the Origins of Modern Food* and *Technoscience and Environmental Justice: Expert Cultures in a Grassroots Movement*.

“Never have analytical chemists had a quirkier and more entertaining chronicler. This is not dry organizational history. . . . Like the nineteenth-century foods it explicates, *Pure Adulteration* satisfies precisely because it recombines familiar ingredients—in this case, cultural, economic, and intellectual history—in a novel form. It is genuinely good history by any measure.”—*Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*
The Conservative Case for Class Actions

Brian T. Fitzpatrick

Fitzpatrick argues that class actions can serve core conservative values of economic efficiency and respect for the law and that class action lawyers, despite their reputation as supporters of liberal causes, are fulfilling an important function that conservatives should applaud.

Since the 1960s, the class action lawsuit has been a powerful tool for holding businesses accountable. Yet years of attacks by corporate America and unfavorable rulings by the Supreme Court have left its future uncertain. In this book, Brian T. Fitzpatrick makes the case for the importance of class action litigation from a surprising political perspective: an unabashedly conservative point of view.

Conservatives have opposed class actions in recent years, but Fitzpatrick argues that they should see such litigation not as a danger to the economy, but as a form of private enforcement of the law. He starts from the premise that all of us, conservatives and libertarians included, believe that markets need at least some rules to thrive, from laws that enforce contracts to laws that prevent companies from committing fraud. He also reminds us that conservatives consider the private sector to be superior to the government in most areas. And the relatively little-discussed intersection of those two beliefs is where the benefits of class action lawsuits become clear: when corporations commit misdeeds, class action lawsuits enlist the private sector to intervene, resulting in a smaller role for the government, lower taxes, and, ultimately, more effective solutions.

Offering a novel argument that will surprise partisans on all sides, The Conservative Case for Class Actions is sure to breathe new life into this long-running debate.

Brian T. Fitzpatrick is the Milton R. Underwood Chair in Free Enterprise and Professor of Law at Vanderbilt Law School. He graduated first in his class from Harvard Law School and with a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame. He served as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and a Special Counsel to US Senator John Cornyn.
Dark Lens
Imaging Germany, 1945
Françoise Meltzer

Esteemed scholar Françoise Meltzer examines images of war ruins in Nazi Germany and the role that images play in how we construct memories of war.

The ruins of war have long held the power to stupefy and appall. Can such ruins ever be persuasively depicted and comprehended? Can images of ruins force us to identify with the suffering of the enemy and raise uncomfortable questions about forgiveness and revenge?

Françoise Meltzer explores these questions in *Dark Lens*, which uses the images of war ruins in Nazi Germany to investigate problems of aestheticization and the representation of catastrophe. Through texts that give accounts of bombed-out towns in Germany in the last years of the war, painters’ attempts to depict the destruction, and her own mother’s photographs taken in 1945, Meltzer asks if any medium offers a direct experience of war ruins for the viewer. Refreshingly accessible and deeply personal, *Dark Lens* is a compelling look at the role images play in constructing memory.

Françoise Meltzer is the Edward Carson Waller Distinguished Service Professor in the Humanities, professor in the Divinity School and the College, and chair of comparative literature at the University of Chicago.

“*Dark Lens* offers striking insights into Meltzer’s childhood experiences as a foreigner in a defeated land. . . . The book is elegantly written and cogently argued.”—German Studies Review

“A genre-defying book that is at once a family photo album, an autobiographical meditation, a cultural history of ruins, and a rigorous work of photographic criticism.”—Central European History
Cartographic Humanism
The Making of Early Modern Europe
Katharina N. Piechocki

Piechocki calls for an examination of the idea of Europe as a geographical concept, tracing its development in the 15th and 16th centuries.

What is “Europe,” and when did it come to be? In the Renaissance, the term “Europe” circulated widely, but as Katharina N. Piechocki argues, the idea of Europe as a continent was only in the making in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

*Cartographic Humanism* sheds light on how humanists negotiated and defined Europe’s boundaries when a new imagining of Europe was driven by the rise of cartography. As Piechocki shows, geography, philosophy, and philology were used not only to represent but also to shape and promote an image of Europe. Engaging with poets, historians, and mapmakers, Piechocki resists an easy categorization of the continent, scrutinizing Europe as an unexamined category that demands a careful and nuanced investigation. Unprecedented in its geographic scope, *Cartographic Humanism* brings France, Germany, Italy, Poland, and Portugal into an interdisciplinary dialogue.

*Katharina N. Piechocki* is associate professor of comparative literature at Harvard University.
Kant and Phenomenology

Tom Rockmore

*Kant and Phenomenology* unveils the development of Kant’s phenomenological approach and offers a fresh perspective to these core subjects.

Phenomenology, together with Marxism, pragmatism, and analytic philosophy, dominated philosophy in the twentieth century—and Edmund Husserl is usually thought to have been the first to develop the concept. His views influenced a variety of important later thinkers, such as Heidegger and Merleau-Ponty, who eventually turned phenomenology away from questions of knowledge. But here Tom Rockmore argues for a return to phenomenology’s origins in epistemology, and he does so by locating its roots in the work of Immanuel Kant.

*Kant and Phenomenology* traces the formulation of Kant’s phenomenological approach back to the second edition of Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason.* In response to various criticisms of the first edition, Kant more forcefully put forth a constructivist theory of knowledge. This shift in Kant’s thinking challenged the representational approach to epistemology, and it is this turn, Rockmore contends, that makes Kant the first great phenomenologist. He then follows this phenomenological line through the work of Kant’s idealist successors, Fichte and Hegel. Steeped in the sources and literature it examines, *Kant and Phenomenology* persuasively reshapes our conception of both of its main subjects.

Tom Rockmore is professor of philosophy and a McAnulty College Distinguished Professor at Duquesne University. He is the author of numerous books, including *Kant and Idealism,* *In Kant’s Wake: Philosophy in the Twentieth Century,* and *Hegel, Idealism, and Analytic Philosophy.*

“This is a clear, concise, and enjoyable read by a senior scholar who is an expert on all aspects of German idealism. Rockmore is uniquely qualified to establish clearly the phenomenological-epistemological narrative extending from Kant to Husserl, Heidegger, and beyond. His constructivist reading of Kant along with his contrast of Kant with Husserl makes his case convincingly in a work of exceptional clarity and rigorous documentation.”
—Alan Olson, Boston University

Paper $30.00 / £24.00


PHILOSOPHY
Leo Strauss on Nietzsche’s *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*

Leo Strauss

Edited by Richard L. Velkley

A meticulous and rewarding look at Leo Strauss’s lectures on *Zarathustra*.

Although Leo Strauss published little on Nietzsche, his lectures and correspondence demonstrate a deep critical engagement with Nietzsche’s thought. One of the richest contributions is a seminar on Nietzsche’s *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, taught in 1959 during Strauss’s tenure at the University of Chicago. In the lectures, Strauss draws important parallels between Nietzsche’s most important project and his own ongoing efforts to restore classical political philosophy.

With *Leo Strauss on Nietzsche’s “Thus Spoke Zarathustra,”* preeminent Strauss scholar Richard L. Velkley presents Strauss’s lectures on *Zarathustra* with superb annotations that bring context and clarity to the critical role played by Nietzsche in shaping Strauss’s thought. In addition to the broad relationship between Nietzsche and political philosophy, Strauss adeptly guides readers through Heidegger’s confrontations with Nietzsche, laying out Heidegger’s critique of Nietzsche’s “will to power” while also showing how Heidegger can be read as a foil for his own reading of Nietzsche. The lectures also shed light on the relationship between Heidegger and Strauss, as both philosophers saw Nietzsche as a central figure for understanding the crisis of philosophy and Western civilization.

Strauss’s reading of Nietzsche is one of the important—yet little appreciated—philosophical inquiries of the past century, both an original interpretation of Nietzsche’s thought and a deep engagement with the core problems that modernity posed for political philosophy. It will be welcomed by anyone interested in the work of either philosopher.

Leo Strauss (1899–1973) was one of the preeminent political philosophers of the twentieth century. He is the author of many books, among them *The Political Philosophy of Hobbes, Natural Right and History,* and *Spinoza’s Critique of Religion,* all published by the University of Chicago Press. Richard L. Velkley is the Celia Scott Weatherhead Professor of Philosophy at Tulane University and the author, most recently, of *Heidegger, Strauss,* and *the Premises of Philosophy.*
Leo Strauss on Political Philosophy

Responding to the Challenge of Positivism and Historicism

Leo Strauss

Edited by Catherine H. Zuckert

A series of lectures from 1965 in which Strauss laid out his views on political philosophy in the form of an introductory course.

Leo Strauss is known primarily for reviving classical political philosophy through careful analyses of works by ancient thinkers. As with his published writings, Strauss’s seminars devoted to specific philosophers were notoriously dense. In 1965, however, Strauss offered an introductory course on political philosophy at the University of Chicago. Using a conversational style, he sought to make political philosophy, as well as his own ideas and methods, understandable to those with little background on the subject.

Leo Strauss on Political Philosophy brings together the lectures that comprise Strauss’s “Introduction to Political Philosophy.” Strauss begins by emphasizing the importance of political philosophy in determining the common good of society and critically examining the two most powerful contemporary challenges to the possibility of using political theory to learn about and develop the best political order: “positivism” and “historicism.” In seeking the common good, classical political philosophers like Plato and Aristotle did not distinguish between political philosophy and political science. Today, however, political philosophy must contend with the contemporary belief that it is impossible to know what the good society really is. Strauss emphasizes the need to study the history of political philosophy to see whether the changes in the understanding of nature and conceptions of justice are either necessary or valid. In doing so, he ranges across the entire history of political philosophy, providing a valuable, thematically coherent foundation.

Leo Strauss (1899–1973) was one of the preeminent political philosophers of the twentieth century. He is the author of many books, among them The Political Philosophy of Hobbes, Natural Right and History, and Spinoza’s Critique of Religion, all published by the University of Chicago Press. Catherine H. Zuckert is the Nancy R. Dreux Professor of Political Science Emeritus at the University of Notre Dame and the author or coauthor of many books, including, most recently, Machiavelli’s Politics.
Leo Strauss on Hegel

Leo Strauss

Edited by Paul Franco

Leo Strauss twice gave a course on Hegel to students at the University of Chicago. This book, which is based on the 1965 course, focuses on Hegel’s *The Philosophy of History*.

In the winter of 1965, Leo Strauss taught a seminar on Hegel at the University of Chicago. While Strauss did not consider himself a Hegelian nor write about Hegel at any length, his writings contain intriguing references to the philosopher, particularly in connection with his studies of Hobbes, in his debate in *On Tyranny* with Alexandre Kojève, and in his account of the “three waves” of modern political philosophy.

*Leo Strauss on Hegel* reconstructs Strauss’s seminar on Hegel, supplemented by passages from an earlier version of the seminar from which only fragments of a transcript remain. Strauss focused in his seminar on the lectures collected in *The Philosophy of History*, which he considered more accessible than Hegel’s written works. In his own lectures on Hegel, Strauss continues his project of demonstrating how modern philosophers related to ancient thought and explores the development and weaknesses of modern political theory. Strauss is especially concerned with the relationship in Hegel between empirical history and his philosophy of history, and he argues for the primacy of religion in Hegel’s understanding of history and society. In addition to a relatively complete transcript, *Leo Strauss on Hegel* also includes annotations, which bring context and clarity to the text.

*Leo Strauss* (1899–1973) was one of the preeminent political philosophers of the twentieth century. From 1949 to 1968 he was professor of political science at the University of Chicago. He is the author of many books, among them *The Political Philosophy of Hobbes*, *Natural Right and History*, and *Spinoza’s Critique of Religion*, all published by the University of Chicago Press. *Paul Franco* is professor of government and chair of the Government and Legal Studies Department at Bowdoin College.
For as long as women have battled for equitable political representation in America, those battles have been defined by images—images that are alternately flattering, condescending, or downright incendiary. *Picturing Political Power* offers perhaps the most comprehensive analysis yet of the connection between images, gender, and power. In this examination of the fights that led to the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, Allison K. Lange explores how suffragists pioneered one of the first extensive visual campaigns in modern American history. She shows how pictures, from early engravings and photographs to colorful posters, proved central to suffragists’ efforts to change expectations for women, fighting back against the accepted norms of their times. In seeking to transform notions of womanhood and win the right to vote, white suffragists emphasized the compatibility of voting and motherhood, while Sojourner Truth and other leading suffragists of color employed pictures to secure respect and authority. *Picturing Political Power* demonstrates the centrality of visual politics to American women’s campaigns throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, revealing the power of images to change history.

Allison K. Lange is associate professor of history at Wentworth Institute of Technology.
Philosophy, Writing, and the Character of Thought

John T. Lysaker

Lysaker examines the relationship between philosophical thought and the act of writing to explore how this dynamic shapes the field of philosophy.

Philosophy’s relation to the act of writing is John T. Lysaker’s main concern in Philosophy, Writing, and the Character of Thought. Whether in Plato, Montaigne, Nietzsche, Wittgenstein, or Derrida, philosophy has come in many forms, and those forms—the concrete shape philosophizing takes in writing—matter. Much more than mere adornment, the style in which a given philosopher writes is often of crucial importance to the point he or she is making, part and parcel of the philosophy itself.

Considering how writing influences philosophy, Lysaker explores genres like aphorism, dialogue, and essay, as well as logical-rhetorical operations like the example, irony, and quotation. At the same time, he shows us the effects of these rhetorical devices through his own literary experimentation. In dialogue with such authors as Benjamin, Cavell, Emerson, and Lukács, he aims to revitalize philosophical writing, arguing that philosophy cannot fulfill its intellectual and cultural promise if it keeps to professional articles and academic prose. Instead, philosophy must embrace writing as an essential, creative activity, and deliberately reform how it approaches its subject matter, readership, and the evolving social practices of reading and reflection.

John T. Lysaker is the William R. Kenan Professor of Philosophy at Emory University. He is the author of many books, including After Emerson and You Must Change Your Life: Poetry, Philosophy, and the Birth of Sense.
After Redlining

The Urban Reinvestment Movement in the Era of Financial Deregulation

Rebecca K. Marchiel

Focusing on Chicago’s West Side, After Redlining illuminates how urban activists were able to change banks’ behavior to support investment in communities that they had once abandoned.

American banks, to their eternal discredit, long played a key role in disenfranchising nonwhite urbanites and, through redlining, blighting the very city neighborhoods that needed the most investment. They denied funds to entire neighborhoods or actively exploited them, to the benefit of suburban whites—an economic white flight to sharpen the pain caused by the demographic one. In After Redlining, Rebecca K. Marchiel illuminates how, exactly, urban activists were able to change some banks’ behavior to support investment in communities that they had once abandoned. The leading activists arose in an area hit hard by banks’ discriminatory actions and politics: Chicago’s West Side. A multiracial coalition of low- and moderate-income city residents, this Saul Alinsky–inspired group championed urban reinvestment. And amazingly, it worked: their efforts inspired national action, culminating in the federal Home Mortgage Disclosure Act and the Community Reinvestment Act. While the battle for urban equity goes on, After Redlining looks to recent history to provide a blueprint of hope.

Rebecca K. Marchiel is assistant professor of history at the University of Mississippi.

“...financial institutions have been the subject of important recent works, but we still have much to learn about how citizens and activists challenged discrimination and exploitation by the banks. After Redlining not only fills that gap but challenges our understanding of the history of race, finance, and inequality. Marchiel’s compelling story will leave many readers shaking their heads in frustration at the comparative lack of grassroots activism against financial discrimination and predation today, while at the same time inspired by the tenacity, savvy, and ingenuity of the organizers who fill its pages.”—Andrew W. Kahrl, author of The Land Was Ours: How Black Beaches Became White Wealth in the Coastal South
Thinking like a Parrot
Perspectives from the Wild

Alan B. Bond and Judy Diamond

From two experts on wild parrot cognition, a close look at the intelligence, social behavior, and conservation of these widely threatened birds.

Looking beyond much of the standard work on captive parrots, Thinking like a Parrot explores the mischievous and inquisitive parrots of the wild. Alan B. Bond and Judy Diamond focus on these parrots’ psychology and ecology, documenting their distinctive social behavior, sophisticated cognition, and extraordinary vocal abilities. Also included are short vignettes—field notes on both rare and widely distributed species, from the neotropical crimson-fronted parakeet to New Zealand’s flightless, ground-dwelling kākāpō. But despite their evident adaptability and intelligence, nearly all large parrot species are rare, threatened, or endangered. To successfully manage and restore these wild populations, we must develop a fuller understanding of their biology and the complex set of ecological and behavioral traits that has led to their vulnerability. Spanning the global distribution of parrot species, Thinking like a Parrot is a vital contribution to that endeavor, rich with surprising insights into parrot intelligence, flexibility, and—even in the face of threats—resilience.

Alan B. Bond is professor emeritus of biological sciences at the University of Nebraska and Judy Diamond is professor and curator at the University of Nebraska State Museum. Together they have studied the social behavior, cognition, and vocalizations of wild parrots for more than three decades. They are coauthors of Kea, Bird of Paradox: The Evolution and Behavior of a New Zealand Parrot and Concealing Coloration in Animals. For more on their research, please visit the website of the Center for Avian Cognition, http://www.aviancog.org/.

NOVEMBER
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SCIENCE

“This is, hands down, the best parrot book published in the past ten years, and certainly one of the best ever published. . . . It will be read and cherished by ornithologists and scientists as well as non-specialists, and by parrot breeders, behaviorists, and owners alike for years to come, and will appeal to anyone who wishes to learn more about how parrots view the world.”—GrrlScientist, Forbes
Studiolo

Giorgio Agamben

Translated by Alberto Toscano

A brief study of select Western art from Italy’s foremost philosopher.

In Renaissance palaces, the studiolo was a small room to which the prince withdrew to meditate or read, surrounded by paintings he particularly loved. This book is a kind of studiolo for its author, Giorgio Agamben, as he turns his philosophical lens on the world of Western art.

*Studiolo* is a fascinating take on a selection of artworks created over millennia; some are easily identifiable, others rarer. Though they were produced over an arc of time stretching from 5000 BCE to the present, only now have they achieved their true legibility. Agamben contends that we must understand that the images bequeathed by the past are really addressed to us, here and now; otherwise, our historical awareness is broken. Notwithstanding the attention to details and the critical precautions that characterize the author’s method—they provoke us with a force, even a violence, that we cannot escape. When we understand why Dostoevsky feared losing his faith before Holbein’s *Body of the Dead Christ*, when Chardin’s *Still Life with Hare* is suddenly revealed to our gaze as a crucifixion or Twombly’s sculpture shows that beauty must ultimately fall, the artwork is torn from its museological context and restored to its almost prehistoric emergence. These artworks are beautifully reproduced in color throughout Agamben’s short but significant addition to his scholarly oeuvre in English translation.

Giorgio Agamben is one of Italy’s foremost contemporary thinkers. He recently brought to a close his widely influential archaeology of Western politics, the nine-volume *Homo Sacer* series. Alberto Toscano teaches and researches at Goldsmiths, University of London, and Simon Fraser University, Vancouver.

Praise for *Kingdom and the Garden*

“Because Agamben has indisputably achieved the status of one of the major philosophers of the 21st century, this slim, focused volume has interest beyond its explicit topic. . . . Highly recommended.”

—Choice
Primo Levi
An Identikit
Marco Belpoliti
Translated by Clarissa Botsford

Drawing on twenty years of research, this is the definitive biography of Primo Levi.

Over the last seventy years, Primo Levi (1919–87) has been recognized as the foremost literary witness of the extermination of the European Jews. In Primo Levi: An Identikit, a product of twenty years of research, Marco Belpoliti explores Levi’s tormented life, his trajectory as a writer and intellectual, and, above all, his multifaceted and complex oeuvre.

Organized in a mosaic format, this volume devotes a different chapter to each of Levi’s books. In addition to tracing the history of each book’s composition, publication, and literary influences, Belpoliti explores their contents across the many worlds of Primo Levi: from chemistry to anthropology, biology to ethology, space flights to linguistics. If This Is a Man, his initially rejected masterpiece, is also reread with a fresh perspective. We learn of dreams, animals, and travel; of literary writing, comedy, and tragedy; of shame, memory, and the relationship with other writers such as Franz Kafka and Georges Perec, Jean Améry and Varlam Shalamov. Fundamental themes such as Judaism, the camp, and testimony innervate the book, which is complemented with photographs and letters found by the author in hitherto unexplored archives.

This will be the definitive book on Primo Levi, a treasure trove of stories and reflections that paint a rich, nuanced composite portrait of one of the twentieth century’s most unique and urgent voices.

Marco Belpoliti is an essayist, writer, and professor at the University of Bergamo. He edits the series Riga for Quodlibet and the online magazine Doppiozero. Clarissa Botsford teaches English and translation studies at Roma Tre University. She lives in Rome.
As Long As Trees Take Root in the Earth
and Other Poems

Alain Mabanckou

Translated by Nancy Naomi Carlson

A hopeful, music-infused poetry collection from Congolese poet Alain Mabanckou.

These compelling poems by novelist and essayist Alain Mabanckou conjure nostalgia for an African childhood where the fauna, flora, sounds, and smells evoke snapshots of a life forever gone. Mabanckou’s poetry is frank and forthright, urging his compatriots to no longer be held hostage by the civil wars and political upheavals that have ravaged their country and to embrace a new era of self-determination where the village roosters can sing again.

These music-infused texts, beautifully translated by Nancy Naomi Carlson and supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, appear together in English for the first time. In these pages, Mabanckou pays tribute to his beloved mother, as well as to the regenerative power of nature, and especially of trees, whose roots are a metaphor for the poet’s roots, anchored in the red earth of his birthplace. Mabanckou’s yearning for the land of his ancestors is even more poignant because he has been declared persona non grata in his homeland, now called Congo-Brazzaville, due to his biting criticism of the country’s regime. Despite these barriers, his poetry exudes hope that nature’s resilience will lead humankind on the path to redemption and reconciliation.

Alain Mabanckou is one of francophone Africa’s most prolific contemporary writers. Twice, he has been a finalist for the Man Booker International Prize. Born in the Republic of Congo, he is now professor at the University of California, Los Angeles. Nancy Naomi Carlson is a writer and translator who has published eleven books, most recently An Infusion of Violets, also published by Seagull Books. She is professor of counseling at Walden University.

Praise for The Tears of the Black Man

“In this slender but intellectually dense collection of twelve essays, Franco-Congolese novelist Mabanckou reveals and reshapes notions of black identity, arguing that in today’s global community, ‘identity goes far beyond notions of territory or blood.’ . . . Mabanckou’s challenging perspective on African identity today is as enlightening as it is provocative.”
—Publishers Weekly
In *Blind Spot*, Myriam Tadessé exposes the difficulty, even the impossibility, for France to truly understand and celebrate the lived realities of mixed or biracial French citizens. What the French word *métis*—which translates to “half-breed” or “mixed-race”—hides is how central the notion of race actually is in a society that claims to repudiate it. The French film and theater world, in which Tadessé has made her career, appears unable to confront the individuality of the performers. They are required to correspond to categories—often based on race—that don’t allow for biracial identities. This classification not only contradicts France’s asserted ideals but also views as anomalies those who defy ethno-racial assumptions.

Drawing on her personal experiences as a biracial Ethiopian-French woman and her family history, Tadessé explores the realities of life for mixed-race individuals in France through her searing and honest memoir.

Born in Ethiopia, Myriam Tadessé has lived in Paris since 1978. An actress and stage director, she has taught theater and dance, written and directed documentaries, and published a novel, *L’instant d’un regard*. **Gila Walker** is the translator of more than a hundred books and articles from French.
Seasons in Hippoland

Wanjikũ Wa Ngũgĩ

An enchanting novel of magical realism from a new voice, Kenyan author Wanjikũ Wa Ngũgĩ.

Victoriana is a country ruled by an Emperor-for-Life who is dying from an illness not officially acknowledged in a land where truth and facts are decided by the Emperor. The elite goes along with the charade. Their children are conditioned to conform. It is a land of truthful lies, where reality has uncertain meaning.

Mumbi, a rebellious child from the capital of Westville, and her brother are sent to live in rural Hippoland. But what was meant to be a punishment turns out to be a glorious discovery of the magic of the land, best captured in the stories their eccentric aunt Sara tells them. Most captivating to the children is the tale of a porcelain bowl supposed to possess healing powers. Returning to Westville as an adult, Mumbi spreads the story throughout the city and to the entire country. Exhausted by years of endless bleak lies, the people are fascinated by the mystery of the porcelain bowl. When word of its healing powers reaches the Emperor himself, he commands Mumbi to find it for him—with dramatic consequences for everyone in Victoriana.

Captivating and enchanting, Seasons in Hippoland plays with the tradition of magic realism. Every image in this novel is a story, and every story is a call for resistance to anyone who tries to confine our imagination or corrupt our humanity.

Wanjikũ Wa Ngũgĩ is the author of the novel The Fall of Saints and former director of the Helsinki African Film Festival. Her short stories and essays have appeared in Nairobi Noir, Houston Noir, and St. Petersburg Review, among others.
Poetically written and originally given as lectures, this is a moving essay collection from Durs Grünbein.

In his four Lord Weidenfeld Lectures held in Oxford in 2019, German poet Durs Grünbein dealt with a topic that has occupied his mind ever since he began to perceive his own position within the past of his nation, his linguistic community, and his family: How is it possible that history can determine the individual poetic imagination and segregate it into private niches? Shouldn’t poetry look at the world with its own sovereign eyes instead?

In the form of a collage or “photosynthesis,” in image and text, Grünbein lets the fundamental opposition between poetic license and almost overwhelming bondage to history appear in an exemplary way. From the seeming trifle of a stamp with the portrait of Adolf Hitler, he moves through the phenomenon of the “Führer’s streets” and into the inferno of aerial warfare. In the end, Grünbein argues that we are faced with the powerlessness of writing and the realization, valid to this day, that comes from confronting history. As he muses, “There is something beyond literature that questions all writing.”

Durs Grünbein was born in Dresden in 1962, and he now lives in Berlin and Rome. He is professor of poetics and aesthetics at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. He has written more than twenty-five books, including, most recently, Porcelain, also published by Seagull Books. Karen Leeder is a writer, translator, and academic. She teaches German at New College, Oxford.
just sitting around here GRUESOMELY now

Friederike Mayröcker

Translated by Rosalyn Theobald

Poetic prose meditations written in a lyrical stream-of-consciousness style from renowned Austrian poet Friederike Mayröcker.

It is summer in this book, even if nature often does not hold to summer. The flowers either have tiny buds or have long since withered. It is summer in the book, asserts Mayröcker’s work, because the summer light is switched on: sometimes blazingly bright, sometimes darkened with thunderclouds. At the same time, there is a magical light in this writing. In these stream-of-conscious prose poem meditations, Mayröcker formulates a poetics of simultaneity of all that is not: “not the scenes I remember, rather, it is the sensations accompanying those scenes.”

Strictly composed in form and language while luxuriantly proliferated in daydreams and nightmares, just sitting around here GRUESOMELY now is a significant volume in the radical late work of the great Viennese poet.

Friederike Mayröcker is widely considered one of the most important Austrian poets of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. She has published over eighty works since 1956, including poetry, prose, radio plays, and children’s books. She lives in Vienna. Roslyn Theobald has translated Mayröcker’s brütt, or The Sighing Gardens and Requiem for Ernst Jandl, which was also published by Seagull Books.

Praise for Mayröcker

“With breathless abandon, [Mayröcker] has continually expanded her oeuvre and exploded notions of genre and convention, while always getting to the heart of this earthly living.”—BOMB
Leaving
A Poem from the Time of the Virus
Cees Nooteboom
Illustrated by Max Neumann
Translated by David Colmer

An exceptionally current volume of poems from one of Europe’s greatest poets that dwell on the most pressing reality of our times: the coronavirus pandemic.

One of the leading living European writers, Cees Nooteboom never shies away from contemporary issues. His latest collection of poems, Leaving, begins in a garden with descriptions of Mediterranean plants, but what emerges are memories of the war—images of a distant past that have never disappeared. The poems take another turn when, unexpectedly, a mysterious virus takes control of the world and turns life upside down.

A collection that can be read as a single poem, in which desolation and beauty, past and future, nostalgia and mortality all merge to represent the most mature work of a great poet. German artist Max Neumann’s haunting images that accompany the poems work as complex visual metaphors that further underline the beauty and the gravity of the poems. Together, they make for a delicate and thoughtful read.

Praise for the Dutch edition
“Relying in this book more on his keen-edged etching needle than the enshrouding darkness, Nooteboom has carved us a subtle portrait of his spiritual poethood.”
—Meander

Cees Nooteboom is one of Europe’s leading living authors. His poetry, novels and, travel literature have been translated into many languages. Several of his books, including Light Everywhere and Monk’s Eye, are also available from Seagull Books. Max Neumann is a German artist. David Colmer is an award-winning translator.
Post-War Reflections

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A compact collection of eight wide-ranging essays by Sartre from the immediate postwar years.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

Post-War Reflections collects eight of Sartre’s essays that were written in his most creative period, just after World War II. Sartre’s extraordinary range of engagement is manifest in this collection, which features writings on postwar America, the social impact of war in Europe, contemporary philosophy, race, and avant-garde art.

Jean-Paul Sartre (1905–1980) was a French novelist, playwright, and biographer who is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century. His work earned him the 1964 Nobel Prize in Literature. Chris Turner is a translator and writer living in Birmingham, UK. He has translated more than eighty books from French and German.
On Revolution
Jean-Paul Sartre
Translated by Chris Turner

A two-part essay on the “myth” of revolution and the figure of the artist.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

*On Revolution* consists of a long essay in two parts in which Sartre dwells upon the “myth” of revolution and goes on to analyze revolutionary ideas in fascism and, especially, Marxism. In the second essay, Sartre examines the figure of the artist and his conscience, especially in relation to communism.

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On Poetry

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

Two long Sartre essays that explore the Négritude poetry movement and the work of French writer Francis Ponge.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

On Poetry includes two long essays in this slim volume. The first explores the Négritude poetry movement by analyzing the work of several Black poets of the time. The second is a meditation on the poetry of renowned French author Francis Ponge (1899–1988), who, influenced by surrealism, developed his unique form of prose poetry.

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“For my generation [Sartre] has always been one of the great intellectual heroes of the twentieth century, a man whose insight and intellectual gifts were at the service of nearly every progressive cause of our time.”—Edward Said
On Merleau-Ponty

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A moving tribute to phenomenologist Maurice Merleau-Ponty in the wake of his early death.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

This volume consists of a single long essay that analyzes the work of Maurice Merleau-Ponty (1908–1961), who was the leading phenomenological philosopher in France and the lead editor of the influential leftist journal Les Temps modernes, which he established with Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir in 1945. Written in the wake of Merleau-Ponty’s death, this essay is a moving tribute from one major philosopher to another.

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Venice and Rome

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A trio of short pieces on two cities of eternal magic, Venice and Rome.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

“Venice speaks to us; this false witness’s voice, shrill at times, whispering at others, broken by silences, is its voice.” In these three moving short pieces, we discover Sartre as a master stylist, lyrically describing his time in two bewitching eternal cities—Venice and Rome. “Antiquity,” Sartre writes, “is alive in Rome, with a hate-filled, magical life.”

Jean-Paul Sartre (1905–1980) was a French novelist, playwright, and biographer who is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century. His work earned him the 1964 Nobel Prize in Literature. Chris Turner is a translator and writer living in Birmingham, UK. He has translated more than eighty books from French and German.
Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A collection of insightful essays by the French philosopher on contemporary art.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

Sartre was a prodigious commentator on contemporary art, as is evident from the short but incisive essays that make up this important volume. Sartre examines here the work of a wide range of artists, including recognized masters such as Alberto Giacometti, Alexander Calder, and André Masson, alongside unacknowledged greats like French painter Robert Lapoujade and German painter-photographer Wols.

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On Camus

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A window onto one of the most consequential friendships in philosophical history, that of Sartre and Camus—and on its end.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

Sartre met Albert Camus in Occupied France in 1943, and from the start, they were an odd pair: one from the upper reaches of French society; the other, a pied-noir born into poverty in Algeria. The love of “freedom,” however, quickly bound them in friendship, while their fight for justice united them politically. But in 1951 the two writers fell out spectacularly over their literary and political views, their split a media sensation in France. This volume holds up a remarkable mirror to that fraught relationship. It features an early review by Sartre of Camus’s The Stranger; his famous 1952 letter to Camus that begins, “Our friendship was not easy, but I shall miss it”; and a moving homage written after Camus’s sudden death in 1960.

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Occasional Philosophical Writings

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

Four essays by the French master addressing other philosophers and their work.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

The four essays of varying length assembled in this volume bear witness to Sartre's preoccupation with philosophers and their work. In these pages he examines Descartes's concept of freedom; comments on a fundamental idea in Husserl's phenomenology: intentionality; writes a mixed review of Denis de Rougemont's monumental *Love in the Western World*; and provides an extensive critical analysis of the work of Brice Parain, one of France's leading philosophers of language.

Jeannot-Paul Sartre (1905–1980) was a French novelist, playwright, and biographer who is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century. His work earned him the 1964 Nobel Prize in Literature. Chris Turner is a translator and writer living in Birmingham, UK. He has translated more than eighty books from French and German.
On Bataille and Blanchot

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

An in-depth analysis of two of Sartre's contemporaries, Bataille and Blanchot.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

“There is a crisis of the essay,” begins Sartre as he ventures into a long analysis of the work of one of his contemporaries who he argues might save this form: Georges Bataille. From there, Sartre moves on in this compact volume to consider Aminadab, the most important work of another hugely influential philosopher, Maurice Blanchot, through whom, writes Sartre, “the literature of the fantastic continues the steady progress that will inevitably unite it, ultimately, with what it has always been.”

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On American Fiction

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A brief, powerful analysis of three major twentieth-century writers: Dos Passos, Nabokov, and Faulkner.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

Sartre’s engagement with the literature of his day extended well beyond the works of his French contemporaries. This short volume testifies to his astonishing grasp of the nuances of American fiction, as he analyzes three of the most important twentieth-century writers: John Dos Passos, Vladimir Nabokov, and William Faulkner, whose “humanism,” writes Sartre, “is the only acceptable sort.”

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On Novels and Novelists

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A collection of essays on renowned French writers, including Sarraute, Renard, and Gide.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

In this collection of brief, insightful essays, we find ourselves face to face with Sartre the literary critic, as he carefully examines the works of renowned French writers such as François Mauriac, Nathalie Sarraute, Jean Giraudoux, and Jules Renard. Most moving is an essay on André Gide, written right after his death, in which Sartre writes, “We thought him scared and embalmed; he dies and we discover how alive he was.”

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Political Fictions

Jean-Paul Sartre

Translated by Chris Turner

A collection of pieces on politically engaged fiction of Sartre’s day, including works by André Gorz and Paul Nizan.

Iconic French novelist, playwright, and essayist Jean-Paul Sartre is widely recognized as one of the most important philosophers of the twentieth century, and his work has remained relevant and thought-provoking through the decades. The Seagull Sartre Library now presents some of his most incisive philosophical, cultural, and literary critical essays in twelve newly designed and affordable editions.

Political Fictions includes Sartre’s long foreword to André Gorz’s The Traitor, which has often been called the most intimate and profound book to emerge from the existentialist movement. Sartre also presents a detailed portrait of his friend and fellow writer Paul Nizan (1905–1940), once a committed communist, who died fighting the Nazis at the Battle of Dunkirk. Also featured here is Sartre’s famous foreword to Nizan’s novel The Conspiracy, which made the novel famous on its republication in the 1960s, when it was adopted as an iconic text during the events of May ’68.

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**Boat Number Five**

Monika Kompaníková

Translated by Janet Livingstone

The moving yet humorous story of a girl struggling to care for herself and others in post-communist Slovakia.

Emotionally neglected by her immature, promiscuous mother and made to care for her cantankerous dying grandmother, twelve-year-old Jarka is left to fend for herself in the social vacuum of a post-communist concrete apartment-block jungle in Bratislava, Slovakia. She spends her days roaming the streets and daydreaming in the only place she feels safe: a small garden inherited from her grandfather. One day, on her way to the garden, she stops at a suburban railway station and impulsively abducts twin babies. Jarka teeters on the edge of disaster, and while struggling to care for the babies, she discovers herself. With a vivid and unapologetic eye, Monika Kompaníková captures the universal quest for genuine human relationships amid the emptiness and ache of post-communist Europe. *Boat Number Five*, which was adapted into an award-winning Slovak film, is the first of two books that launch Seagull’s much-anticipated Slovak List.

Monika Kompaníková is considered one of the most outstanding writers of contemporary Slovak fiction. She is the author of four books for adults and five books for children and works as a publisher and book editor for Slovak newspaper *Denník N*. Janet Livingstone is a translator who lived in Bratislava for more than fifteen years.
Necklace/Choker
then, meanwhile, now./a small novel in fragments/

Jana Bodnárová

Translated by Jonathan Gresty

An engrossing novel about the lives in a small Slovak town during the tumultuous twentieth century.

In this highly acclaimed novel, Jana Bodnárová offers an engrossing portrayal of a small Slovak town and its inhabitants in the north of the country against the backdrop of the tumultuous history of the twentieth century. As Sara, the protagonist of Necklace/Choker, returns to her native town after many years in exile to sell the old family house and garden, she begins to piece together her family’s history from snippets and fragments of her own memory and the diaries of her artist father, Imro. A talented painter, he survived the Holocaust only to be crushed by the constraints imposed on his art by Stalinist censorship, and Sara herself was later driven into exile after dreams of socialism with a human face were shattered by the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

Through their stories, and that of Sara’s friend, Iboja, the daughter of a hotelier, readers will be immersed in key moments of Slovak history and their bearing on the people in this less familiar part of Central Europe.

Praise for the Slovak edition

“By creating a complex composition of fragments depicting various periods in the stories of two friends, Sára and Iboja, and their loved ones, and by blending several stories and gradually revealing their secrets in a sophisticated way, the author paints an almost seamless fresco of a town grappling with the demands and cruelties of its epoch while trying to cling to their dignity.”—Robert Kotian

Jana Bodnárová was born in former Czechoslovakia. In addition to publishing books of prose, poetry, works for children, radio plays, and screenplays for television, she has also created and presented video performances both in domestic galleries and on experimental theatre stages abroad. Jonathan Gresty is a translator from Slovak who currently teaches English at Prešov University in Slovakia.
What does it take to succeed as a queer teenage Eastern European sex worker in the 1990s? Eleven inches and a ruthless attitude.

Western Europe, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall: Two queer teens from Eastern Europe journey to Vienna, then Zurich, in search of a better life as sex workers. They couldn’t be more different from each other. Milan, aka Dianka, a dreamy, passive naïf from Slovakia, drifts haplessly from one abusive sugar daddy to the next, whereas Michał, a sanguine pleasure-seeker from Poland, quickly masters the selfishness and ruthlessness that allow him to succeed in the wild, capitalist West—all the while taking advantage of the physical endowment for which he is dubbed “Eleven-Inch.” By turns impoverished and flush with their earnings, the two traverse a precarious new world of hustler bars, public toilets, and nights spent sleeping in train stations and parks or in the opulent homes of their wealthy clients. With campy wit and sensuous humor, Michał Witkowski explores in Eleven-Inch the transition from Soviet-style communism to neoliberal capitalism in Europe through the experiences of the most marginalized: destitute queers.

Michał Witkowski is a Polish author. His groundbreaking novel Lovetown was the first explicitly queer novel to be published in Polish and was longlisted for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2011. He lives in Warsaw. W. Martin is a United States-born editor, educator, translator, and writer who lives in Berlin and Ramallah. His published translations from Polish include Michał Witkowski’s Lovetown.
Postcard from London
and Other Stories

Iván Mándy

Translated by John Batki

The first comprehensive volume in English from one of Hungary’s most popular twentieth-century writers.

Iván Mándy (1918–1995) has been called “the prose poet of Budapest,” and this volume of short stories presents the first comprehensive collection of his work in English. His early oeuvre created an urban mythology full of picaresque characters inhabiting the seedier neighborhoods of the city: its flea-market stalls, second-run cinemas, and old-fashioned coffeehouses. The stories from the later decades of Mándy’s life, often bordering on the absurd, introduce many autobiographical elements spun around the author’s alter-ego, János Zsámboky, whose hapless adventures on a rare trip abroad constitute this group of stories, including “Postcard from London.” Mándy’s unique style at times borrows techniques from films and radio plays, his quirky cuts creating a flicker of images seen in the mind’s eye. Memory and perception, time and place spin in narrative legerdemain that invites and rewards the reader’s active participation.

Iván Mándy (1918–1995) was one of the most widely read Hungarian writers of the postwar period. He was coeditor of the independent literary review Újhold until its suppression in 1948. John Batki, born in Hungary, has lived in the United States since age fourteen. His numerous translations from Hungarian literature include works by László Krasznahorkai and Gyula Krúdy.
The White Bathing Hut

Thorvald Steen

Translated by James Anderson

A novel about disability, family secrets, and Norway’s eugenic past.

_The White Bathing Hut_ is a genetic detective story. The narrator uses a wheelchair because of an inherited illness that has caused his muscle tissue to degenerate, making him unable to walk. One day, he falls from his wheelchair. His family is away, his cell phone out of reach, and he has no choice but to lie on the floor of his apartment, dissecting his life, until help arrives. He recalls his parents’ reactions of shame and silence when, as a teenager, his illness was first diagnosed. Now in her old age, his mother remains stubbornly secretive. A chance call from a cousin provides the narrator with clues about his grandfather and uncle, whom he never met and who both also had the disease. His search for the truth about his heredity is given new urgency when his mother is diagnosed with cancer. He must persuade her to speak before she dies, for his own sake and for his daughter’s. _The White Bathing Hut_ is an indictment of contemporary Norwegian society, which claims to abhor its history of eugenics, yet still seeks to control the lives of people with disabilities.

Thorvald Steen is a Norwegian writer who has published a wide range of novels, plays, collections of poems, short stories, children’s books, and essays. His other books include _Don Carlos, Giovanni, Constantinople, The Little Horse_, and _The Weight of Snow Crystals_. James Anderson’s literary translations from Norwegian include several books by Tomas Espedal and Jostein Gaarder and Thorvald Steen’s _Lionheart, The Little Horse_, and _The Invisible Library_.

AUGUST
176 p. 6 x 9
Cloth $21.00/£15.99
FICTION
IND
Among the Almond Trees
A Palestinian Memoir
Hussein Barghouthi
Translated and Introduced by Ibrahim Muhawi

A poetically written and bitterly sweet memoir about nature, death, life in Palestine, and the universal concept of home.

Palestinian writer Hussein Barghouthi was in his late forties when he was diagnosed with lymphoma. He had feared it was HIV, so when the cancer diagnosis was confirmed, he left the hospital feeling a bitter joy because his wife and son would be spared. The bittersweetness of this reaction characterizes the alternating moods of narration and reflection that distinguish this meditative memoir, Among the Almond Trees.

Barghouthi’s way of dealing with finality is to return to memories of childhood in the village of his birth in central Palestine, where the house in which he grew up is surrounded by almond and fig orchards. He takes many healing walks in the moonlit shadows of the trees, where he observes curious foxes, dancing gazelles, a badger with an unearthly cry, a weasel, and a wild boar with its young—a return not only to the house but to nature itself. The author decides to build a house where he would live with his wife and son, in whom he sees a renewal of life. The realization of his impending death also urges him to vocalize this experience, and he relates the progress of the disease at infrequent intervals. And, ultimately, he details the imaginative possibility of a return to life—to the earth, where he would be buried among the almond trees.

Hussein Barghouthi (1954–2002) was a Palestinian poet, writer, essayist, critic, lyricist, playwright, and philosopher. Born in Palestine, he earned his MA and PhD in the United States before going on to teach at Birzeit University and Al-Quds University. His best-known work, The Blue Light, is forthcoming in English translation in 2022 from Seagull Books. Born in Palestine, Ibrahim Muhawi has taught at universities in North America, the Middle East, and Europe, before devoting himself to translating Palestinian literature and folklore in retirement.
The Dance of the Deep-Blue Scorpion

Akram Musallam

Translated by Sawad Hussain

An experimental novel that explores the complexity of Palestinian identity through extended metaphor and dark humor.

On a plastic chair in a parking lot in Ramallah sits a young man writing a novel, reflecting on his life: working in a dance club on the Israeli side of the border, scratching his father’s amputated leg, dreaming nightly of a haunting scorpion, witnessing the powerful aura of his mountain-lodging aunt. His work in progress is a meditation on absence, loss, and emptiness. He poses deep questions: What does it mean to exist? How can you confirm the existence of a place, a person, a limb? How do we engage with what is no longer there? Absurd at times, raw at others, The Dance of the Deep-Blue Scorpion explores Palestinian identity through Akram Musallam’s extended metaphors in the hope of transcending the loss of territory and erasure of history.

Akram Musallam was born in Talfit near Nablus in the West Bank in 1972. He graduated from the department of letters and holds an MA in international studies from the University of Birzeit. He writes for the daily al-Ayyam and is the editor of the political quarterly al-Siyyasa. Sawad Hussain is an Arabic translator with an MA in Modern Arabic Literature from SOAS University of London.
Come, Take a Gentle Stab

Selected Poems

Salim Barakat

Translated by Huda J. Fakhreddine and Jayson Iwen

Introduces renowned Kurdish-Syrian writer Salim Barkat to an English audience for the first time, with translated selections from his most acclaimed works of poetry.

Although Salim Barakat is one of the most renowned and respected contemporary writers in Arabic letters, he remains virtually unknown in the English-speaking world. This first collection of his poetry in English, representing every stage of his career, remedies that startling omission. Come, Take a Gentle Stab features selections from his most acclaimed works of poetry, including excerpts from his book-length poems, rendered into an English that captures the exultation of language for which he is famous.

A Kurdish-Syrian man, Barakat chose to write in Arabic, the language of cultural and political hegemony that has marginalized his people. Like Paul Celan, he mastered the language of the oppressor to such an extent that the course of the language itself has been compelled to bend to his will. Barakat pushes Arabic to a point just beyond its linguistic limits, stretching those limits. He resists coherence, but never destroys it, pulling back before the final blow. What results is a figurative abstraction of struggle, as alive as the struggle itself. And always beneath the surface of this roiling water one can glimpse the deep currents of ancient Kurdish culture.

Salim Barakat is a Kurdish-Syrian writer who has published dozens of novels and poetry anthologies. Raised in northern Syria, he lived in Beirut and Cyprus before settling in Sweden, where he lives today. Huda J. Fakhreddine is associate professor of Arabic literature at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a translator of Arabic poetry and the author of several scholarly books. Jayson Iwen is the author of several books. He is professor of writing and English literature at The University of Wisconsin–Superior.
This Body That Inhabits Me
Rossana Rossanda
Edited and with an Afterword by Lea Melandri
Translated by Richard Braude

A collection of essays on the mysteries of the body from one of Italy’s leading postwar communist intellectuals.

Politician, translator, and journalist Rossana Rossanda was the most important female left-wing intellectual in post-war Italy. Central to the Italian Communist Party’s cultural wing during the 1950s and ‘60s, she left an indelible mark on the life of the mind. The essays in this volume, however, bring together Rossanda’s reflections on the body—how it ages, how it is gendered, what it means to examine one’s own body. The product of a decades-long dialogue with the Italian women’s movement (above all with Lea Melandri, a vital feminist writer who provides an afterword to the current volume), these essays represent an honest and raw meeting between communist and feminist thought. Ranging from reflections on her own hands through to Chinese cinema, from figures such as the Russian cross-dressing soldier Nadezhda Durova to the Jacobin revolutionary Theroigne de Mericourt, here we see Rossanda’s fierce intellect and extraordinary breadth of knowledge applied to the body as a central question of human experience.

Rossana Rossanda (1924–2020) was one of the leading communist intellectuals in postwar Italy and a founding editor of the newspaper il manifesto. Her political memoir, The Comrade from Milan, was published by Verso Books in 2010. Lea Melandri is a leading Italian feminist thinker. She teaches at Milan’s Free University for Women. Richard Braude is a translator and writer living in Palermo, Italy.
Roissy

Tiffany Tavernier

Translated by Teresa Lavender Fagan

Disguised as a passenger, a homeless woman lives in Paris’s Roissy airport until she meets a man who makes her confront her past.

Every day the narrator of this gripping novel hurries from one terminal to another in Charles de Gaulle Roissy airport, Paris, pulling her suitcase behind her, talking to people she meets—but she never boards an airplane. She becomes an “unnoticeable,” a homeless woman disguised as a passenger, protected by her anonymity. When a man who comes to the airport every day to await the Rio-to-Paris flight—the same route on which a plane crashed into the sea a few years earlier—attempts to approach her, she flees, terrified. But eventually, she accepts his kindness and understands his loss, and she gives in to the grief they share, forming a bond with him that becomes more than friendship. A magnificent portrait of a woman who rediscovers herself through a chance connection, Roissy is a powerful, polyphonic book, a glimpse at the infinite capacity of the human spirit to be reborn.

Tiffany Tavernier is a novelist and screenwriter. She lives in Paris. Teresa Lavender Fagan is a freelance translator living in Chicago; she has translated numerous books for the University of Chicago Press and other publishers.
An engrossing novel about love and grief that introduces an important francophone author to English-speaking readers.

Rome, 2014, late summer. While he is reading on his sun-drenched terrace, Giangiacomo’s heart stops. A quick, painless death—something he had always hoped for, his daughter, Elvira, remembers. A few days later, Elvira comes across an unfinished manuscript in her father’s flat. In it, she discovers a love story between Giangiacomo—Gigi, to his loved ones—and a Belgian journalist, Clara, which had been going on for over four years. Gigi’s manuscript tells of how their “mature love,” an expression that became code between Gigi and Clara, blossomed unexpectedly and of the happiness of their meetings, the abandon of their bodies, their laughter, the films they watched and rewatched together. As she struggles to cope with the loss of Gigi, Clara writes her own version of their story. Her “journal of absence” is first addressed to Gigi, then, gradually, to Elvira. She confides in the young woman on the threshold of adult life, with discretion and tenderness, describing the fullness of the hidden love she shared with her father.

Clara Magnani lives in Brussels. Bliss is her first novel. Teresa Lavender Fagan is a freelance translator living in Chicago who has published more than fifty book-length translations.
Tristan

Clarence Boulay

Translated by Teresa Lavender Fagan

Introducing a refreshing young French voice to English readers, this slim novel is both a riveting love story and an examination of humanity’s assault on the natural world.

After a seven-day journey on the South Atlantic Ocean aboard a lobster boat servicing Cape Town, Ida arrives on the island of Tristan. In the little island community, a village nestled on the slopes of a volcano whose only limits are the immense sky and the ocean, her bearings are gradually shifted as time slowly begins to expand.

When a cargo ship runs aground near a neighboring island, spilling massive amounts of oil, there is suddenly frantic activity in the town. Ida eagerly joins a team of three men who go to the small island to rescue oil-drenched penguins. One night, one of the men walks her back to the cabin where she is staying. They experience a night of love that continues to grow on the secluded island. For two weeks away from the world—the sea is rough, no boat can come to pick them up—the dance of their bodies and their all-consuming love is their only horizon.

Following the rhythm of the ocean and the untamed wind, Clarence Boulay brilliantly gives flesh to a dizzying sensation of sensual abandonment. Tristan raises emotional sails and upends all certainty.

Clarence Boulay is a visual artist, set designer, and avid traveler of islands. Teresa Lavender Fagan is a freelance translator living in Chicago with more than fifty published book-length translations.
Killing Happiness

Friedrich Ani

Translated by Alexander Booth
With a Foreword by Ann Cleeves

German author Friedrich Ani combines deep sorrow, human darkness, and breath-taking tension in his latest crime novel.

Happiness is extinguished completely one cold November night when eleven-year-old Lennard Grabbe fails to return home. Thirty-four days later, he is found to have been murdered, and former inspector Jakob Franck, the protagonist of Friedrich Ani’s previous novel The Nameless Day, is entrusted with delivering the most horrible news any parent could ever dream of, setting off a chain reaction of grief among family and friends.

As the special task force is unable to make any progress in the case and the family is unable to deal with the loss, Franck—driven by the need to bring them clarity but also by the painful memories of all the unsolved murder cases from when he was still on active duty—buries himself in witness statements and reports up to the point of exhaustion. He spends hours at the crime scene and employs his special technique of “thought sensitivity,” an abstract, intuitive process that may very well lead him to the “fossil”—that crucial piece of information he needs to solve the case.

Once again, Ani combines deep sorrow, human darkness, and breath-taking tension in a novel whose melancholy can hardly be surpassed.

Friedrich Ani is a German novelist, poet, and author of young adult fiction, as well as a writer for radio, theater, and television. He lives in Munich.

Alexander Booth is a writer and translator who lives in Berlin.
Franz Fühmann’s subversive retellings of four Greek legends were first published in East Germany in 1980. In them, Fühmann plumbs the ancient tales’ depths and makes them his own. Attuned to conflict and paradox, he sheds light on the complexities of sex and love, art and beauty, politics and power. In the title story, the love of the goddess Eos for the mortal Tithonos reveals the blessing and curse of transience, while “Hera and Zeus” probes the divine couple’s tumultuous relationship and its devastating consequences for a world embroiled in war. Fühmann’s unflinching account of Marsyas’ flaying by Apollo has been widely read as a dissident political statement that has lost none of its incisive force. At times charged with sensuality, and at others honed to a keen analytical edge, Fühmann’s shimmering prose is matched by Sunandini Banerjee’s exquisite collages.

Franz Fühmann (1922–1984) was one of modern Germany’s most fascinating literary figures and the author of dozens of novels, short stories, essays, poems, ballets, and children’s books. Isabel Fargo Cole is a United States-born, Berlin-based writer and translator. She is the initiator and coeditor of No Man’s Land, an online magazine for new German literature in English.
The Sea in the Radio

Journal Sentences

Jürgen Becker

Translated by Alexander Booth

An experimental novel that pushes the constraints of language to bear witness to the history of both Germany and the individual.

Jürgen Becker’s *The Sea in the Radio* is a collection of “journal sentences” divided into three sections called notebooks. In this great concert of a novel, language has been pared down to a minimum: fragments, phrases, and short sentences combine and make up a life both banal and profound. It is a life in which many of the details remain unstated or, as in miniatures, float just beyond the edges of the frame. Though at first the narrative may seem to move in a relatively harmless manner, soon enough we begin to realize that the story to be told may indeed be more unsettling than we had suspected.

*>(The Sea in the Radio)* is a novel that bears witness not only to one’s final years but also to one’s place within history in general and Germany’s cataclysmic twentieth-century past in particular.

Jürgen Becker is a German poet, novelist, and author of radio plays. Alexander Booth is a writer and translator living in Berlin.
Our Santiniketan

Mahasweta Devi

Translated and with an Introduction by Radha Chakravarty

A brief, evocative memoir from one of India’s greatest writers.

“Like a dazzling feather that has fluttered down from some unknown place. . . . How long will the feather keep its colours, waiting? The ‘feather’ stands for memories of childhood. Memories don’t wait.”

In Our Santiniketan, the late Mahasweta Devi, one of India’s most celebrated writers, vividly narrates her days as a schoolgirl in the 1930s. As the aging author struggles to recapture vignettes of her childhood, these reminiscences bring to the written page not only her individual sensibility but an entire ethos.

Santiniketan is home to the school and university founded by the foremost literary and cultural icon of India, Rabindranath Tagore. In these pages, a forgotten Santiniketan, seen through the innocent eyes of a young girl, comes to life—the place, its people, flora and fauna, along with its educational environment, culture of free creative expression, vision of harmonious coexistence between natural and human worlds, and the towering presence of Tagore himself. Alongside, we get a glimpse of the private Mahasweta—her inner life, family and associates, and the early experiences that shaped her personality.

A nostalgic journey to a bygone era, harking back to its simple yet profound values—so distant today and so urgent yet again—Our Santiniketan is an invaluable addition to Devi’s rich oeuvre available in English translation.

The India List

JANUARY
120 p. 6 x 9
Cloth $19.00/£14.99
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

“In today’s atmosphere of growing intolerance, it’s imperative to read her work and remind ourselves of her lifelong fight for those who are sought to be silenced.”
—The Hindu

Mahasweta Devi (1926–2016) was a writer and social activist. She was the author of numerous novels, essays, and short stories. Radha Chakravarty is a writer, critic, and translator.
Love and Reparation
A Theatrical Response to the Section 377 Litigation in India
Danish Sheikh

Two plays about the legal battle to decriminalize homosexuality in India.

On September 6, 2018, a decades-long battle to decriminalize queer intimacy in India came to an end. The Supreme Court of India ruled that Section 377, the colonial anti-sodomy law, violated the country’s constitution. “LGBT persons,” the Court said, “deserve to live a life unshackled from the shadow of being ‘unapprehended felons.’” But how definitive was this end? How far does the law’s shadow fall? How clear is the line between the past and the future? What does it mean to live with full sexual citizenship?

In Love and Reparation, Danish Sheikh navigates these questions with a deft interweaving of the legal, the personal, and the poetic. The two plays in this volume leap across court transcripts, affidavits (real and imagined), archival research, and personal memoir. Through his re-staging, Sheikh crafts a genre-bending exploration of a litigation battle, and a celebration of defiant love that burns bright in the shadow of the law.

Danish Sheikh is a playwright and activist-lawyer currently engaged in doctoral research at the Melbourne Law School. His writing has been cited by the Supreme Court of India in 2018, shortlisted for the Jan Michalski Award in 2017, and won the Publishing Next Award in the same year.
Lengtonghoih
The Girl Who Wanted the Brightest Star
Mercy Vungthianmaung Guite

Richly illustrated in color, this book brings a charming folktale from Northeast India to a global audience.

A beautiful young girl named Lengtonghoih, dearly loved by her seven brothers, is abducted by a cruel prince who intends to marry her. This enchanting story revolves around the seven brothers’ adventure to save their sister and how, instead, she saves them—with the help of mystical power and magic. While folktales from many parts of India have been widely translated into other languages and have become part of national narratives, such stories from Northeast India—a greatly underrepresented, culturally rich region—remain relatively unknown outside their own communities. This gorgeous book changes that by showcasing a traditional yet subversive folktale from the Paite people, an indigenous community from Manipur. Conceptualized by Richard Khuptong, translated by Mercy V. Guite, and beautifully illustrated in full color by Tanya Gupta, Lengtonghoih will delight children and adults alike.

Mercy Vungthianmaung Guite is an assistant professor at the Centre of German Studies, School of Languages, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She has translated several Paite folktales into English. Richard Khuptong is a graphic designer based in New Delhi, India. Tanya Gupta is a graphic designer and illustrator based in Gurugram, India.
Now in Paperback

Goat Days

Benyamin

Translated by Joseph Koyippally

Benyamin’s wry and tender telling transforms the strange and bitter comedy of Najeeb’s life in the desert into a universal tale of loneliness and alienation.

In the southern Indian state of Kerala, Najeeb’s dearest wish is to work in a Persian Gulf country and earn enough money to send back home. One day, he finally achieves this dream only to be propelled by a series of incidents—grim and absurd—into a slave-like existence, herding goats in the middle of the Saudi desert. Memories of his loving family and of the lush, verdant landscape of his village haunt Najeeb, whose only solace is the companionship of goats. In the end, the lonely young man is forced to contrive a hazardous scheme to escape his desert prison.

An instant bestseller in India, Goat Days is available for the first time in English, translated by Joseph Koyippally. One of the brilliant new talents of Malayalam literature, Benyamin’s wry and tender telling transforms the strange and bitter comedy of Najeeb’s life in the desert into a universal tale of loneliness and alienation.

Benyamin is an Indian writer and novelist who lives in Bahrain. Joseph Koyippally is associate professor in comparative literature at the Central University of Kerala, India.

“The India List

MARCH
260 p. 5 x 8
Paper $19.00/$18.50
FICTION
IND

“Very seldom in life does a book like Goat Days come along and ruin you for other books. It becomes like that mythic true love you once felt for someone when you were still innocent—but now that you have lived through it, you no longer are that innocent person... The same feeling courses through you after you read books like Hemingway’s The Old Man and the Sea, Bach’s Jonathan Livingston Seagull, and Orwell’s Animal Farm. Perfectly pitched books, with the language kept out of the way of storytelling.”—Dawn
Now in Paperback

The Legend

Marie Bronsard

Translated by Sonia Alland

Now in paperback, Marie Bronsard’s strikingly original memoir reweaves the history of her family—and the legend of her grandmother—leaving no stone unturned and no skeleton in the closet.

Egocentric and domineering, Bronsard’s grandmother was once a vibrant and sensual beauty. In Indochina at the end of the Second World War, she thrived in the social life of the French colony, but her young soldier husband sought a quieter existence, finding solace in the companionship of their adolescent daughter, Bronsard’s mother. The consequences of this choice reverberate throughout the family. But far from being an airing of grievance or dirty laundry, Bronsard’s memoir has the air of catharsis—here, the pain, secrets, and comic moments of Bronsard’s family are remembered with gentle humor, understanding, and affection. A wry irony tempers emotion, and it is in these pages that the author, at last, finds it possible to name the woman of the legend and perhaps bring her grandmother a measure of peace.

Marie Bronsard lives and works in a village in southern France. She is best known for her novel The Hermitage. Sonia Alland divides her time between New York and southern France, where she lives in the same village as Marie Bronsard. She has also translated Bronsard’s The Hermitage.
**Now in Paperback**

**Hypnos**

**René Char**

Translated by Mark Hutchinson

**René Char’s Hypnos is both a remarkable work of literature and a document of unique significance in the history of the French Resistance.**

Hailed by the poet Paul Eluard as an “absolute masterpiece” upon its first appearance in 1946, René Char’s Hypnos is both a remarkable work of literature and a document of unique significance in the history of the French Resistance. Based on a journal Char kept during his time in the Maquis, it ranges in style from abrupt and sometimes enigmatic reflections, in which the poet seeks to establish compass bearings in the darkness of Occupied France, to narrative descriptions that throw into vivid relief the dramatic and often tragic nature of the issues he had to confront as the head of his Resistance network. A tribute to the individual men and women who fought at his side, this volume is also a meditation on the white magic of poetry and a celebration of the power of beauty to combat terror and transform our lives.

Translated into German by Paul Celan and into Italian by Vittorio Sereni, the book has never been carried over into English with the attention to style and detail that it deserves. Published in full here for the first time, this long-awaited new translation does justice at last to the incandescence and pathos of the original French.

**René Char** was born in L’Isle-sur-Sorgue in the south of France in 1907 and died in Paris in 1988. A major influence on the generation of French poets who came of age after the Second World War, he was a close friend and associate of Albert Camus. He is widely considered the foremost French poet of his generation. **Mark Hutchinson** was born in London and lives in Paris. Among his many translations from French are several books by the poet Emmanuel Hocquard and a collection of essays by the sculptor Raymond Mason.

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“**The finest book written about the Resistance. . . . A kind of monologue of absolute truth, sorrow, and doubt.**”

—George Steiner
The Crime of Jean Genet
Dominique Eddé

Translated by Andrew Rubens and Ros Schwartz

Now in paperback, *The Crime of Jean Genet* is a powerful personal account of the influence of one writer on another and one of the most penetrating explorations yet of Genet’s work and achievement.

Dominique Eddé met novelist and playwright Jean Genet in the 1970s. And she never forgot him. “His presence,” she writes, “gave me the sensation of icy fire. Like his words, his gestures were full, calculated, and precise. . . . Genet’s movements mimicked the movement of time, accumulating rather than passing.”

This book is Eddé’s account of that meeting and its ripples through her years of engaging with Genet’s life and work. Rooted in personal reminiscences, it is nonetheless much broader, offering a subtle analysis of Genet’s work and teasing out largely unconsidered themes, like the absence of the father, which becomes a metaphor for Genet’s perpetual attack on the law. Tying Genet to Dostoevsky through their shared fascination with crime, Eddé helps us more clearly understand Genet’s relationship to France and Palestine, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, the theater, and even death. A powerful personal account of the influence of one writer on another, *The Crime of Jean Genet* is also one of the most penetrating explorations yet of Genet’s work and achievement.

Praise for Eddé’s *Kite*

“Both a powerful exploration of love and of the shifts in intellectual culture at a tumultuous time in the Arab and Western worlds.”—Chad Post, *Three Percent*

Dominique Eddé is the author of several novels, including, most recently, *Kamal Jann* and *Kite*, both published by Seagull Books. Andrew Rubens is a writer and translator whose work has appeared in the *Glasgow Review of Books, Charlie Hebdo*, and *PN Review*. Ros Schwartz is a translator of fiction and nonfiction and the chair of English PEN’s Writers in Translation program.
Shadow of Things to Come

Kossi Efoui

Translated by Chris Turner

The Shadow of Things to Come and its catastrophic and carnivalesque dreamscape speak out against political rhetoric and the destruction of meaning by government.

In an unnamed African nation, the people are subject to a state of perpetual warfare and to an Orwellian abuse of language that strips from language its meaning and renders life senseless. And in a bare room lit only by moonlight, a young man hides, waiting for the mysterious crocodile-men to come and help him escape from the violent tyranny of the state. While he waits, he tells his story.

This is Kossi Efoui’s catastrophic and carnivalesque dreamscape, the dark setting of Shadow of Things to Come. Here, men and women are taken in the night, spirited away from their families, and sent to plantation penal colonies to be worked to the edge of madness. When they return, they are empty shells, their lost time referred to as the “Time of Annexation.” But though his parents were taken, our protagonist survived, first in the care of a quirky benefactress named Mama Maize, then under the wing of the state itself, as a student at one of its elite schools. When he meets a bookseller named Axis Kemal, however, he has found a surrogate father, an eccentric and wise man who can bring him out of the meaningless confusion and tell him the truth about the society he lives in.

Through his characters, Efoui speaks out against atrocity and the abuse of power, but more, he writes against political rhetoric and the destruction of meaning by government. This novel is a love letter to language and, in Chris Turner’s dazzling translation, it becomes a stunning introduction for English-language readers to an exciting new talent.

Kossi Efoui was born at Anfoin, Togo in 1962. He lives in France. Chris Turner is a writer and translator who lives in Birmingham, England.
The Book of Sleep
Haytham El Wardany
Translated by Robin Moger

The Book of Sleep is a landmark in contemporary Arabic literature.

What is sleep? How can this most unproductive of human states—metaphorically called death’s shadow or considered the very pinnacle of indolence—be envisioned as action and agency? And what do we become in sleep? What happens to the waking selves we understand ourselves to be?

Written in the spring of 2013, as the Egyptian government of President Mohammed Morsi was unraveling in the face of widespread protests, The Book of Sleep is a landmark in contemporary Arabic literature. Drawing on the devices and forms of poetry, philosophical reflection, political analysis, and storytelling, this genre-defying work presents us with an assemblage of fragments that combine and recombine, circling around their central theme but refusing to fall into its gravity.

“My concern was not to create a literary product in the conventional sense, but to try and use literature as a methodology for thinking,” El Wardany explains. In this volume, sleep shapes sentences and distorts conventions. Its protean instability throws out memoir and memory, dreams and hallucinatory reverie, Sufi fables and capitalist parables, in the quest to shape a question. The Book of Sleep is a generous and generative attempt to reimagine possibility and hope in a world of stifling dualities and constrictions.

Haytham El Wardany is an Egyptian writer of short stories and experimental prose who lives and works in Berlin. Robin Moger is a translator of Arabic prose and poetry based in Cape Town, South Africa.
The Red Sofa
Michèle Lesbre

Translated by Nicole and David Ball

_The Red Sofa_ is a quiet French novella exploring love, memory, and the perspective that travel gives us on both.

In _The Red Sofa_, we meet Anne, a young woman setting off on the Trans-Siberian Railway in order to find her former lover, Gyl, who left twenty years before. As the train moves across post-Soviet Russia and its devastated landscapes, Anne reflects on her past with Gyl and their patriotic struggles, as well as the neighbor she has just left behind, Clémence Barrot.

Rocked by the train’s movements Anne is moved by her memory of Clémence, who is old and whose memory is failing, but has not lost her taste for life and adventure. Enseconced on her red sofa at home, Clémence loves to tell Anne her life story, mourning lost loved ones and celebrating the lives of brave, rebellious women who have gone before them. Eventually, Anne’s train trip returns her home having not found Gyl, but having found something much more meaningful—herself.

Michèle Lesbre is a French writer living in Paris. Nicole and David Ball have translated many books from French, including _We Are the Birds of the Coming Storm_, also published by Seagull Books.

“A luminous novel about desire, a clear text about the joy of living.”—Prix Pierre Mac Orlan 2007
Now in Paperback

Season of the Shadow

Léonora Miano

Translated by Gila Walker

A brutal and dreamlike story about the first victims of the transatlantic slave trade.

This powerful novel presents the early days of the transatlantic slave trade from a new perspective: that of the sub-Saharan population that became its first victims. Cameroonian novelist Léonora Miano presents a world on the brink of disappearing—a pre-colonial civilization with roots that stretch back for centuries. One day, a group of villagers find twelve of their people missing. Where have they gone? Who is responsible? A collective dream, troubling a group of mothers in a communal dwelling, may have some of the answers, as the women’s missing sons call to them in terror; at the same time, a thick shadow settles over the huts, blocking out the light of day. It is the shadow of slavery, which will soon grow to blight the whole world.

Miano renders this brutal story in deliberately strange, dreamlike prose, befitting a situation that is, on its face, all but impossible for the villagers to believe.

Léonora Miano is a Cameroonian writer who lives in France. She is the author of seven novels and two collections of essays. Season of the Shadow is her second book to be translated into English; her debut novel, Dark Heart of the Night, won the Prix Femina when it was published in French in 2013. Gila Walker is a translator who splits her time between New York City and southwestern France.

“Narratively thrilling... profoundly original.”—New York Times

“Extraordinary.”—Wall Street Journal
Now in Paperback

A Cage in Search of a Bird

Florence Noiville

Translated by Teresa Lavender Fagan

A Cage in Search of a Bird is the gripping story of two women caught in the vise of a terrible delusion.

Laura Wilmote is a television journalist living in Paris. Her life couldn’t be better—a stimulating job, a loving boyfriend, interesting friends—until her phone rings in the middle of one night. It is C., an old school friend whom Laura recently helped find a job at the same television station: “My phone rang. I knew right away it was you.”

Thus begins the story of C.’s unrelenting, obsessive, incurable love/hatred of Laura. She is convinced that Laura shares her love, but cannot—or will not—admit it. C. begins to dress as Laura, to make her friends and family her own, and even succeeds in working alongside Laura on the unique program that is Laura’s signature achievement. The obsession escalates, yet is artfully hidden. It is Laura who is perceived as the aggressor at work, Laura who appears unwell, Laura who is losing it. Even Laura’s adoring boyfriend begins to question her. Laura seeks the counsel of a psychiatrist who diagnoses C. with De Clérambault syndrome—she is convinced that Laura is in love with her. And worse, the syndrome can only end in one of two ways: the death of the patient, or that of the object of the obsession.

A Cage in Search of a Bird is the gripping story of two women caught in the vise of a terrible delusion. Florence Noiville brilliantly narrates this story of obsession and one woman’s attempts to escape the irrational love of another—an inescapable, never-ending love, a love that can only end badly.

Florence Noiville, author and journalist, has been a staff writer for Le Monde since 1994, and editor of foreign fiction for Le Monde des Livres, the paper’s literary supplement. She is the author of many books, including most recently, Attachment, also published by Seagull Books. Teresa Lavender Fagan is a freelance translator living in Chicago.

The French List

AUGUST
190 p. 5 x 8
Paper $14.50/£10.99
FICTION
IND

“The novella challenges and stretches our ethical intuitions, yet, pleasingly, offers no final moral dictum.”—Times Literary Supplement, on Attachment
Abysses
Pascal Quignard
Translated by Chris Turner

_Abysses_ offers enigmatic glimpses of the present, and confident, pointed borrowings from the past in Quignard’s unique voice.

Prolific essayist, translator, and critic Pascal Quignard has described his _Last Kingdom_ series as something unique. It consists, he says, “neither of philosophical argumentation, nor short learned essays, nor novelistic narration,” but comes, rather, from a phase of his work in which the very concept of genre has been allowed to fall away, leaving an entirely modern, secular, and abnormal vision of the world.

In _Abysses_, the newest addition to the series, Quignard brings us yet more of his troubling, questing characters—souls who are fascinated by what preceded and conceived them. He writes with a rich mix of anecdote and reflection, aphorism and quotation, offering enigmatic glimpses of the present, and confident, pointed borrowings from the past. But when he raids the murkier corners of the human record, he does so not as a historian but as an antiquarian. Quignard is most interested in the pursuit of those stories that repeat and echo across time in their timelessness.

_Pascal Quignard_ is widely regarded as one of the most important living writers in French. His other books include _The Roving Shadows, Sex and Terror, The Sexual Night_, and _The Silent Crossing_, all published by Seagull Books. _Chris Turner_ is a writer and translator who lives in Birmingham, England. He has translated Jean-Paul Sartre’s _The Aftermath of War, Portraits_, and _Critical Essays_ and André Gorz’s _Ecologica_ and _The Immaterial_, all published by Seagull Books.
Now in Paperback

Singing Emptiness
Kumar Gandharva Performs the Poetry of Kabir
Linda Hess

Now in paperback, the journey of a great Hindustani classical vocalist’s search for the voice of emptiness.

Here, two men, five centuries apart, make contact with each other through poetry, music, and performance. Kumar Gandharva, the great twentieth-century Hindustani classical vocalist, sings Kabir, the great fifteenth-century poet. Kabir composed poetry that evoked a space called nirgun or shunya—something without qualities or boundaries, empty—which challenged listeners to know it and to know themselves. Kumar Gandharva, drawn to Kabir and other poets of the nirgun experience, seeks the voice that can actually sing emptiness. Singing Emptiness includes a substantial introductory essay, bilingual texts of 30 songs, and contributions by two renowned Indian writers, U. R. Ananthamurthy and Ashok Vajpeyi.

Linda Hess teaches in the Dept. of Religious Studies at Stanford University and is co-director of Stanford’s Center for South Asia. Her previous work on North Indian bhakti poetry and performance includes The Bijak of Kabir and numerous articles on Kabir, Tulsidas and Ramlila performance.
Romila Thapar

Indian Cultures as Heritage
Contemporary Pasts

One of India’s preeminent historians examines the role of history in contemporary society.

Every society has its cultures: patterns of how people live and express themselves and how they value objects and thoughts. Recently, there has been considerable debate about what constitutes Indian culture and heritage and about how much diversity those categories ought to contain. Romila Thapar begins by explaining how definitions of culture have changed over the past three centuries. She suggests that cultures can be defined as a shared understanding of selected objects and thoughts from the past, but this understanding is often stripped of its historical context. Thapar touches on a few of these illuminating contexts, such as social discrimination, the role of women, and attitudes toward science and knowledge. This thought-provoking book is sure to spark productive debate about some current shibboleths in India’s culture.

Romila Thapar is an emeritus professor of history at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and she was previously general president of the Indian History Congress. She is a fellow of the British Academy and holds honorary doctorates from the University of Calcutta, Oxford University, and the University of Chicago, among others. She is an honorary fellow of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and SOAS, London. In 2008, she was awarded the Kluge Prize from the Library of Congress.
Mingling fact and fiction, *The Three Rimbauds* imagines how Rimbaud’s life would have unfolded had he not died at the age of thirty-seven.

The myth of Arthur Rimbaud (1854–1891) focuses on his early years: how the great enfant terrible tore through the nineteenth-century literary scene with reckless abandon, leaving behind him a trail of enemies, the failed marriage of an ex-lover who shot him, and a body of revolutionary poetry that changed French literature forever. He stopped writing poetry at the age of twenty-one when he left Europe to travel the world. He returned only shortly before his death at the age of thirty-seven.

But what if 1891 marked not the year of his death, but the start of a great new beginning: the poet’s secret return to Paris, which launched the mature phase of his literary career? This slim, experimental volume by Dominique Noguez shows that the imaginary “mature” Rimbaud—the one who returned from Harar in 1891, married Paul Claudel’s sister in 1907, converted to Catholicism in 1925, and went on to produce some of the greatest works in twentieth-century French prose—was already present in the almost forgotten works of his childhood, in style and themes alike. Only by reacquainting ourselves with the three Rimbauds—child, young adult, and imaginary older adult—can we truly gauge the range of the complete writer.

**Dominique Noguez** (1942–2019) was a prolific writer of essays, novels, and criticism of literature and film. He was a professor of film studies at Université de Montréal and Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. **Seth Whidden** is professor of French at the University of Oxford and a fellow and tutor in French at the Queen’s College, Oxford.
**In My Heart**

*Sofonia Machabe Mofokeng*

Translated by Nhlanhla Maake  
With an Introduction by Simon Gikandi

One of few books translated into English from Sesotho, *In My Heart* introduces a long-neglected voice to global readership.

*Elsewhere Texts*, edited by Gayatri Chakraborty Spivak and Hosam Aboul-Ela, presents radical new engagements with non-European literary cultures. This volume, the latest in this ambitious series, is a brilliant collection of essays originally written in Sesotho by Sophonia Machabe Mofokeng. Often confined to the role of “native informants” in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, writers working in African languages laid the foundation for the politics and poetics of decolonization and are legendary among their own communities of readers, though their work remains little known elsewhere. *In My Heart* belongs to this tradition of colonial renegades. Writing in the 1950s during the cataclysmic events of apartheid that were transforming life in South Africa, Mofokeng offers a series of meditations that provide his readers with a Sesotho worldview outside the categories authorized by colonial knowledge. *In My Heart*, expertly translated by Nhlanhla Maake, introduces a significant African thinker’s influential work to a global readership.

*Sofonia Machabe Mofokeng* (1923–1957), the first scholar in South Africa to receive a PhD in Sesotho from the University of the Witwatersrand, is the author of the stage play *Senkatana*; *Leetong: On Pilgrimage*, a volume of essays; and *Pelong Ya Ka*. *Nhlanhla Maake* is managing director at DDK Merchandising and roving mentor on the Doctoral Programme of the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences in Johannesburg. He is creative writing editor of the *English Academy Review* and a member of the English Academy Council.
The Delight of Turkish Dizi
Memory, Genre and Politics of Television in Turkey

Arzu Öztürkmen

The first comprehensive study of dizi, a television genre unique to Turkey akin to soap opera or telenovela.

Standing at the crossroads of folklore, media, and performance studies, Arzu Öztürkmen explores the rise of the dizi genre in Turkey since the 1970s, when national television broadcasting began in the country. The Delight of Turkish Dizi approaches this unique genre—not quite soap opera or telenovela—as an art form that developed with the collective creative input of writers, producers, directors, actors, editors, musicians, and, lately, international distributors. Öztürkmen shows how dizi-making is a marathon run by sprinters, where production and broadcasting processes have been tightly interwoven, offering a mode of communication and consumption that is distinct to the Turkish television industry. The research consists of oral history with key figures in dizi production and ethnographic surveys of film sets, international content markets, and award ceremonies. This first-ever monograph on Turkish dizi will be a valuable addition to the field of performance and media studies while delighting the general reader as well.

Trained in folklore studies, Arzu Öztürkmen is a professor at Bogaziçi University in Istanbul. Her research consists of oral history, folklore, and the history of performing arts. In addition to several articles on the cultural history of Turkey, she is coeditor of Celebration, Entertainment and Theater in the Ottoman World and Medieval and Early Modern Performance in the Eastern Mediterranean.
“Nothing to Do with Love” and Other Plays

Santiago Loza

Edited by Samuel Buggeln and Noe Montez
Translated by Samuel Buggeln and Ariel Gurevich

The first anthology of Latin American drama to uniquely focus on the important Argentine dramatist, Santiago Loza.

“Nothing to Do with Love” And Other Plays brings together, for the first time in English, several of Argentine playwright Santiago Loza’s major works, along with visual documentation of the playwright’s productions and their historical and thematic contexts. For nearly twenty years, Loza has written scripts that document the experiences of marginalized individuals who live outside Buenos Aires or in its overlooked barrios, exploring how rural, working-class, and otherwise marginal individuals inhabit a reality different from many of the urban audiences who flock to the nation’s theater. Loza focuses his dramaturgy on individuals who lead lives as seamstresses, orphans, ranch hands, or disaffected adults talking about their problems without any expectation of resolution. His plays provide a sense of the richness of Argentina’s contemporary theater by giving voice to individuals whose lives are complicated by the economic fallout caused by Argentina’s adoption of neoliberal policies and the economic crash of 2001, as well as by the nation’s rapidly changing viewpoints on race, gender identity, and sexuality.

The first anthology of Latin American drama to uniquely focus on the important Argentine dramatist, Santiago Loza, this book will draw attention anew to the contemporary theaters of Argentina, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Santiago Loza is an Argentine playwright, filmmaker, and novelist. He is the author of numerous plays collected in three volumes, of two novels, and of eight films and documentaries. Samuel Buggeln is a theater director, translator, and the founding Artistic Director of the multidisciplinary company the Cherry Arts in Ithaca, New York. He has directed over fifty professional productions in regional theaters and in New York City. Noe Montez is associate professor of theater, dance, and performance studies at Tufts University. He is an author and former dramaturg at the Cleveland Play House. Ariel Gurevich is an Argentine writer and director.
Both a historical text and a living document, *The Writer and the People* will help to educate and inspire left-wing activists today.

This classic work—the only monograph to have emerged from the original workerist tradition—reconstructs the relations between literary production and the image of the ‘people’. The issues it confronts are some of those most central to postwar Italian history as well as to forms of populism that have had such a spectacular resurgence in recent years.

Alberto Asor Rosa was one of the central figures of the heretical Marxist traditions of operaismo (workerism)—alongside Mario Tronti and Antonio Negri—first coming to light in the hugely influential journals *Quaderni Rossi*, *Classe Operaia* and *Contropiano*. In this volume, he turns his attention to the formation of a modern national tradition in Italy, the genesis of Italian Marxist historicism, Antonio Gramsci, the relationship between Fascism and the Left, militant anti-Fascism—and does so through a detailed reconstruction and critique of some of the greatest figures of modern Italian literature, from Giovanni Verga to Carlo Cassola and Pier Paolo Pasolini.

Considered one of the books that prepared the ground for the ‘long 1968’ in Italy, which can be said to have lasted throughout the 1970s, *The Writer and the People* is now available in English for the first time.

*Alberto Asor Rosa* is a writer and literary critic and professor emeritus of Italian literature at La Sapienza University of Rome. *Matteo Mandarini* is an independent researcher and translator.
Belonging and Betrayal
How Jews Made the Art World Modern
Charles Dellheim

The story of dealers of Old Masters, champions of modern art, and victims of Nazi plunder.

Since the late 1990s, the fate of Nazi stolen art has become a cause célèbre. In Belonging and Betrayal, Charles Dellheim turns this story on its head by revealing how certain Jewish outsiders came to acquire so many old and modern masterpieces in the first place—and what this reveals about Jews, art, and modernity. This book tells the epic story of the fortunes and misfortunes of a small number of eminent art dealers and collectors who, against the odds, played a pivotal role in the migration of works of art from Europe to the United States and in the triumph of modern art. Beautifully written and compellingly told, this story takes place on both sides of the Atlantic from the late nineteenth century to the present. It is set against the backdrop of critical transformations, among them the gradual opening of European high culture, the ambiguities of Jewish acculturation, the massive sell-off of aristocratic family art collections, the emergence of different schools of modern art, the cultural impact of World War I, and the Nazi war against the Jews.

Charles Dellheim is professor of history at Boston University. He is the author of The Face of the Past: The Preservation of the Medieval Inheritance in Victorian England and The Disenchanted Isle: Mrs. Thatcher’s Capitalist Revolution.
Pain and Shock in America
Politics, Advocacy, and the Controversial Treatment of People with Disabilities

Jan Nisbet

With Contributions by Nancy R. Weiss

The first book to be written on the Judge Rotenberg Center and their use of aversives in treatment for children with disabilities.

For more than twenty years, professionals in the field of disability studies have engaged in debates over the use of aversive interventions (such as electric shock) like the ones used at the Judge Rotenberg Center. Advocates and lawyers have filed complaints and lawsuits to both use them and ban them, scientists have written hundreds of articles for and against them, and people with disabilities have lost their lives and, some would say, lived their lives because of them. There are families who believe deeply in the need to use aversives to control their children’s behavior. There are others who believe the techniques used are torture. All of these families have children who have been excluded from numerous educational and treatment programs because of their behaviors. For most of the families, placement at the Judge Rotenberg Center is the last resort.

This book is a historical case study of the Judge Rotenberg Center, named after the judge who ruled in favor of keeping its doors open to use aversive interventions. It chronicles and analyzes the events and people involved for over thirty years that contributed to the inability of the state of Massachusetts to stop the use of electric shock, and other severe forms of punishment on children and adults with disabilities. It is a long story, sad and tragic, complex, filled with intrigue and questions about society and its ability to protect and support its most vulnerable citizens.

Jan Nisbet is professor emeritus at the University of New Hampshire, where she served for ten years as the senior vice provost for research. Before assuming that position, she was the founding director of the Institute on Disability and professor in the Department of Education. She has been principal investigator on many state- and nationally-funded projects related to children and adults with disabilities.
Come and Hear
What I saw in my seven-and-a-half-year journey through the Talmud

Adam Kirsch

A literary critic’s journey through the Talmud.

Spurred by a curiosity about Daf Yomi—a study program launched in the 1920s in which Jews around the world read one page of the Talmud every day for 2,711 days, or about seven and a half years—Adam Kirsch approached Tablet magazine to write a weekly column about his own Daf Yomi experience. An avowedly secular Jew, Kirsch did not have a religious source for his interest in the Talmud; rather, as a student of Jewish literature and history, he came to realize that he couldn’t fully explore these subjects without some knowledge of the Talmud. This book is perfect for readers who are in a similar position. Most people have little sense of what the Talmud actually is—how the text moves, its preoccupations and insights, and its moments of strangeness and profundity. As a critic and journalist Kirsch has experience in exploring difficult texts, discussing what he finds there, and why it matters. His exploration into the Talmud is best described as a kind of travel writing—a report on what he saw during his seven-and-a-half-year journey through the Talmud. For readers who want to travel that same path, there is no better guide.

Adam Kirsch is a poet and literary critic. A former book critic for the New York Sun and the New Republic, he is currently a contributing editor of Tablet magazine and an editor at the Wall Street Journal’s Weekend Review section. He is the author of three collections of poems and five other books of criticism and biography, including, most recently, The People and the Books and The Blessing and the Curse: The Jewish People and Their Books in the Twentieth Century.
Climate Ghosts
Migratory Species in the Anthropocene
Nancy Langston

*Climate Ghosts* deals with the important issue of climate change and human impact on three species: woodland caribou, common loons, and lake sturgeon.

Environmental historian Nancy Langston explores three “ghost species” in the Great Lakes watershed—woodland caribou, common loons, and lake sturgeon. Ghost species are those that have not gone completely extinct, although they may be extirpated from a particular area. Their traces are still present, whether in DNA, in small fragmented populations, in lone individuals roaming a desolate landscape in search of a mate. We can still restore them if we make the hard choices necessary for them to survive. In this meticulously researched book, Langston delves into how climate change and human impact affected these now ghost species. *Climate Ghosts* covers one of the key issues of our time.

**Nancy Langston** is distinguished professor of environmental history at Michigan Technological University. Langston was trained both as an environmental historian and as an ecologist. In addition to numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and popular essays, she is the author of *Forest Dreams, Forest Nightmares: The Paradox of Old Growth in the Inland West; Where Land and Water Meet: A Western Landscape Transformed; Toxic Bodies: Hormone Disruptors and the Legacy of DES; and Sustaining Lake Superior: An Extraordinary Lake in a Changing World*. Langston is a former president of the American Society for Environmental History and former editor-in-chief of the field’s flagship journal, *Environmental History*.
**New Edition**

**Crab Wars**

A Tale of Horseshoe Crabs, Ecology, and Human Health

**William Sargent**

A timely look at the exploitation of a species that has helped with the development of countless drugs and is fast becoming endangered.

Because every drug certified by the FDA must be tested using the horseshoe crab derivative known as Limulus lysate, a multimillion-dollar industry has emerged involving the license to bleed horseshoe crabs and the rights to their breeding grounds. William Sargent presents a thoroughly accessible insider’s guide to the discovery of the lysate test, the exploitation of the horseshoe crab at the hands of multinational pharmaceutical conglomerates, local fishing interests, and the legal and governmental wrangling over the creatures’ ultimate fate. In the end, the story of the horseshoe crab is a sobering reflection on the unintended consequences of scientific progress and the danger of self-regulated industries controlling a limited natural resource. This new edition brings the story up to date as companies race to manufacture alternatives to the horseshoe crab blood, which is now essential for testing vaccines such as those developed to counter COVID-19. However, horseshoe crab populations are still dwindling, with profound implications not only for the future of the crabs themselves but also for the ecosystems that depend on them.

William Sargent is a consultant for the NOVA Science Series and is the author of numerous books about science and the environment, including *A Year in the Notch: Exploring the Natural History of the White Mountains* and *Storm Surge: A Coastal Village Battles the Rising Atlantic*. Formerly director of the Baltimore Aquarium and a research assistant at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, he has taught at the Briarwood Center for Marine Biology and at Harvard University.
New Edition

Diamonds in the Marsh
A Natural History of the Diamondback Terrapin

Barbara Brennessel

With a New Introduction by the author and a Foreword by Bob Prescott

A new edition of a classic on a beloved turtle species.

She’s the mascot for the University of Maryland’s sports teams and her ancestors were nearly driven to extinction by Victorians who indulged in turtle soup. But as she buries herself in the mud every night to sleep, the diamondback terrapin knows none of this. The size of a dinner plate and named for the beautiful concentric rings on her shell, she can live at least forty years and is the only turtle in North America who can live in brackish and salty waters. Several diamondback populations have been the subjects of ecological studies in recent years, but most of that information was buried in scientific literature and various state and federal reports—until this book.

Synthesizing all known research on this remarkable animal, Diamonds in the Marsh is the first full-scale natural history of the diamondback terrapin. Focusing on the northern diamondback, Barbara Brennessel examines its evolution, physiology, adaptations, behavior, growth patterns, life span, genetic diversity, land use, reproduction, and early years. She also discusses its relationship to humans, first as an important food source from colonial times through the nineteenth century, and more recently as a cultural icon, frequently depicted in Native American art and design. She concludes with a look at contemporary hazards to the terrapin and urges continued study of this marvelous creature. Updated with a new introduction by Brennessel, and with a foreword by Bob Prescott, former executive director of Massachusetts’s Audubon Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary, Diamonds of the Marsh is perfect for those interested in the conservation of a species.

Barbara Brennessel is professor emerita of biology at Wheaton College (MA) and has served on the Shellfish Advisory Board in Wellfleet, MA. She is the author of Good Tidings: The History and Ecology of Shellfish Aquaculture in the Northeast.

“Environmentalists, ecologists, and marine biologists will delight in this meticulously detailed but highly readable look at the only North American turtle species that can tolerate the ‘fresh water, salt water, and everything in between.’”
—Publishers Weekly
New Edition

A History of Boston in 50 Artifacts

Joseph M. Bagley

A new edition of a bestselling book looking at the history of Boston through fifty artifacts.

Joseph M. Bagley, the city archaeologist of Boston, uncovers a fascinating hodgepodge of history—from ancient fishing grounds to Jazz Age red-light districts—that will surprise and delight even longtime residents. Each artifact is shown in full color with a description of the item’s significance to its site location and Boston’s larger history. From cannonballs to drinking cups and from ancient spears to chinaware, A History of Boston in 50 Artifacts offers a unique and accessible introduction to Boston’s history and physical culture while revealing the ways objects can offer a tantalizing entrée into our past. Packed with vivid descriptions and art, this lively history of Boston will appeal to all manner of readers, locals, and visitors alike. This new edition showcases an important fact which has come to light since its first publication, that a chapter about a cat has now been shown to be a dog, thus demonstrating the perils of the archaeologist.

Joseph M. Bagley is the city archaeologist of Boston, a historic preservationist, and a staff member of the Boston Landmarks Commission. He has worked for multiple local and state historic preservation offices, including the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.
New Edition

The Book of Looms
A History of the Handloom from Ancient Times to the Present

Eric Broudy

A heavily illustrated classic on the evolution of the handloom.

The handloom—often no more than a bundle of sticks and a few lengths of cordage—has been known to almost all cultures for thousands of years. Eric Broudy places the wide variety of handlooms in their historical context. What influenced their development? How did they travel from one geographic area to another? Were they invented independently by different cultures? How have modern cultures improved on ancient weaving skills and methods? Broudy shows how virtually every culture has woven on handlooms. He highlights the incredible technical achievement of early cultures that created magnificent textiles with the crudest of tools and demonstrates that modern technology has done nothing to surpass their skill or inventiveness.

Eric Broudy, a former freelance writer and editor, now devotes his time to fine art photography and public arts management.

“Broudy extracts his evidence from such unlikely places as Egyptian tombs to the unearthed ruins of a ninth century Viking ship in Norway. . . . In this awesome feat of research, recounted with storytelling expertise, he traces the growth of weaving from simple matting and wickerwork basketry to the massive tapestry (haute-lisse) looms of the Gobelin workshop of Paris and the silk-producing izaribata looms of China. . . . If you are a weaver by profession or hobby, this book will make you proud of it, and, if you have never touched a loom and are thinking of a new career, this book will, once you tear yourself away from it, send you spinning off to the yarn store.”—Goodfellow Review of Craft
Transmitting Jewish History

In Conversation with Sylvie Anne Goldberg

Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi and Sylvie Anne Goldberg

With a Foreword by Alexander Kaye
Translated by Benjamin Ivry

The deeply personal reflections of a giant of Jewish history.

Scholar Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi (1932–2009) possessed a stunning range of erudition in all eras of Jewish history, as well as in world history, classical literature, and European culture. What Yerushalmi also brought to his craft was a brilliant literary style, honed by his own voracious reading from early youth and his formative undergraduate studies. This series of interviews paints a revealing portrait of this giant of history, bringing together exceptional material on Yerushalmi’s personal and intellectual journeys that not only attests to the astonishing breakthrough of the issues of Jewish history into “general history,” but also offers profound insight into being Jewish in today’s world.

Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi (1932–2009) was one of the most eminent Jewish historians of the twentieth century. Sylvie Anne Goldberg is associate professor at the Center for Historical Research, l’École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, where she heads the Jewish Studies Program. She is the author of several books, including *Crossing the Jabbok: Illness and Death in Ashkenazi Judaism in Sixteenth- through Nineteenth-Century Prague* and *Clepsydra: Essay on the Plurality of Time in Judaism*. Benjamin Ivry is the author of biographies of Francis Poulenc, Arthur Rimbaud, and Maurice Ravel, as well as a poetry collection, *Paradise for the Portuguese Queen*. He has also translated books from the French by André Gide, Jules Verne, Witold Gombrowicz, and Balthus, among others, and has written extensively about culture for numerous media.
Now in Paperback

Marie Syrkin
Values Beyond the Self
Carole S. Kessner

A compelling biography of an important eyewitness to the twentieth century.

Marie Syrkin’s life spanned ninety years of the twentieth century, 1899–1989. As a polemical journalist, socialist Zionist, poet, educator, literary critic, translator, and idiosyncratic feminist, she was an eyewitness to and reporter on most of the major events in America, Israel, and Europe. Beautiful as well as brilliant, she had a rich personal life as a lover, wife, mother, and friend. During her lifetime Syrkin’s name was widely recognized in the world of Jewish life and letters. Yet, since Syrkin’s death, recognition of her name is no longer quite so immediate. Carole S. Kessner’s biography restores Syrkin’s fascinating life and legacy for a new generation.

Carole S. Kessner is professor emerita in the Department of Comparative Studies at SUNY Stony Brook. The author of many essays and articles, she is the editor and a contributor to The “Other” New York Jewish Intellectuals and is the coeditor of and a contributor to Studies in American Jewish Literature: Volume 29. She lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

“Finally, Zionist thinker Marie Syrkin gets the recognition she deserves. . . . It is not sentimental overpraise to say that Marie Syrkin deserves a place at the roundtable of great intellectuals who helped shape contemporary Jewish-American liberalism.”—Haaretz
Genghis Chan on Drums

Poems

John Yau

A diverse and cacophonous poetry collection tackling subjects from identity to current events.

At once comic and cantankerous, tender and discomfiting, piercing and irreverent, Genghis Chan on Drums is a shape-shifting book of percussive poems dealing with aging, identity, PC culture, and stereotypes about being Chinese. Employing various forms, John Yau’s poems traverse a range of subjects, including the 1930s Hollywood actress Carole Lombard, the Latin poet Catullus, the fantastical Renaissance painter Piero di Cosimo’s imaginary sister, and a nameless gumshoe. Yau moves effortlessly from using the rhyme scheme of a sixteenth-century Edmund Spenser sonnet to riffing on a well-known poem- rant by the English poet Sean Bonney, and to immersing himself in the words of condolence sent by a former president to the survivors of a school massacre. Yau’s poems are conduits through which many different, conflicting, and unsavory voices strive to be heard.

John Yau is a poet, art critic, fiction writer, and publisher whose recent books include Foreign Sounds or Sounds Foreign and Bijoux in the Dark. He founded Black Square Editions and cofounded the online magazine Hyperallergic Weekend. He has received awards and fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, National Endowment of the Arts, and Academy of American Poets, among others. He teaches at Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University and lives in New York.

“From a collage of other people’s stereotypes, myths, and dissimulations, these poems emerge with breathtaking clarity and gut-wrenching force. Perhaps Yau’s most powerful book to date, this is essential reading.”—Monica Youn, author of Blackacre: Poems
Often, Common, Some, and Free

Poems

Samuel Amadon

Poems considering ever-present transformations and resisting destruction.

This is a book about transformation. Moving across varied formal and aesthetic terrains, these poems take on the subject of change, considering the construction and demolition of buildings, roaming between cities, and drawing together an image of a world in flux. The speaker is in movement—walking, flying, swimming, and taking the train, while also constantly twisting in his sentences, turning into different versions of himself, and braiding his voice with others. These poems take on subjects that encompass creation and loss from Robert Moses’s career transforming the cityscape of New York to the robbery of works from Boston’s Gardner Museum. But, ultimately, these poems aim to resist destruction, to focus on the particular, and to hold still their world and their ever-shifting speaker.

Samuel Amadon is the author of Like a Sea, The Hartford Book, and Listener. His poems have appeared in the New Yorker, Nation, American Poetry Review, Poetry, Lana Turner, Volta, and elsewhere. He is the director of the MFA Program at the University of South Carolina, where, with Liz Countryman, he edits the journal Oversound.

“I soaked up these poems like a character wandering from pool to pool in a John Cheever story. I dove into them as into an enchanted David Hockney swimming pool painting. Amadon immerses you in the ‘advanced fantasies’ of a silver-tongued poet. Meaning is never exactly narrative. It’s saturated with vernacular fluency, lyrical acuity, expressive idiosyncrasy. You simply have to read this fascinating book to grasp its mercurial energies, its enigmatic clarity. Often, Common, Some, and Free is remarkable and wonderfully irreducible.”—Terrance Hayes, author of American Sonnets
If This Makes You Nervous

Poems

Elena Karina Byrne

Lyrical narrative poetry that responds to works of art.

Elena Karina Byrne’s fourth collection of poems offers what she describes as an homage to her art-immersed upbringing with poems that challenge perception as they create a dialogue between the speaker and sixty-six artists. Lyrical narratives unfold with psychological urgency and candor as they re-encounter each artist’s unique oeuvre. The poems are as political as they are personal, mapping out the author’s emotional, spatial, and gender orientations within the confines of our visual culture.

Longing and loss prevail in If This Makes You Nervous, always leading the reader on winding paths that return to the bodily while balancing beauty and terror and what is seen and what remains invisible. If This Makes You Nervous is a devotional look at shifting identity that begins in a preteen’s memory, moves through history’s collective body, and ends with what is “connected and accounted for” in the imagination’s relativistic measure of time.

“In this original and beguiling collection, Byrne offers us her private gallery and guides us through episodes of her life, revealing to us not only how works of art have instructed and nurtured her, but also how her life became imprinted on the art. . . . The art allows for her own reckoning, and with lush language and alluringly reckless syntax, she voices her urgent and vulnerable responses inseparable from the art itself.”—Molly Bendall, author of Watchful
Interventions for Women

Poems

Angela Hume

Poems that address cultural pressures placed on women and girls.

This is a book for those who were raised to be girls and expected to become women, for those who were told they were too girly and not girly enough, and for those who were ogled, talked over, touched, fed, imagined, and indoctrinated in ways they didn't want. Angela Hume writes directly about the experience of womanhood, addressing the boundaries and pressures imposed from childhood on. She considers the persistent instructions to smile, be quiet, and act happy, all administered with the promise that this forced behavior would make everything better. The poems address rigid social norms and, ultimately, walk through the uncomfortable realizations about the bigger systems at play and call on us to examine our own complicity in them.

Angela Hume is the author of Middle Time, also published by Omnidawn. Her chapbooks include Meat Habitats, Melos, The Middle, and Second Story of Your Body. With Gillian Osborne, she coedited Ecopoetics: Essays in the Field.

OCTOBER

136 p. 6 x 9
Paper $17.95/£15.00

POETRY

“Hume's profoundly intimate collection imagines how the porous interiors of women's bodies are harmed and sickened by sexual violence, the industrial food system, racist fascism, climate change, and environmental contamination. In the middle of everything, Hume rehearses acts of tenderness, empathy, courage, and desire in order to protect and ‘love the body in its / one life its singular intensity after all.’”—Craig Santos Perez, author of Habitat Threshold
Gut
Poems
Amanda Larson

These poems follow the aftermath of and recovery from trauma.

Amanda Larson’s Gut begins with an epigraph from Frank O’Hara: “Pain always produces logic, which is very bad for you.” From there, Larson launches an unflinching interrogation of how a young woman maintains agency in the wake of trauma, violence, and desire. Larson spins a conversation between works of feminist theory—including the those of Cathy Caruth, Susan Bordo, Patricia Hill Collins, Anne Carson, Hélène Cixous, and bell hooks—and her own experiences. The book moves through Larson’s recovery while questioning the limits of the very term and of language as a whole. She employs a variety of different forms, including prose, Q&A poems, and a timeline, reflecting both the speaker’s obsession with control and her growing willingness to let it go. With a measured voice, Larson finds a path for how to move beyond logic during processes of trauma and recovery.

“Amanda Larson is a writer from New Jersey, and she is currently an MFA Candidate in Poetry at New York University. Her writing has appeared in the Michigan Quarterly Review, Washington Square Review, and other publications.

“Gut is a daring book of poetry that reminds us of Plato’s arguments. Larson follows thought, reason, and logic to show that none of these make sense of assault or abuse: ‘Before those things happened to me, I had been trying to argue my way out.’ And yet, this is not one of the philosopher’s dialogues. This is poetry that takes risks in form and content such that everything about it is unexpected. ... But be warned: this is not an easy read. It is, instead, a necessary read. I find much of the work here frightening. And I find that because the truth will scare us. This is a stunning debut.”—Jericho Brown, judge of the Omnidawn 1st/2nd Book Contest and author of The Tradition
Earth on Earth
Poems
Bin Ramke

Poems that personally engage with the materiality and danger of earth.

A kind of translation of the thousand-year-old poem “Earth Took of Earth,” this book is an attempt to restate in personal, emotional terms a sense of both the danger of and the consolation given by earth itself. Many of these poems arose during a collaboration with the ecologist-ceramicist Mia Mulvey: her work with earth, clay often extruded through digitally guided machinery, echoes Ramke’s attempts to understand damages done to and celebrate the facts of earth—for instance, that geosmin, the scent of wet soil, is so powerfully recognizable even in trace amounts. The title of this book is also a play on the phrase “heaven on earth,” turning this idea around and encouraging us to instead turn our hopes toward earth on earth.

Bin Ramke is the author of twelve books, most recently Light Wind Light Light and Missing the Moon. He was editor of the Denver Quarterly for twenty years and has taught at Columbus State University in Georgia, the University of Denver, and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He continues to write, teach, and live in Denver.

“Here is a Lucretian meditation on the melody and melancholy of matter; here is a memory-haunted review of the ‘body parts’ of language; here is a word-music played in a minor key, a night-cry replete with intricate trickeries of sound and syntax. Ramke joins the ranks of Rilke and Stevens as a writer of philosophical lyric.”—Andrew Joron, author of The Absolute Letter
The Animal Indoors

Carly Inghram

Poems following a Black queer woman as she seeks refuge from an unsafe world.

Carly Inghram’s poems explore the day-to-day experiences of a Black queer woman who is ceaselessly bombarded with images of mass-consumerism, white supremacy, and sexism, and who is forced, often reluctantly, back indoors and away from this outside chaos. The poems in *The Animal Indoors* seek to understand and define the boundaries between our inside and outside lives, critiquing the homogenization and increasing insincerity of American culture and considering what safe spaces exist for Black women. The speaker in these poems seeks refuge, working to keep the interior safe until we can reckon with the world outside, until the speaker is able to "unleash the indoor news onto the unclean water elsewhere."

*The Animal Indoors* won the 2020 CAAPP Book Prize, selected by Terrance Hayes.

“In *The Animal Indoors* interior and exterior worlds blend with lyricism like ‘the sudden violence of dry earth rising up in rain.’ These poems sing as they please of *The Real Housewives of Atlanta*, Frank Ocean, and America’s edges flitting in the small light. Melancholy and joy overlap, clap, and slap. *The Animal Indoors* is full of capacious, capricious edges. This poet straddles worlds. This is a dynamic debut.”—Terrance Hayes, author of *American Sonnets for My Past and Future Assassin*

*Carly Inghram* is the author of *Sometimes the Blue Trees*, and her work has been published in *The Indianapolis Review* and *Prelude*. She is from Atlanta, currently lives in Manhattan, and teaches kindergarten in the Bronx.
speculation, n.

Shayla Lawz

Poems that imagine a world beyond the prevailing public speculation on Black death.

Shayla Lawz’s debut collection, *speculation, n.*, brings together poetry, sound, and performance to challenge our spectatorship and the reproduction of the Black body. It revolves around a central question: what does it mean—in the digital age, amidst an inundation of media—to be a witness? Calling attention to the images we see in the news and beyond, these poems explore what it means to be alive and Black when the world regularly speculates on your death. The speaker, a queer Black woman, considers how often her body is coupled with images of death and violence, resulting in difficulty moving toward life. Lawz becomes the speculator by imagining what might exist beyond these harmful structures, seeking ways to reclaim the Black psyche through music, typography, and other pronunciations of the body, where expressions of sexuality and the freedom to actively reimagine are made possible.

*speculation, n.* contends with the real—a refracted past and present—through grief, love, and loss, and it speculates on what could be real if we open ourselves to expanded possibilities.

*speculation, n.* won the 2020 Autumn House Poetry Prize, selected by Ilya Kaminsky.

Shayla Lawz is a writer and interdisciplinary artist. Her writing appears or is forthcoming in *Aster(ix), McSweeney’s Quarterly*, and *The Poetry Project*, among others. She lives in Brooklyn, where she teaches in the Humanities and Media Studies Department at Pratt Institute.

“sometimes i want to ask the earth, / was it beautiful here / without us” writes Lawz in this virtuoso performance. Innovative, inimitable, endlessly urgent, *speculation, n.* is far more than just a collection of poems. It is a dazzling verbal and visual performance, a concerto, a book of our days that is as heart-wrenching as it is an accurate portrayal of what it means to live and sing in America today. . . . Some books you read and never forget. This is one of them.”—Ilya Kaminsky, author of *Deaf Republic*
All Who Belong May Enter
Nicholas Ward

A collection of personal essays examining relationships, whiteness, and masculinity.

Nicholas Ward’s debut essay collection, *All Who Belong May Enter*, centers on self-exploration and cultural critique. These deeply personal essays examine whiteness, masculinity, and a Midwest upbringing through tales of sporting events, parties, posh (and not-so-posh) restaurant jobs, and the many relationships built and lost along the way. With a storyteller’s spirit, Ward recounts and evaluates the privilege of his upbringing with acumen and vulnerability. Ward’s profound affection for his friends, family, lovers, pets, and particularly for his chosen home, Chicago, shines through. This collection offers readers hope for healing that comes through greater understanding and inquiry into one’s self, relationships, and culture. Through these essays, Ward acknowledges his position within whiteness and masculinity, and he continuously holds himself and the society around him accountable.

“All Who Belong May Enter was selected by Jaquira Díaz as the winner of the 2020 Autumn House Nonfiction Prize.

Nicholas Ward is a personal essayist, arts administrator, and company member with 2nd Story, a storytelling community. His work has appeared in *Catapult*, *The Billfold*, *Bird’s Thumb*, *Midwestern Gothic*, *Hinterland Magazine*, and Belt Publishing’s *Chicago Neighborhood Guidebook*. He lives in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood, works as the booking manager at Young Chicago Authors, and is a community organizer with the 48th Ward Neighbors for Justice.
Molly
Kevin Honold

A compelling story of characters enduring various hardships in rural New Mexico.

This debut novel tells the story of nine-year-old Raymond, nicknamed “Ray Moon” by Molly, his adoptive caretaker, a waitress, and the former partner of his recently deceased uncle. These two outcasts rely on one another for survival, and their bond forms the heart of this book. Living in a trailer atop a mesa in the high desert of New Mexico in 1968, Raymond ages quickly amid hostile circumstances. With the help of a keen imagination that Molly inspires, he navigates various forms of loss and exploitation amid enduring hardship.

Kevin Honold’s deft and trance-like prose is interspersed with sharp insights and brings attention to the displacement of Native Americans, the hardships of capitalism, the ills of misogyny, and the raw hurt of living a displaced or marginalized life. This is a story of endurance, memory, and unceasing change.

_Molly_ was selected by Dan Chaon as the winner of the 2020 Autumn House Fiction Prize.

Kevin Honold was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and is currently a history and special education teacher in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is the author of _Men as Trees Walking._

“_Molly_ is a wondrously strange and lyrical rural noir, with an almost phantasmagorical vividness in its New Mexico landscape and a tender and heartfelt sympathy for its marginal characters. Honold is a true original.”—Dan Chaon, author of _Ill Will_
Under the Broom Tree
Natalie Homer

Poems that explore the wilderness in order to find rest and divine providence.

In the story of the prophet Elijah, he must flee his home, and, after an arduous journey, he arrives under a broom tree, where he prays for his own death. But in his sleep, he is touched by an angel who provides food and water. In this moment, the broom tree becomes a symbol for shelter in a barren landscape, a portent of hope and renewal.

Drawing inspiration from this tale, Natalie Homer’s debut poetry collection is a trek through the wildernesses of the heart and of the natural world. Exploring the idea of divine providence, Homer finds seams of light opening between forlorn moments and locates, “Something to run a finger through, / something to shine in the ocher light.” Within these narrow spaces, Homer explores themes of longing, home, family, and self-worth amidst the wondrous backdrop of the American West and the Rust Belt, while integrating a rich mythology of narrative, image, and association. The broom tree, offering the capacity for shade and respite, becomes a source of connection and inspiration for the collection. It is an invitation to sink deep into the earth and self and feel the roots entwine.

Natalie Homer’s poetry has been published in The Boiler, Cincinnati Review, Carolina Quarterly, Berkeley Poetry Review, Meridian, Barnstorm, The Pinch, and elsewhere. Originally from Idaho, she now lives in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, where she is a parish administrator of an Episcopal church.

“Homer keeps a close watch on the world in this stunning book of poems, moved by a potent mix of curiosity, vigilance, and love. Nothing seems to escape her notice. She looks up and sees a ‘stray clump’ of balloons drifting through the sky. She looks down and sees the ‘creeping gray lives flourishing in corners.’ She looks under cars and in storage closets. No detail is too small. While the polar bear at the zoo may be ‘on vacation,’ even the water in its tank ‘can be a spectacle, too.’ At once wry, candid, and rich with description, Under the Broom Tree is a wonderful book.”—Geoffrey Hilsabeck, author of Riddles, Etc.
Cho A.’s poetry wonders at small everyday delights.

Sean Cho A.’s debut poetry chapbook directs a keen eye on everyday occurrences and how these small events shape us as individuals. This collection is filled with longing for love, understanding, and simplicity. But these poems also express great pleasure in continued desire. With exuberant energy that flows through the collection, the speaker announces: “I won’t apologize for the smallness of my delights.” Filled with questions and wonder, these poems revel in the unknowing and liminal spaces, and we as readers are invited to join in this revelry. Cho A.’s poetry reminds and allows us to pause, to wonder, and enjoy our many pleasures.

American Home was selected by Danusha Laméris for the 2020 Autumn House Chapbook Prize.

Sean Cho A. is an MFA candidate and graduate instructor at the University of California, Irvine. He has published in Pleiades, the Massachusetts Review, Penn Review, Ninth Letter, and Nashville Review, among others.

“The voice in American Home is surprising, odd, and subtle. These poems of place and displacement have echoes of Ilya Kaminsky in their associative wildness. Of the staccato leaps of Victoria Chang. And their own, home-grown existential reckoning. Fig trees trained to grow in simulated Martian air live here alongside bower birds and hidden butter knives. I can’t resist their allure and unanswerable questions.”—Danusha Laméris, author of Bonfire Opera
Dark Harvest
New and Selected Poems, 2001–2020
Joseph Millar

Powerful poems about men and women at the margins.

Dark Harvest showcases two decades of Joseph Millar’s finest poetic work, including his beloved and award-winning poems centered on the unseen men and women at the margins of American life. Millar’s poems don’t favor beauty over suffering, nor do they reach for knowledge over mystery—instead, his words carry forward their Whitmanic imperatives: to turn away from nothing, to be awash in contradictions.

Praise for Millar
“Millar knows a country, an America, that’s been here all along waiting for its voice. It’s time we listened.”—Philip Levine

Joseph Millar is the author of Overtime, Fortune, Blue Rust, and Kingdom. His work has won fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and a Pushcart Prize. He teaches in Pacific University’s Low Residency MFA and in North Carolina State’s MFA programs.

“Supremely sensory, everything in a Joseph Millar poem shimmers with authenticity. His is a hard-earned sensibility without a wisp of pretense. Unsurprisingly, the new poems are again spectacularly good: calmly visionary while tethered to the rough and ready. Millar’s poems give shape to the bounty of plenty and the abundance of loss in a faulty world. One comes away knowing and, yes, ‘feeling’ more of what it is to be fully awake. Dark Harvest is a book to keep at hand.”
—Marvin Bell
Yes and No
John Skoyles

A spiritual thread runs through these poems of loss.

Yes and No is a book about looking back and looking forward. Many of the poems deal with the loss of friends and relatives whose spirits remain in the poet’s life in memory and even apparition. As the title connotes, the collection is about affirmation and negation: there are love poems and poems of the devastating loss of love and poems of passion and the dwindling of it. A spiritual thread runs through the book as well, as seen in the opening poem, “Prayer at the Masked Ball,” and in the question asked in the title poem: “are we connected to the infinite, or not?”

John Skoyles is the author of eleven previous books, including Suddenly It’s Evening: Selected Poems, and three memoirs: Secret Frequencies, A Moveable Famine, and Driven. He is the poetry editor of Ploughshares.

“The poems in Yes and No enact a lively dialogue between self-acceptance and self-rejection. They embrace the past without regret or nostalgia while enhancing the present with imaginative alternatives, many of which are exemplified by people dear to the poet who managed not to define themselves too narrowly, to find a space for wishes that experience failed to fulfill. The result is a poetry that both honestly confronts disappointment while remaining free enough from the needy ego to make room for play.”—Carl Dennis
Elegiac
Charles Seluzicki

A chapbook of 11 personal elegies in a classical style.

Elegiac by Charles Seluzicki is the first volume in the Cox Family Poetry Chapbook Series from Carnegie Mellon University Press. It is a collection of eleven elegies that memorialize the lives of the poet’s dearly departed friends. Classical in style, Seluzicki’s poems seek to engage in conversation with them in an intimate and convincing sequence.

Charles Seluzicki is an antiquarian bookseller and fine press publisher based in Portland, Oregon.

“In his uncompromisingly intelligent and humane book of poems, Elegiac, Charles Seluzicki has delivered a late-breaking heartfelt and startlingly beautiful book of poems that seeks to remember and celebrate the lives of dear ones lost to him. These poems are open and electric. They strike sparks.”—Michael Dickman, author of Days & Days
That Salt on the Tongue to Say Mangrove

Silvina López Medin

Translated by Jasmine V. Bailey

Poems that engage with the landscape of mangrove forests.

Mangrove forests grow on coastlines, with root systems that hold them upright in the unstable grounds where land and water meet. *That Salt on the Tongue to Say Mangrove* draws on the in-between nature of these trees to explore spaces between—between a foot and the floor, a cup of coffee and its dish, a face and the shoulder of a couple on a motorbike. These are poems that dwell in the tidal movement between saying and what’s left unsaid.

Silvina López Medin was born in Buenos Aires and lives in New York. Her books in English include *Excursion* and *Poem That Never Ends*. Jasmine V. Bailey is the author of *Alexandria, Disappeared*, and the chapbook *Sleep and What Precedes It*.

“Silvina López Medin has a very distinct, absolutely refreshing poetics. She observes desire and consciousness through an empowered and conscientious voice that feels both authentic and astute. Her poems are both grounded and philosophical, displaying gifts for meditative movement and structure, and amazing turns of phrase. They wonderfully deconstruct and mull notions of domestic intimacy. Her poems shape a sensibility that is both natural and speculative, contemplative and wild.”—Terrance Hayes
Would We Still Be
James Henry Knippen

Poems that acknowledge the existential anxieties of our age while continuing to celebrate the beauty and musicality of language.

In Would We Still Be, James Henry Knippen crafts the anxieties that emanate from human existence—grief, fear, hopelessness, uncertainty—into poetic reflections that express a deep reverence for the musicality and incantational capacity of language. Like a moon or a wren, two of the book’s obsessions, these haunting poems call us to consider beauty’s connection to the transitory. Among the ghosts that wander these pages—those of loved ones, those we are, and those we will become—Knippen asks if image is enough, if sound is enough, if faith is enough. In doing so, these poems seek out the soul’s communion with voice, encouraging us to sing our fate.

“This gorgeous debut felt like it came to me from another time and held me spellbound. I’m awed at Knippen’s skillful tensions, crafting rhetorical movements that seem at once bold and simple. Deeply imagistic, these poems manage to simultaneously be rooted and sensory, as well as elusive and incantatory. Knippen deftly weaves ghosts and lilies, wrens and windows, nouns serving like legends on a grief map. . . . But more than the ghost, the wonder. More than the longing, the lyrical leap into what we don’t know is coming but trust will be beautiful.” —Traci Brimhall

James Henry Knippen’s poetry has appeared in 32 Poems, AGNI, Colorado Review, Crazyhorse, Denver Quarterly, Gulf Coast, Kenyon Review, and West Branch, among other journals. He is the poetry editor of Newfound.
Hypergraphia
and Other Failed Attempts at Paradise

Jennifer Metsker

A collection of poems that delve into the experience of living with bipolar disorder.

With Hypergraphia and Other Failed Attempts at Paradise, Jennifer Metsker reaches for an understanding of the ecstasy of madness, utilizing both lyric and prose forms that mimic the sublime state of mania through their engagement with language. Ordinary life becomes strange as these poems question what happens when the mind overthrows the body. At times playful and humorous, at times dark, above all these poems aim to approach mental illness from a personal and compassionate perspective.

"You are not alone,' writes the poet on her dedication page. That beautiful assurance is addressed in particular to 'those who are struggling with mental illness,' but it is something, these poems convince us, that each and every one of us may take to heart. So perfectly does Metsker render a mind under pressure—from a punishing surfeit of stimuli, obsessive thoughts, proliferating options in a world of impediment—that, paradoxically, we are deeply comforted. . . I am profoundly grateful for this marvelous book. On page after page, it demonstrates how intelligence, compassion, and poetry can triumph over chaos."—Linda Gregerson

Jennifer Metsker is writing coordinator at the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design. Her poetry has been featured in Gulf Coast, the Southern Review, Michigan Quarterly, The Journal, Rhino, Beloit Poetry Journal, Cream City Review, and the BBC Radio show Short Cuts. She lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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POETRY

"In her exploration of mental illness, Metsker reminds me that poets are natural chroniclers of the line between a mind’s inventiveness and its unmooring. . . This book reads as a liberation from the fear that a familiar self, once lost, cannot be regained. While it’s ‘hard to stick a landing in sand,’ to find a way to sense when sense has been taken away, Metsker has done just that.”—Bob Hicok
Her Kind
Poems
Cindy Veach

Unique poems that bring history to life by weaving narratives of the Salem Witch Trials with stories of contemporary women.

Set against the historical backdrop of the Salem Witch Trials, Her Kind is a book about women: women viewed as witches, women making their own choices, women fighting for freedom, women who are innocent, and women who are used or disregarded by their cultures. The lyrical poems in this collection skillfully braid together narratives of the female victims of the Salem Witch Trials with the experiences of contemporary women viewed as witches for their personal histories, their political circumstances, or for speaking out and making their own choices. A blend of lyrical and narrative poems, Her Kind celebrates women refusing the victim role and reclaiming their magic.


“Grounded with poems about the Salem Witch Trials, Veach moves from historical to personal to political without missing a beat. A chronicle of women’s histories—our losses, what was stolen, and ultimately, our strength in what we take back. Her Kind is a stunning collection of lyrical, powerful, and poignant poems . . . a book that reminds every woman to never let anyone take her magic.” —Kelli Russell Agodon, author of Dialogues with Rising Tides
Uncertain Acrobats
Rebecca Hart Olander

These poems address the universal experiences of death and loss, putting the complicated feelings of grief into words.

Uncertain Acrobats evokes the feeling of unraveling. The central concern of this narrative is the death of a parent and the fumbling for balance a dying father and his adult daughter share. Rebecca Hart Olander’s intimate collection doesn’t shy away from darkness, but it also strives for light, which resides in music and open-hearted humanity. These poems are across the terrain of divorce, family, childhood, coming of age, mortality, and deep, abiding love, always landing with a foothold in the genuine. A manifestation of what endures after grief has unraveled our closest bonds, Uncertain Acrobats teaches beyond the author’s personal experience of grief. This collection speaks to all whose lives have been upended by terminal illness or the loss of a beloved person.

Rebecca Hart Olander is the author of the chapbook, Dressing the Wounds. She lives in western Massachusetts, where she teaches writing at Westfield State University. She is the editor and director of Perugia Press, a nonprofit feminist press.

“In Uncertain Acrobats, Rebecca Hart Olander uses the trampoline of memory to somersault between here and the past, the living and the dead. These poems will catch your breath and make your heart do flips.”—Tomás Q. Morín
The Umayyad Mosque of Damascus
Art, Faith and Empire in Early Islam
Alain George
Edited by Melanie Gibson

An expansive illustrated history of the historic Umayyad Mosque in Damascus.

The Umayyad Mosque of Damascus is one of the oldest continuously used religious sites in the world. The mosque we see today was built in 705 CE by the Umayyad caliph al-Walid on top of a fourth-century Christian church that had been erected over a temple of Jupiter. Incredibly, despite the recent war, the mosque has remained almost unscathed, but over the centuries has been continuously rebuilt after damage from earthquakes and fires. In this comprehensive biography of the Umayyad Mosque, Alain George explores a wide range of sources to excavate the dense layers of the mosque’s history, also uncovering what the structure looked like when it was first built with its impressive marble and mosaic-clad walls. George incorporates a range of sources, including new information he found in three previously untranslated poems written at the time the mosque was built, as well as in descriptions left by medieval scholars. He also looks carefully at the many photographs and paintings made by nineteenth-century European travelers, particularly those who recorded the building before the catastrophic fire of 1893.

Alain George is the I.M. Pei Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture at the University of Oxford. He is the author of The Rise of Islamic Calligraphy and coeditor of Power, Patronage, and Memory in Early Islam.
Capital Development

Mandate Era Amman and the Construction of the Hashemite State (1921–1946)

Harrison B. Guthorn

The history of the city of Amman under the British protectorate government of Transjordan.

Amman, the capital of Jordan, contends with a crisis of identity rooted in how it grew to become a symbol for the Anglo-Hashemite government first, and a city second. As a representation of the new centralized authority, Amman became the seat of the Mandatory government that orchestrated the development of Transjordan, the British protectorate established in 1921.

Despite its diminutive size, the city grew to house all the components necessary for a thriving and cohesive state by the end of the British protectorate in 1946. However, in spite of its modernizing and regulatory ambitions, the Transjordan government did not control all facets of life in the region. Instead, the story of Transjordan is one of tensions between the state and the realities of the region, and these limitations forced the government to scale down its aspirations. This book presents the history of Amman’s development under the rule of the British protectorate from 1921–46 and illustrates how the growth of the Anglo-Hashemite state imbued the city with physical, political, and symbolic significance.

Harrison B. Guthorn serves as a strategic leader in technology on the Education Advisory Board in Washington, DC.
Fruit of Knowledge, Wheel of Learning

Volumes I and II

Essays in Honour of professors Carole and Robert Hillenbrand

Edited by Melanie Gibson and Ali M. Ansari

Collected essays honoring the work of British professors Carole and Robert Hillenbrand.

Carole and Robert Hillenbrand are legendary British professors, both of whom have made immense contributions to the fields of Islamic history and art history, and they are highly respected and beloved by the academic community. For these two volumes, editors Melanie Gibson and Ali Ansari have gathered an eclectic mix of scholarly contributions by colleagues and by some of their most recent students who now occupy positions in universities worldwide. The eleven articles in the volume dedicated to Carole Hillenbrand include research on a range of topics, including the elusive Fatimid caliph al-Zafrir, a crusader raid on Mecca, and the Persian bureaucrat Mirza Saleh Shirazi’s history of England. In Robert Hillenbrand’s volume, the thirteen articles include studies of a rare eighth-century metal dish with Nilotic scenes, Chinese Qur’ans, the process of image-making in both theory and practice, and a shrine in Mosul destroyed by ISIS.

Melanie Gibson is editor of the Gingko Art Series and was formerly head of art history at New College of the Humanities, London. Ali M. Ansari, FRSE, FBIPS, FRAS is professor of Iranian history and founding director of the Institute for Iranian Studies at the University of St Andrews and a senior associate fellow at the Royal United Services Institute in London. In 2016 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.
The Non-Fiction Writing of Naguib Mahfouz 1930–1994

Naguib Mahfouz

With an Introduction by Rasheed El-Enany

A four-volume set of articles and essays spanning the career of a prolific Egyptian writer.

This four-volume box set collects newspaper articles and earlier essays of influential Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouz. Each volume is introduced by Professor Rasheed El-Enany, an expert scholar in Mahfouz studies. Volume I compiles Mahfouz's early non-fiction writings—mostly from the 1930s—that offer a rare glimpse into the development of this renowned author. Volume II is a collection of essays Mahfouz published from 1971 to 1981 in the Al-Ahram newspaper where he had taken up an appointment as a member of the editorial staff after retiring from his job as a civil servant. Volume III consists of newspaper articles published between 1982 and 1988, coinciding with the early years of Hosni Mubarak’s presidency, described by Mahfouz as an unhurried democracy. Volume IV brings together Mahfouz’s articles written from 1989 through the knife attack in October 1994 that almost ended his life.

Naguib Mahfouz (1911–2006) was one of the most prolific Egyptian writers and political thinkers of the twentieth century and the first Arab author to win the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1988. He is the author of over thirty novels, including The Cairo Trilogy, Thief and the Dog, Miramar, and Children of the Alley, and he regularly produced articles for his column in the Al-Ahram newspaper.
The Azure Cloister
Thirty-Five Poems
Carlos Germán Belli

Translated by Karl Maurer
Edited by Christopher Maurer

New translations of poems by prominent Peruvian poet Carlos Germán Belli.

This selection of poems by internationally renowned Peruvian poet Carlos Germán Belli tempers a dark, ironic vision of worldly injustice with the “red midnight sun” of hope. Belli’s contemplative verses express faith in language, in bodily joy, and in artistic form. These thirty-five poems explore public and domestic spaces of confinement and freedom, from paralysis to the ease of a bird in its “azure cloister.”

Translations by Karl Maurer retain Belli’s original meter, follow his complex syntax, and meet the challenges of his poetic language, which ranges from colloquial Peruvian slang to the ironic use of seventeenth-century Spanish. This bilingual edition also includes notes and reflections on Belli and on the art of translation. Beyond introducing American readers to a major presence in world poetry, The Azure Cloister offers a fresh approach to the translation of contemporary verse in Spanish.

Carlos Germán Belli, born in Lima, Perú, in 1927, is considered one of the most prominent poets of his generation in Latin America and Spanish literature. He has published more than twenty-five books, has received a Guggenheim grant, honored with the Pablo Neruda Prize in Ibero-American Poetry, and was nominated for the Nobel Prize in 2007. Karl Maurer (1948–2005) was professor of classics at the University of Dallas. He is the author of Interpolation in Thucydides and has translated works by Borges, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Jacob Balde, and Virgil, among others. Christopher Maurer is professor of Spanish at Boston University. He is editor and translator of Sebastian’s Arrows: Letters and Mementos of Salvador Dalí and Federico García Lorca, New Letters to a Young Poet by Joan Margarit, and The Complete Perfectionist by Juan Ramón Jiménez, all published by Swan Isle Press.
Humans

Edited by Laura Bieger, Joshua Shannon, and Jason Weems

Surveys the representations and constructions of the human being in American art.

Humans are organisms, but “the human being” is a term referring to a complicated, self-contradictory, and historically evolving set of concepts and practices. *Humans* explores competing versions, constructs, and ideas of the human being that have figured prominently in the arts of the United States. These essays consider a range of artworks from the colonial period to the present, examining how they have reflected, shaped, and modeled ideas of the human in American culture and politics. The book addresses to what extent artworks have conferred more humanity on some human beings than others, how art has shaped ideas about the relationships between humans and other beings and things, and in what ways different artistic constructions of the human being evolved, clashed, and intermingled over the course of American history. *Humans* both tells the history of a concept foundational to US civilization and proposes new means for its urgently needed rethinking.

Laura Bieger, professor of American studies, political theory, and culture at the University of Groningen, is the author of *Belonging and Narrative* and *Ästhetik der Immersion*. Joshua Shannon, professor of contemporary art history and theory at the University of Maryland, is the author of *The Recording Machine* and *The Disappearance of Objects*. Jason Weems is associate professor of American art and visual culture at the University of California, Riverside, and is the author of *Barnstorming the Prairies* and curator of *Interrogating Manzanar*. 
The third volume in the Trailblazers series, highlights Black women’s contributions in literature, media production, business, and the military.

Black women have been breaking down barriers and shattering stereotypes for generations, playing a powerful role in American history. In the Trailblazers series, Gabrielle David examines the lives and careers of over four hundred brilliant women from the eighteenth century to the present. Each volume provides biographical information, photographs, and a historical timeline written from the viewpoint of Black women, offering accessible reference resources.

Volume 3 features women from the fields of literature, business, military, and film, music, and television production. It covers literary greats including Gwendolyn Brooks, Toni Morrison, Phillis Wheatley, and Natasha Trethewey. We learn that Black ingenuity and entrepreneurship began during slavery with women who paved the way for those like Oprah Winfrey. David explores the Black women who pursued their right to serve in the United States Armed Forces, even when they were not considered American citizens and follows notable contributions by Black women in media production.
Green Soul Rising
A Plant-Based Journey to Holistic Enlightenment

Nathalie Etienne
Edited by Kathryn Siddell

An exploration of the vegan diet with a focus on African diaspora communities.

Green Soul Rising encourages readers to transition into a plant-based, animal-free diet. In her quest to uncover a higher sense of spirituality and being, Nathalie Etienne challenges the Black community’s relation to food, culture, and belief. Drawing on her Haitian background and experiences, she shares her personal odyssey away from animal products, processed foods, and unhealthy cooking habits, working to dispel the notion that soul food and traditional African diaspora foods are not conducive to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Etienne questions whether culture can perpetuate detrimental habits and considers how we can balance health with tradition. With a personable and non-judgmental approach, Green Soul Rising offers guidance, cultural perspective, and encouragement for those seeking to improve their eating habits.

Nathalie Etienne is a blogger on plant-based eating, culinary artist, and writer based in Brooklyn. Kathryn Siddell is from New Jersey and is a writer working on ethics and compliance courseware for Fortune 500 companies.
Dolls
Claire Millikin

With an Introduction by Sean Frederick Forbes

Poems that address the pain caused by gender stereotypes and racial oppression in the American South.

Claire Millikin’s poetry collection, Dolls, stages a confrontation of gendered and racial oppression. Working through the motif of the doll, the poems interrogate femininity in the traditional culture of the South, where damaging structures of gender and race are upheld. Millikin centers the book on an elegy for Sage Smith, an African American trans woman who disappeared from Charlottesville in 2012. Through the recurring figure of the doll—an ultra-femme figure who is frozen, damaged, silenced—Millikin protests the conditions of sexism in the area she was born in, offering poised responses to the wound of injustice that still shapes the region. With a reflective introduction by poet and scholar Sean Frederick Forbes, presents a harsh look at the price of traditional femininity.

Claire Millikin is the author of seven books of poetry, including After Houses: Poetry for the Homeless, Tartessos and Other Cities, and Ransom Street, also published by 2Leaf Press. She has taught at the University of Maine Farmington and at the University of Virginia, and she holds a research fellowship at Princeton. Under the name of Claire Raymond, she publishes scholarship focusing on issues of race, gender, and decolonizing theory. Her scholarly books include Witnessing Sadism in Texts of the American South and Women Photographers and Feminist Aesthetics.
Dispatches, From Racial Divide to the Road of Repair

A Collection of Essays

Carolyn L. Baker

With an Introduction by Mark R. Warren

A collection of essays challenging White Americans to work against racism.

This collection of thirty-two essays by Carolyn L. Baker addresses White Americans about America’s complex issues with race. In the wake of nationwide Black Lives Matter protests against racial injustice and police brutality, many Americans are taking steps to educate themselves about racism in the United States. Baker asserts that implicit racial bias harms and debilitates the soul of the White community, goes against its deepest moral and religious traditions, and is theirs to dismantle for the sake of their own liberation.

She argues that, instead of waiting on top-down changes, Americans should begin the work of repairing the racial divide in their own communities. With Dispatches, From Racial Divide to a Road of Repair, Baker seeks to challenge, inspire, and uplift readers who, like herself, want to create a bottom-up paradigm for building community to drive authentic social change.

Carolyn L. Baker is a diversity, equity, and inclusion consultant, who has worked with a range of nonprofits and is a guest columnist for the Los Angeles Free Press. She is the author of An Unintentional Accomplice.
I Collect My Eyes . . . a Memoir
A Mother and Daughter’s Spiritual Journey and Conversations about Love, Motherhood, Death and Healing

Shirley Bradley Price LeFlore and Lyah Beth LeFlore

A revealing mother and daughter memoir chronicling their final conversations, complexities as women and artists, and the rich history of their African American family.

Shirley Bradley Price LeFlore, activist and architect of the 1960’s Black Arts Movement, and Lyah Beth LeFlore share tears and laughter through intimate conversations during Shirley’s final year of life and discuss the childhood tragedy that shaped Shirley’s life and artistry. Lyah talks about growing up with a mother in the public eye, tracing Shirley’s ancestors’ experiences as a midwestern African American family with rich southern roots and a deep belief in God and the spirit world.

A testament to the powerful bond between Shirley and her three daughters, the book shines a light on the beauty and toll of caregiving by beautifully interwoven prose, including Shirley’s private journal entries and unreleased poetry, discovered by Lyah, alongside stories, ephemera, and photographs.

Shirley Bradley Price LeFlore (1940–2019) was an oral poet, performance artist, professor, and St. Louis Poet Laureate Emeritus. Lyah Beth LeFlore is a producer, cofounder of the Shirley Bradley LeFlore Foundation, and bestselling author of eight books, including Wildflowers and I Got Your Back, coauthored with Eddie and Gerald Levert.
Hamlet
William Shakespeare
Translated by Lisa Peterson

To thine own text be true—Lisa Peterson’s translation of Hamlet into contemporary American English makes the play accessible to new audiences while keeping the soul of Shakespeare’s writing intact.

Lovers of Shakespeare’s language take heart: Lisa Peterson’s translation of Hamlet into contemporary American English was guided by the principle of “First, do no harm.” Leaving the most famous parts of Hamlet untouched, Peterson untied the language knots that can make the rest of the play difficult to understand in a single theatrical viewing. Peterson’s translation makes Hamlet accessible to new audiences, drawing out its timeless themes while helping to contextualize “To be, or not to be: that is the question,” and “Something is rotten in the state of Denmark,” so that contemporary audiences can feel their full weight.

This translation of Hamlet was written as part of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s Play On! project, which commissioned new translations of thirty-nine Shakespeare plays. These translations present work from “The Bard” in language accessible to modern audiences while never losing the beauty of Shakespeare’s verse. Enlisting the talents of a diverse group of contemporary playwrights, screenwriters, and dramaturges from diverse backgrounds, this project reenvisioned Shakespeare for the twenty-first century. These volumes make these works available for the first time in print—a new First Folio for a new era.

Lisa Peterson is a two-time OBIE award-winning director and writer. She created and cowrote An Iliad, with Denis O’Hare, based on Homer’s epic poem. She also recently directed their second collaboration, The Good Book, at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. In addition to many classic plays, Peterson has directed new works across the country.
Henry V
William Shakespeare
Translated by Lloyd Suh

Playwright Lloyd Suh reimagines the political intrigue and high drama of Henry V for twenty-first-century audiences.

Shakespeare’s Henry V is a play about nationalism, war, and how we remember history. Known for its rousing speeches and miraculous outcomes, the play has long had a life beyond the stage and page, its themes and rhetoric common points of reference in politics. In this modern translation of Henry V, Lloyd Suh has created a new interpretation that is distinctly his own while protecting the mystery of Shakespeare’s drama. Suh’s translation focuses on the actors and the staging, channeling the theatrical nature of Shakespeare’s play for a new audience.

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Lloyd Suh is the author of The Chinese Lady, Charles Francis Chan Jr.’s Exotic Oriental Murder Mystery, and others. He is currently a resident playwright at New Dramatists, serves on the Dramatists Guild Council, and has since 2011 served as director of artistic programs at the Lark.
Henry VI
William Shakespeare
Translated by Douglas Langworthy

New versions of Shakespeare's history plays from director and translator Douglas Langworthy.

In his three *Henry VI* plays, Shakespeare tackles the infamous Wars of the Roses and the fall of the House of Lancaster. *Henry VI, Part 1* explores the initial unrest as a young Henry VI becomes king, *Part 2* follows the increasing tensions as the Duke of York foments rebellion against the crown, and *Part 3* concludes the trilogy, tracking the final downfall of Henry VI and the rise of the House of York. Douglas Langworthy’s translation takes a deep dive into the language of Shakespeare. With a fine-tooth comb, he updates passages that are archaic and difficult to the modern ear and matches them with the syntax and lyricism of the rest of the play, essentially translating archaic Shakespeare to match contemporary Shakespeare.

These translations were written as part of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s Play On! project, which commissioned new translations of thirty-nine Shakespeare plays. These translations present the work of “The Bard” in language accessible to modern audiences while never losing the beauty of Shakespeare’s verse. These volumes make these works available for the first time in print—a new First Folio for a new era.

Douglas Langworthy (1959–2020) was the literary director at the Denver Center Theatre Company, where he participated in the development of many plays and musicals. Langworthy served as dramaturg and director of play development at McCarter Theatre in Princeton, New Jersey, for two years and director of literary development and dramaturgy at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for seven.
Timon of Athens

William Shakespeare

Translated by Kenneth Cavander

In a respectful, but not reverent, adaptation, Kenneth Cavander reimagines *Timon of Athens* for the twenty-first century.

Never performed in Shakespeare’s lifetime, *Timon of Athens* presents an intriguing puzzle for contemporary audiences. The disjointed plot and many gaps in the story have led scholars to believe it was a collaboration between Shakespeare and Thomas Middleton, a younger writer known for his satires, and productions for decades have faced choices about the most effective way to present the play. In this translation, Cavander acts as a third playwright in this collaborative process. Wrangling the voices of Shakespeare and Middleton on the page, Cavander unveils poetic lines and phrases that have sat stubbornly in the cobwebs, cutting these voices through the time barrier and into the world as we know it.

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*Kenneth Cavander’s* plays, adaptations, and translations have been widely performed both in the United States and abroad.
Playwright Migdalia Cruz breathes new life into Richard III.

Nuyorican playwright Migdalia Cruz unpacks and repositions Shakespeare’s Richard III for a twenty-first-century audience. She presents a contemporary English verse translation, faithfully keeping the poetry, the puns, and the politics of the play intact, with a rigorous and in-depth examination of Richard III—the man, the king, the outsider—who is still the only English king to have died in battle. In the Wars of the Roses, his Catholic belief in his country led to his slaughter at Bosworth’s Field by his Protestant rivals. In reimagining this text, Cruz emphasizes Richard III’s outsider status—exacerbated by his severe scoliosis, which twisted his spine—by punctuating the text with punk music from 1970s London. Cruz’s Richard is no one’s fool or lackey. He is a new kind of monarch, whose dark sense of humor and deep sense of purpose leads his charge against the society which never fully accepted him because he looked different.

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Migdalia Cruz is an award-winning writer of more than sixty plays, musicals, and operas, which have been performed in over venues across the Americas, Europe, Australia, and the Middle East. She is an alumna of New Dramatists and cochair of the playwriting fellows at the Dramatists Guild.
A Midsummer Night’s Dream
William Shakespeare

Translated by Jeffrey Whitty

Shakespeare’s most spirited play, adapted for new audiences by Jeffrey Whitty.

Tony Award-winning and Oscar-nominated storyteller Jeffrey Whitty offers his adaptation of A Midsummer Night’s Dream, mindfully adapted into modern language. Matching the Bard line for line, rhyme for rhyme, Whitty illuminates Shakespeare’s meaning for modern audiences while maintaining the play’s storytelling architecture, emotional texture, and freewheeling humor. Designed to supplement, not supplant, the original, Whitty’s Midsummer cuts through the centuries to bring audiences a fresh, moment-by-moment take, designed to flow as effortlessly for modern audiences as Shakespeare’s beloved classic played to the Elizabethans.

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Jeffrey Whitty is a screenwriter, playwright, poet, and performer. In 2018 he received Best Adapted Screenplay honors for Can You Ever Forgive Me? from the Writers Guild of America, the Independent Spirit Awards, the Satellite Press Association, and others, as well as Academy Award and BAFTA nominations.
An updated version of The Merchant of Venice that speaks to our contemporary reckoning with racism and injustice.

Elise Thoron’s translation of Shakespeare’s searing The Merchant of Venice cuts straight to the heart of today’s fraught issues of social justice and systemic racism. Thoron’s clear, compelling contemporary verse translation retains the power of the original iambic pentameter while allowing readers and audiences to fully comprehend and directly experience the brutal dilemmas of Shakespeare’s Venice, where prejudice and privilege reign unchallenged. As the author of three acclaimed music-theater works on the Jewish experience and informed by her work directing cross-cultural projects in locations as different as Russia, Japan, Cuba, and New York City, Thoron brings to her Merchant an immediacy that speaks directly to the present reckoning with race in America.

This translation was written as part of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s Play On! project, which commissioned new translations of thirty-nine Shakespeare plays. These translations present the work of “The Bard” in language accessible to modern audiences while never losing the beauty of Shakespeare’s verse. These volumes make these works available for the first time in print—a new First Folio for a new era.

Elise Thoron is a playwright, director, and translator. Her plays have been produced in the United States, Europe, Japan, and Cuba.
The Two Noble Kinsmen

William Shakespeare

Translated by Tim Slover

Tim Slover brings fresh clarity to his contemporary version of Shakespeare’s final play.

Playwright, poet, and novelist Tim Slover presents William Shakespeare’s and John Fletcher’s collaboration, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, in a modern translation that retains all the wit, romance, and poetry of the original. For his last play, the Bard pulled out all the stops, creating a tragicomedy of heart’s yearning and deadly rivalry, and peopling it with heroes and heroines out of legend, including two of the greatest—and least known—female roles in the entire canon. Fletcher provided the music and dance. Slover brings it all vividly to life with fresh clarity and fiery passion in this new, contemporary version.

This translation was written as part of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival’s Play On! project, which commissioned new translations of thirty-nine Shakespeare plays. These translations present the work of “The Bard” in language accessible to modern audiences while never losing the beauty of Shakespeare’s verse. These volumes make these works available for the first time in print—a new First Folio for a new era.

Tim Slover is a playwright, poet, and novelist. Currently, he leads the University of Utah Department of Theatre’s playwriting and theatre, fine arts, and humanities in London study abroad programs.
Race and Affect in Early Modern English Literature

Carole Mejia LaPerle

This collection brings together critical race studies and affect theory to examine the emotional dimensions of race in early modern literature.

Race and Affect in Early Modern English Literature puts the fields of critical race studies and affect theory into dialogue. Doing so opens a new set of questions: What are the emotional experiences of racial formation and racist ideologies? How do feelings—through the physical senses, emotional passions, or sexual encounters—come to signify race? What is the affective register of anti-blackness that pervades canonical literature? How can these visceral forms of racism be resisted in discourse and in practice? By investigating how race feels, this book offers new ways of reading and interpreting literary traditions, religious differences, gendered experiences, class hierarchies, sexuality, and social identities. So far scholars have shaped the discussion of race in the early modern period by focusing on topics such as genealogy, language, economics, religion, skin color, and ethnicity. This book, however, offers something new: it considers racializing processes as visceral, affective experiences.

Carol Mejia LaPerle is professor and honors advisor for the English department at Wright State University.
Shakespeare and the Senses

Holly E. Dugan

*Shakespeare and the Senses* explores how audiences of Shakespeare’s time would have understood the sensual world of his work.

Could something as seemingly natural as a smell, taste, sight, or sound be socially constructed and change over time? *Shakespeare and the Senses* argues that understanding the original conditions in which Shakespeare’s plays were performed allows us to explore the senses as both visceral, bodily experience and constructed, social phenomena. As Ben Jonson famously wrote in the First Folio of 1623, Shakespeare can seem to be “not of an age, but for all time.” While this is clever marketing, Shakespeare did write his plays in a particular time and place far removed from our own. Many of his most powerful metaphors rely on sensory details—Aaron’s black hue; Cleopatra’s strange, invisible perfumes; Fluellen’s Welsh accent; Lady Macbeth’s overly scrubbed hands; Malvolio’s yellow stockings—which Elizabethan-era audiences may have understood very differently from us. *Shakespeare and the Senses* draws on interdisciplinary research methods in the new field of sensory studies to expand our understanding of what Shakespeare meant to his first audiences.

**Holly E. Dugan** is associate professor of English at George Washington University.
Reports of Cases in the Court of Chancery from 1660 to 1673

Edited by W. H. Bryson

A comprehensive collection of all known Chancery reports in this time period.

This edition of Chancery cases from the Restoration of Charles II in 1660 to the beginning of the juridical tenure of Lord Nottingham in 1673 includes all of the Chancery reports, both in print and in manuscript, known to date from this period. It also adds to the Chancery canon the law reports included in Lord Nottingham's prolegomena. These reports come from the judicial tenures of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, Sir Orlando Bridgman, and the Earl of Shaftesbury, three very different types of equity judges. Yet there is a consistency among them, which shows the continuity of the administration of the court. These consolidated reports are presented chronologically according to the modern method of presenting cases.

W. H. Bryson is the Blackstone Professor of Law at the University of Richmond. He is a member of the Virginia State Bar and fellow of the Royal Historical Society.
The first complete catalog of work by Missouri’s earliest female artist provides a singular look at territorial life in the early nineteenth century.

Anna Maria von Phul (1786–1823) was the earliest-known female artist working in what was then called the Missouri Territory. Born in Philadelphia and raised largely in Kentucky, she spent her last half-decade in and around St. Louis. Though von Phul never considered herself a professional artist, her sketches and watercolors provide a singular window into the early-nineteenth-century lower Midwest. Von Phul’s art depicts not only the landscape and natural world of the St. Louis area, but also its architecture, fashions, and social life, with a notable focus on the local Creole population.

Hattie Felton’s More than Ordinary is the first complete catalog of von Phul’s existing work, all of which is part of the collections of the Missouri Historical Society. The book offers a valuable source of research for anyone interested in the histories of Missouri or Kentucky. More than that, it expands the story of American vernacular art and the role of women in that story. Felton’s opening essay examines von Phul’s education and artistic influences and explores her time in St. Louis and neighboring Edwardsville, Illinois, alongside letters, newspaper clippings, and other materials from her life. Following the essay, a detailed catalog highlights examples of her watercolors, silhouettes, and copywork. Looking closely at von Phul’s life and work provides a firsthand perspective on the challenges that faced female artists in the early nineteenth century while simultaneously offering a rare look at Missouri on the cusp of statehood.

Hattie Felton is senior curator at the Missouri Historical Society.
Hope Is of a Different Color

From the Global South to the Łódź Film School

Edited by Magda Lipska and Monika Talarczyk

The history of film students from the Global South who studied in Poland during the Cold War.

As Poland’s second-largest city, Łódź was a hub for international students who studied in Poland from the mid-1960s to 1989. The Łódź Film School, a member of CILECT since 1955, was a favored destination, with students from Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East accounting for one-third of its international student body. Despite the school’s international reputation, the experience of its filmmakers from the Global South is little known beyond Poland.

Hope Is of a Different Color addresses the history of student exchanges between the Global South and the Polish People’s Republic during the Cold War. It sheds light on the experiences and careers of a generation of young filmmakers at Łódź, many of whom went on to achieve success as artists in their home countries, and provides insight into emerging areas of research and race relations in Central and Eastern Europe. The essays reflect on these issues from multiple perspectives, considering sociology, political science, art, and film history. The book also features previously unpublished photographs and film stills from private archives along with visual and written material collected at the Łódź Film School.

Magda Lipska is a curator and art theoretician who works at the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw. Monika Talarczyk is a film scholar and associate professor at the Łódź Film School in Poland. She is the author of three publications dedicated to women film directors and numerous review articles and essays on cinema. In 2014 she received the Polish Film Institute Award.
Insatiable Hunger
Colonial Encounters in Context
Joseph W. Graham

An exploration of the worldviews that underpinned settler colonialism.

The sixteenth-century European wars of religion set the stage for mass migration to the New World. Of course, there was nothing new about the New World to Indigenous peoples who had lived there for millennia. *Insatiable Hunger* compares European historical accounts and Indigenous stories of contact to illustrate the wide cultural chasm that separated the two civilizations. Joseph Graham tells a story of religiously obsessed Europeans pouring onto the continent and consuming everything in their path and the attempts Indigenous peoples made to reason with the hungry newcomers. Tracing events from Jacques Cartier’s first visits in the sixteenth century to the War of 1812, *Insatiable Hunger* attempts to understand the root causes of the mutual incomprehension baked into these two civilizations’ worldviews. As descendants of European settlers in Canada and the United States confront the legacy of colonialism and genocide of Indigenous peoples, *Insatiable Hunger* will be an important primer on the worldviews at the root of this violent political project.

Joseph W. Graham is a self-taught historian who homesteads an organic farm near Mont-Tremblant, Quebec. He is the author of *Naming the Laurentians* and has founded two heritage protection committees while working to bridge divides in the community.
Weaving Another Future

Jineoloji—Readings in Women’s Science

Edited by the Jineoloji Committee in Europe

A collection of essays on the intellectual foundation of the Kurdish women’s revolutionary movement.

Over the past decade, Western audiences have grown used to seeing images of Kurdish women in army fatigues fighting as part of Women’s Protection Units in the Syrian Civil War. But these striking images are not the whole story. Kurdish women’s militias are part of a revolution built on a sophisticated intellectual foundation that places the empowerment of women at the center of the struggle for political self-determination. Jineoloji is the name of this new social science, and Weaving Another Future is the first in a series of English-language books, collected and translated from the journal Jineoloji, that illustrate the scope and depth of this lively new discipline. In the wake of Western feminism that struggles to produce profound change in many women’s lives, the promise of Jineoloji is spreading to communities around the world. Weaving Another Future features essays on the goals and methodology of Jineoloji, matriarchal history and society, challenging patriarchal systems, building democratic autonomy outside the state, women’s participation in emancipatory struggles, self-defense, and self-governance.

Jineoloji Committee in Europe is a collective dedicated to the advancement of Jineoloji and publishes a journal of the same name.
Kropotkin Now!
Life, Freedom & Ethics
Edited by Christopher Coquard

Essays on the revolutionary Russian anarchist’s ideas about mutual aid, sex, and participatory democracy for the twenty-first century.

Prince Peter Kropotkin (1842–1921) was one of the great thinkers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As a Russian anarchist, philosopher, economist, historian, geographer, and scientist, Kropotkin had a range of contributions that were as divergent as they were holistic. Kropotkin’s critical thought on issues such as mutual aid and anarchism have become tenets of multiple twenty-first-century social movements. As the foundations of neoliberalism shake and neofascist movements spawn around the world, the practice of mutual aid, the theories of anarchism and participatory democracy, and critique of social Darwinism have seldom been as important as they are today. Many activists and scholars are using Kropotkin’s ideas to challenge these authoritarian threats and to work toward an egalitarian future. Kropotkin Now! is the culmination of an international effort to investigate Kropotkin’s ideas and to imagine new alternatives on the centenary of his death. Contributors engage Kropotkin’s work in diverse contexts, including evolution and mutual aid, cyborgs and feminist technoscience, Kropotkin’s treatment of “the sex question,” urbanization, building dual power, and more.

Christopher Coquard is an educator and a self-taught scholar of Peter Kropotkin’s work who lives and works in Quebec City.
A Citizen’s Guide to City Politics
Montréal

Edited by Jason Prince, Eric Shragge, and Mostafa Henaway

From Montreal’s grassroots activists, city planners, and engaged citizens, a guide to building radical municipal power from the ground up.

World cities face persistent tension between the pull of globalization and the needs of citizens. Conventional political parties present milquetoast solutions that accommodate the interests of business. Meanwhile, citizens in cafes, meeting halls, on the streets, and now in virtual forums are rising to the challenge of imagining new and radical municipal policy from the ground up. This book explores the future of Montreal’s citizen lead movements at a moment defined by the threats of pandemic, austerity, housing speculation and insecurity, and racism. It pairs contemporary analysis with an exploration of Montreal’s rich municipal history. The editors of A Citizen’s Guide to City Politics gathered more than twenty activists, urban planners, and thinkers to address the major problems facing Montrealers and propose alternatives from a citizen’s perspective. Municipal movements everywhere will see their own struggles reflected in this guide and will find inspiration for debate and action.

Jason Prince is an urban planner and social economy expert who teaches at Concordia University in Montreal. Eric Shragge taught community organizing and development at Concordia and now works with Mostafa Henaway as an organizer at the Immigrant Workers Centre.
“The Human Face” and Other Writings on His Drawings

Antonin Artaud

Edited by Stephen Barber
Translated by Clayton Eshleman

The first comprehensive collection in English of Antonin Artaud’s writings on his artworks.

The many major exhibitions of Antonin Artaud’s drawings and drawn notebook pages in recent years—at New York’s Museum of Modern Art, Vienna’s Museum Moderner Kunst, and Paris’s Centre Georges Pompidou—have entirely transformed our perception of his work, reorienting it toward the artworks of his final years. This volume collects all three of Artaud’s major writings on his artworks. “The Human Face” (1947) was written as the catalog text for Artaud’s only gallery exhibition of his drawings during his lifetime, focusing on his approach to making portraits of his friends at the decrepit pavilion in the Paris suburbs where he spent the final year of his life. “Ten years that language is gone” (1947) examines the drawings Artaud made in his notebooks—his main creative medium at the end of his life—and their capacity to electrify his creativity when language failed him. “50 Drawings to assassinate magic” (1948), the residue of an abandoned book of Artaud’s drawings, approaches the act of drawing as part of the weaponry deployed by Artaud at the very end of his life to combat malevolent assaults and attempted acts of assassination. Together, these three extraordinary texts—pitched between writing and image—project Artaud’s ferocious engagement with the act of drawing.

Antonin Artaud (1895–1948) was a French dramatist, poet, essayist, actor, and theater director, widely recognized as one of the major figures of twentieth-century theater and the European avant-garde. Stephen Barber is the author or editor of several books on Artaud. He is professor at the Kingston School of Art, Kingston University London, and a visiting research fellow at the Free University Berlin and Keio University Tokyo. Clayton Eshleman (1935–2021) spent many decades on his translations of Artaud’s work. He was also an acclaimed poet and translator of other works, such as those of Aimé Césaire, and was a professor notably at the California Institute of the Arts and UCLA.
Tom Bishop has, for over sixty years, helped shape the literary, philosophical, cultural, artistic, and political conversation between Paris and New York. As professor and director of the Center for French Civilization and Culture at New York University, he made the Washington Square institution one of the great bridges between French innovation and a New York scene in full transformation. Bishop was close to Beckett, championed Robbe-Grillet in the United States, befriended Marguerite Duras and Hélène Cixous, and organized historic public encounters—such as the one between James Baldwin and Toni Morrison. He was also a scholar, a recognized specialist in the avant-garde, notably the Nouveau Roman and the Nouveau Théâtre.

In 2012, Bishop invited Donatien Grau to give a talk at NYU. This invitation led to conversations—many of which are presented in this book—and a friendship. Literature Is a Voyage of Discovery gathers their dialogues, retracing Bishop’s career, his own history, his departure from Vienna, his studies, his meetings, his choices, his conception of literature and life, his relationship to the political and economic world, and the way he helped define the profession of “curator” as it is practiced today, offering a thought-provoking look into one of the leading minds of our time.
In the mid-1970s, Sylvère Lotringer created Semiotext(e), a philosophical group that became a magazine and then a publishing house. Since its creation, Semiotext(e) has been a place of stimulating dialogue between artists and philosophers, and for the past fifty years, much of American artistic and intellectual life has depended on it. The model of the journal and the publishing house revolves around the notion of the collective, and Lotringer has rarely shared his personal journey: his existence as a hidden child during World War II; the liberating and then traumatic experience of the collective in the kibbutz; his Parisian activism in the 1960s; his time of wandering, that took him, by way of Istanbul, to the United States; and then, of course, his American years, the way he mingled his nightlife with the formal experimentation he invented with Semiotext(e) and with his classes. Since the early 2010s, Donatien Grau has developed the habit of visiting Lotringer during his trips to Los Angeles; some of their dialogs were published or held in public. This book is an entry into Lotringer’s life, his friendships, his choices, and his admiration for some of the leading thinkers of our times. The conversations between Lotringer and Grau show bursts of life, traces of a journey, through texts and existence itself, with an unusual intensity.

__Sylvère Lotringer__ is the founder of Semiotext(e), the legendary journal and publishing house that helped to define what has become known as French Theory. As a philosopher, filmmaker, author, and teacher, he has played a crucial role in the culture of artists and creatives for the last fifty years. __Donatien Grau__ is a scholar and author. He currently serves as head of contemporary programs at the Musée d’Orsay, Paris, and as chair of the Association Pierre Guyotat. __Peter Behrman de Sinény__ teaches English at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. His translations have been published by Harper’s Magazine, The Cahier Series, and the New York Review of Books.
How to Teach Art?

Wiktoria Furrer, Carla Gabrí, Nastasia Louveau, Maria Ordóñez, and Artur Żmijewski

A cooperative reflection on how to teach art.

How should art be taught? What kind of knowledge should artists absorb? How might an ordinary person become a creature addicted to the creative process? In other words, how can a non-artist become an artist? Such programmatic questions articulated by acclaimed Polish artist Artur Żmijewski were at the heart of the workshop "How to Teach Art?" Żmijewski invited a group of graduate and doctoral students from three Zurich universities—the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, the University of Zurich, and the Zurich University of the Arts—to collectively reflect on their artistic practices. Over the course of four months, the group met several times a week for hourlong sessions, following individual and collective exercises induced by Żmijewski himself.

This book retraces the workshop and its process by showing inconclusive, fragmentary results between theory and practice. How to Teach Art? presents drawings, videos, photographs, 16mm films, and accompanying reflections on the central premise, “How to teach art?”

Wiktoria Furrer is a research associate at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. Carla Gabrí is a doctoral student in the Department of Film Studies at the University of Zurich, Switzerland. Nastasia Louveau is a doctoral student in the Slavic Studies and Gender Studies Departments of the University of Zurich. Maria Ordóñez is doing her doctoral studies in the Department of Cultural Analysis at the University of Zurich. Artur Żmijewski is a visual artist, photographer, and filmmaker. He is considered to be one of the most prominent radical figures on the Polish art scene.
The Place of the Symbolic

Essays on Art and Politics

Reiner Schürmann

Edited by Malte Fabian Rauch and Nicolas Schneider

This book weaves together Reiner Schürmann’s work on art and politics, drawing on a range of the most important thinkers and poets of the twentieth century and beyond.

The Place of the Symbolic gathers Reiner Schürmann’s essays on the nexus of art and politics. In keeping with his translation of the destruction of metaphysics into an an-archic philosophy of practice, Schürmann develops a radical theory of the place of symbols, irreducible either to idealist theories of symbols or structuralist accounts of the symbolic. Symbols, Schürmann argues, may provide a bridge between ontological difference and politics. They resist being grasped metaphysically, in terms of representation. Instead, their understanding requires a specific way of existence: attending to the coming-to-presence of phenomena. As such, the understanding of symbols discloses a form of praxis that abandons ultimate grounds and opens onto the manifold.

Alongside Schürmann’s theory of symbols, the collection includes essays on the relation between metaphysics, tragedy, and technology; on the “there is” in poetry; as well as on judgment. Throughout these characteristically lucid interventions, Schürmann’s most urgent concern remains a consideration of singular and finite practices that enact a release from universal principles. Art and politics appear here as the unworking of ultimate grounds; that is, as practices attuned to a truly groundless form of life.

Reiner Schürmann (1941–93) was a German philosopher, professor, and director of the Department of Philosophy at the New School for Social Research. Malte Fabian Rauch works in the research project “Cultures of Critique” at the Leuphana University Lüneburg, Germany. Nicolas Schneider is completing a doctorate at the Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy, Kingston University London, and is currently teaching at the Humboldt University, Berlin.
Pandemic Exposures
Economy and Society in the Time of Coronavirus
Edited by Didier Fassin and Marion Fourcade

An illuminating, indispensable analysis of a watershed moment and its possible aftermath.

For people and governments around the world, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic seemed to place the preservation of human life at odds with the pursuit of economic and social life. Yet this naive alternative belies the complexity of the entanglements the crisis has created and revealed not just between health and wealth but also around morality, knowledge, governance, culture, and everyday subsistence.

Didier Fassin and Marion Fourcade have assembled an eminent team of scholars from across the social sciences to reflect on the myriad ways SARS-CoV-2 has entered, reshaped, or exacerbated existing trends and structures in every part of the globe. The contributors show how the disruptions caused by the pandemic have both hastened the rise of new social divisions and hardened old inequalities and dilemmas. An indispensable volume, Pandemic Exposures provides an illuminating analysis of this watershed moment and its possible aftermath.

Didier Fassin is the James D. Wolfensohn Professor of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study in New Jersey and the Annual Chair of Public Health at the Collège de France. He is the author of many books in the fields of medical and political anthropology, including Life: A Critical User’s Manual and Writing the World of Policing: The Difference Ethnography Makes. Marion Fourcade is professor of sociology at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of Economists and Societies: Discipline and Profession in the United States, Britain, and France, 1890s to 1990s and has published widely in the fields of economic sociology, culture, and science and technology.
Imacoqwa’s Arrow
On the Biunity of the Sun and Moon in a Papuan Lifeworld
Jadran Mimica

A pathbreaking study of Yagwoia cosmological concepts.

In Imacoqwa’s Arrow, Jadran Mimica draws on decades of field research to bring us a rich ethnographic account of myth and meaning in the lifeworlds of the Yagwoia of Papua New Guinea. He focuses especially on the relations of the sun and the moon in Yagwoia understandings of the universe and their own place within it. This is classic terrain in Melanesian ethnography, but Mimica does much more than add to the archive of anthropological accounts of the significance of the sun and the moon for peoples of this part of the world. With extraordinary rigor and reflexivity, he grounds his understanding of Yagwoia concepts in psychoanalytic and phenomenological methods that afford a radically new and revealing translation of these seminal themes in Melanesian mythology and its poetics. This is a major contribution to the hermeneutics of ethnographic translation and theorization.

Jadran Mimica is a senior lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Sydney. He is the author of several books, including, most recently, Of Humans, Pigs, and Souls: An Essay on the Yagwoia “Womba” Complex, also published by HAU.
Ethics or the Right Thing?

Corruption and Care in the Age of Good Governance

Sylvia Tidey

A sympathetic examination of the failure of anti-corruption efforts in contemporary Indonesia.

Combining ethnographic fieldwork in the city of Kupang with an acute historical sensibility, Sylvia Tidey shows how good governance initiatives paradoxically perpetuate civil service corruption while also facilitating the emergence of new forms of it. Importing critical insights from the anthropology of ethics to the burgeoning anthropology of corruption, Tidey exposes enduring developmentalist fallacies that treat corruption as endemic to non-Western subjects. In practice, it is often indistinguishable from the ethics of care and exchange, as Indonesian civil servants make worthwhile lives for themselves and their families. This book will be a vital text for anthropologists and other social scientists, particularly scholars of global studies, development studies, and Southeast Asia.

Sylvia Tidey is assistant professor of anthropology and global studies at the University of Virginia.
Can a Liberal be a Chief? Can a Chief be a Liberal?

Some Thoughts on an Unfinished Business of Colonialism

Olúfẹmi Táíwò

An argument against the idea of the indigenous chief as a liberal political figure.

Across Africa, it is not unusual for proponents of liberal democracy and modernization to make room for some aspects of indigenous culture, such as the use of a chief as a political figure. Yet for Olúfẹmi Táíwò, no such accommodation should be made. Chiefs, he argues, in this thought-provoking and wide-ranging pamphlet, cannot be liberals—and liberals cannot be chiefs. If we fail to recognize this, we fail to acknowledge the metaphysical underpinnings of modern understandings of freedom and equality, as well as the ways in which African intellectuals can offer a distinctive take on the unfinished business of colonialism.

Olúfẹmi Táíwò is professor of Africana studies at Cornell University.
Degrees of Separation
Bohumil Kubišta and the European Avant-Garde
Edited by Marie Rakušanová
Translated by Phil Jones and Daniel Morgan

A richly illustrated reconsideration of the life and work of painter Bohumil Kubišta.

In Degrees of Separation, scholars from the Czech Republic, Canada, Germany, and Hungary take a new approach to exploring the work of one of Central Europe’s most interesting modernist painters, Bohumil Kubišta. While many art historians have viewed Kubišta’s work solely in the context of an idealized Czech canon, Kubišta did not identify with a nation-state clearly defined by ethnicity, language, or territorial reach.

Taking a transnational approach that incorporates thorough topographical research, the authors attempt to redraw the map of European modernism by exploring the artist’s subversive approach to the stylistic currents of his time. The book reveals the complex relationships within early twentieth-century Europe, as Kubišta and other Central European artists tried to balance their admiration for the dominant artistic trends coming out of Paris with their desire to find alternative forms of expression arising from local artistic and intellectual sources. The richly illustrated book features a wealth of documentation, including an exhaustive timeline with notes, a comprehensive inventory of Kubišta’s works, and an up-to-date exhibition list.

Marie Rakušanová is associate professor of art history at Charles University, Prague. Phil Jones is a translator of Czech into English. Daniel Morgan is a translator of Czech into English.
Plowshares into Swords
Vladislav Vančura
Translated by David Short
With an Afterword by Rajendra Chitnis

The first English-language translation of a classic Czech antiwar novel written in the wake of WWI.

Originally published in 1925, Plowshares into Swords is an expressionist antiwar novel in which Vladislav Vančura tells the story of the denizens of the Ouhrov estate in language as baroque as the manor that ties them all together. The fragmented narrative introduces the reader to such characters as Baron Danowitz, his sons, his French concubine, the farmhand František Hora, and the mentally disabled murderer Řeka in the autumn of 1913, before revealing their fates during World War I. Ranging from the peaceful farmlands of Bohemia to the battlefields of Galicia, taking in the pubs of Budapest and the hospitals of Krakow, the novel constitutes an unsentimental and naturalistic approach to the war that created Czechoslovakia. Plowshares into Swords is a stunning novel by one of Czech literature’s most important writers. This modernist masterpiece, reminiscent of the work of Isaac Babel and William Faulkner, is now available in English for the very first time.

Vladislav Vančura (1891–1942) was one of the most important Czech writers of the twentieth century. He was also active as a film director, playwright, and screenwriter. David Short is a translator of numerous books from Czech to English.
A World Apart and Other Stories

Czech Women Writers at the Fin de Siècle

Edited and translated by Kathleen Hayes

A collection of short stories by Czech women from the turn of the twentieth century.

A World Apart brings together translations of eight stories by Czech women from the turn of the twentieth century—a period of female political emancipation and impressive literary development in Czechoslovakia. Though they’re little known to an English-language public today, all of the writers featured in the book were recognized in their own day and constitute a cross-section of the literary styles of the period. Anna Maria Tilschová’s “A Sad Time” is written in a naturalist style, while Růžena Jesenská’s “A World Apart” presents themes and motifs that appealed to the Decadents. Helena Malířová’s “The Sylph” is both diaristic and satirical, whereas Růžena Svobodová’s ironical “A Great Passion,” with its rural setting and folklore motifs, calls to mind the writings of Karel Jaromír Erben. Gabriela Preissová’s short story “Eva” may be read as a celebration of folk culture, and Božena Benešová’s “Friends” is interesting for its psychological presentation of a child’s point of view and its implicit criticism of anti-Semitism. The book is accompanied by the biographies of each author and an introduction by editor and translator Kathleen Hayes.

Kathleen Hayes received her PhD from the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at the University of London and has taught Czech literature and history at Charles University and New York University in Prague.
Adventures in the Stone Age
A New Guinea Diary
Leopold Pospíšil
Edited by Jaroslav Jiřík and Martin Soukup

The first publication of a charming fieldwork memoir by a giant of legal anthropology.

When Leopold Pospíšil first arrived in New Guinea in 1954 to investigate the legal systems of the local tribes, he was warned about the Kapauku, who reputedly had no laws. Skeptical of the idea that any society could exist without laws, Pospíšil immediately decided to live among and study the Kapauku. Learning the language and living as a participant-observer among them, Pospíšil discovered that the supposedly primitive society possessed laws, rules, and social structures that were as sophisticated as they were logical. Drawing on his research and experiences among the Kapauku—he would stay with them five times between 1954 and 1979—Pospíšil broke new ground in the field of legal anthropology, holding a professorship at Yale, serving as the anthropology curator of the Peabody Museum of Natural History, and publishing three books of scholarship on Kapauku law.

This memoir of Pospíšil’s experience is filled with charming anecdotes and thrilling stories of trials, travels, and war told with humor and humility and accompanied by a wealth of the author’s personal photos from the time.

Leopold Pospíšil is a pioneer in the field of legal anthropology. Born in Czechoslovakia, he studied law at Charles University before emigrating to the United States in 1948. He was a professor of anthropology at Yale University from 1956–1983, and the anthropology curator of the Peabody Museum. Jaroslav Jiřík is director of archaeology at the Museum of Prácheň in Písek, Czech Republic, and teaches archaeology courses at Charles University, Prague. Martin Soukup is a cultural anthropologist specializing in Melanesia. He is an associate professor at Charles University.
Process and Aesthetics
An Outline of Whiteheadian Aesthetics and Beyond

Ondřej Dadejík, Martin Kaplický, Miloš Ševčík, and Vlastimil Zuska

A groundbreaking analysis of Alfred North Whitehead’s thinking on aesthetics.

Though philosopher Alfred North Whitehead did not dedicate any books or articles specifically to aesthetics, aesthetic motifs nonetheless permeate his entire body of work. Despite this, aestheticians have devoted little attention to Whitehead. In this book, four scholars of aesthetics provide another angle from which Whiteheadian aesthetics might be reconstructed. Paying special attention to the notion of aesthetic experience, the authors analyze abstraction versus concreteness, immediacy versus mediation, and aesthetic contextualism versus aesthetic isolationism. The concepts of creativity and rhythm are crucial to their interpretation of Whiteheadian aesthetics. Using these concepts, the book interprets the motif of the processes by which experience is harmonized, the sensation of the quality of the whole, and directedness towards novelty.

Ondřej Dadejík is assistant professor of aesthetics at Charles University and the University of Southern Bohemia. Martin Kaplický is assistant professor of aesthetics at Charles University and the University of Southern Bohemia. He also teaches at DAMU, the Theatre Faculty of Prague’s Academy of Performing Arts. Miloš Ševčík is head of the aesthetics department at Charles University. Vlastimil Zuska is professor of phenomenology and aesthetics at Charles University.
The Other Faces of the Empire
Ordinary Lives Against Social Order and Hierarchy
Edited by Fırat Yaşa
Translated by Esra Taşdelen

Essays illuminate the lives of ordinary people who lived in the Ottoman era.

Drawing from centuries-old court records, The Other Faces of Empire traces the lives of “outstage” people in vast empire lands. Each essay in the collection tells the story of an ordinary person navigating the Ottoman Empire. On this journey, we meet colorful and quite extraordinary figures: Deli Şaban, “naughty and haramzade” with his unsuccessful suicide attempts; Divane Hamza, who harassed the people in the village of Evciler in Bursa; Mâryem of Konya, who killed her husbands and buried them in the floor of a room of her house; Alaeddin from Skopje, who was captured by pirates; Nicolò Algarotti, a Venetian broker; and many others.

The volume’s micro-historical perspective strengthens its place in historiography, and moreover, it updates the historical record by sharing the overlooked stories of “ordinary” people and recording their names in the Ottoman historical literature one by one.

Fırat Yaşa is a faculty member in the Department of History at Düzce University in Turkey. Esra Taşdelen is visiting assistant professor of Arabic and Middle Eastern and North African Studies at North Central College in Illinois.
The Construction of a New City
Ankara 1923–1933

Edited by Ali Cengizkan and N. Müge Cengizkan
Translated by Can Gündüz and Cem Ülgen

Examines the first decade after the establishment of Ankara as the capital of Turkey, from the proclamation of the Turkish Republic in 1923 until 1933.

With a particular focus on the recently developed Yeni Şehir (“new city”) district of Ankara, Ali Cengizkan and N. Müge Cengizkan chronicle the construction of a new city center in war-torn Turkey in the first quarter of the twentieth century. The authors fill critical gaps in the historiography of the city by sharing the ideas and experiences of its dwellers, exploring the social dynamics of the dissolution of the planned environment, and analyzing the causes and effects of modernization.

Ali Cengizkan is dean of the Faculty of Architecture at TED University in Ankara, Turkey. N. Müge Cengizkan is an architect, independent researcher, editor, and curator. Can Gündüz is an architect and sociologist. He is a lecturer in the Department of Architecture at Izmir Institute of Technology in Turkey. Cem Ülgen is an interpreter, translator, and language instructor. He lives in Istanbul and divides his time between interpreting for conferences and translating.
Winds of Change
Environment and Society in Anatolia
Edited by John Haldon and Christopher H. Roosevelt

Understanding the varied and dynamic interactions between environment and society in Anatolia.

In recent decades, the influences of environmental and climatic conditions on past human societies have attracted significant attention from both the scientific community and the general public. Anatolia’s location at the conjunction of Asia, Europe, and Africa and at the intersection of three climatic systems makes it well suited for the study of such effects. In particular, Anatolia challenges many assumptions about how climatic factors affect the socio-political organization and historical evolution, highlighting the importance of close collaboration between archaeologists, historians, and climate scientists.

Integrating high-resolution archaeological, textual, and environmental data with longer-term, low-resolution data on past climates, this volume of essays, drawn from the fifteenth International ANAMED Annual Symposium (IAAS) at Koç University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, showcases recent evidence for periods of climate change and human responses to it, exploring the causes underlying societal change across several millennia.

John Haldon is the Shelby Cullom Davis ’30 Professor of European History emeritus and director of the Climate Change and History Research Initiative at Princeton University. He is the author of many books, including The Empire That Would Not Die: The Paradox of Eastern Roman Survival, 640–740, Christopher H. Roosevelt is professor in the Department of Archaeology and History of Art and director of the Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations at Koç University (ANAMED) in Istanbul. He is the author of many articles and books, including Spatial Webs: Mapping Anatolian Pasts for Research and the Public, also published by Koç University Press.
Stoudios Monastery in Istanbul
History, Architecture and Art

Esra Kudde, Nicholas Melvani, and Tarkan Okçuoğlu

Four essays on the oldest church in Istanbul.

The Monastery of Stoudios was built in the fifth century in Constantinople and for centuries constituted one of the most significant monasteries of the Byzantine capital. Today, only the church of the monastic complex—which was converted into a mosque in the Ottoman Period—survives.

The chapters of this book complement different aspects of the Monastery of Stoudios based on primary sources. Esra Kudde explores its architectural characteristics and provides detailed documentation; Nicholas Melvani provides a meticulous study of its Byzantine history and evaluates its elements of architectural sculpture; and Tarkan Okçuoğlu narrates the Ottoman history of the complex.

Esra Kudde is an architect at the Directorate of Cultural Heritage Preservation of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. Nicholas Melvani is a post-doctoral researcher at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz. Tarkan Okçuoğlu is professor in the Ottoman art division in the Department of Art History at Istanbul University.
The Georgian Kingdom and Georgian Art

Cultural Encounters in Anatolia in Medieval Period, Symposium Proceedings, 15 May 2014, Ankara

Edited by Irene Giviashvili and Feyza Akder

A survey of the architecture and history of the Tao-Klarjeti region.

This book, comprising the proceedings of a 2014 symposium at Koç University’s Vehbi Koç Ankara Studies Research Center, fills an important gap in the research surrounding the historical principality of Tao-Klarjeti. This political entity founded by the Georgian Bagrationis dynasty in the early ninth century covers the modern-day provinces of Artvin, Erzurum (partially), Ardahan in Turkey, and the provinces of Samtskhe-Javakheti and Ajara in Georgia. This volume explores the religious and secular buildings, decor programs, facade articulations, stone reliefs of monastic and Cathedral churches, mason builders, and donors of Tao-Klarjeti’s architecture. A particular focus is placed on recent archaeological discoveries in Şavşat Castle and the heritage of manuscripts produced in scriptoriums and literary centers of the region.

Irene Giviashvili is an affiliated researcher at the G. Chubinashvili National Research Centre for Georgian Art History and Heritage Preservation.
Feyza Akder is a postdoctoral researcher at Vehbi Koç Ankara Studies Research Center at Koç University in Istanbul.
Space and Communities in Byzantine Anatolia

Papers From the Fifth International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium

Edited by Nikos D. Kontogiannis and B. Tolga Uyar

Essays explore the rich and complex regional settlements of Anatolia.

The volume collects twenty-six papers on Byzantine-period Anatolia that were presented at the Fifth International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium held in June 2019. The sections of the book focus on subjects including landscape dynamics, settlements and communication, regional networks, cityscapes, private and sacred space, and cultural interactions and identities. The essays cover a wide period, ranging from the third to the fifteenth century.

Nikos D. Kontogiannis is assistant professor of Byzantine archaeology and the history of art at Koç University in Istanbul. B. Tolga Uyar is associate professor in the Department of Art History at Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş Veli University in Turkey. He is codirector of the Cappadocia in Context graduate seminar at the Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations.
Roman Archaeology in a South Anatolian Landscape

The *Via Sebaste*, the *Mansio* in the Döşeme Boğazı, and Regional Transhumance in Pamphylia and Pisidia. With a Catalogue of Late Roman and Ottoman Cisterns

Stephen Mitchell, Robert Wagner, and Brian Williams

An investigation of a Roman road-station in its archaeological and geographical context that provides a new perspective on the historical landscape of southern Anatolia.

This study is based on fieldwork carried out during the 1990s in southwest Turkey in the modern vilayets of Burdur and Antalya, and it focuses on the settlements associated with a Roman mansio located in the Döşeme Bogazi, the pass that linked Pisidia with the coastal region of Pamphylia. The course of the road and the structures that emerged along it were defined not by the evolution of Pisidia's Hellenized indigenous culture but by the priorities of Roman rule, especially during late antiquity. Furthermore, the study of the road where the mansio was located raises fundamental questions about the role played by this mountain pass in the movement of people and animals between the lowlands and highlands of South-west Anatolia.

Stephen Mitchell is the Leverhulme Professor of Hellenistic Culture emeritus at Exeter University in the UK. He is the author of *Anatolia: Land, Men, and Gods in Asia Minor* and *A History of the Later Roman Empire, AD 284–641*. Robert Wagner is a retired American military officer who served multiple postings in Turkey. While he currently resides in the American Pacific Northwest, he considers Turkey his second home. Brian Williams is a freelance draftsman and illustrator who specializes in on-site planning.
Neolithic Pottery from the Near East
Production, Distribution and Use

Edited by Rana Özbal, Mücella Erdalkıran, and Yukiko Tonoike

Discussions on the production, distribution, use, and consumption of pottery from the Neolithic Near East.

Ceramics from the Neolithic period carry visual messages through their shapes, styles, and painted decorations. Honoring the work of Dutch archaeologist Olivier Nieuwenhuyse, the chapters in this volume go beyond the technical to address issues of ideology, symbolism, feasting, and communalism in pottery productions in the Near East. Essays exploring aspects of the chaîne opératoire of ceramic production, including archaeometric and experimental techniques in the neolithic pottery tradition, provide new insights into how the vessels were distributed and used.

This international volume brings together papers presented at the Third International Workshop on Late Neolithic Pottery from the Ancient Near East.

Rana Özbal is associate professor of archaeology and the history of art at Koç University in Istanbul. Mücella Erdalkıran is assistant professor in the Department of Archaeology at Ege University in Bornova, Turkey. Yukiko Tonoike is associate research scientist and coordinator for the InterAsia Initiative at the Council on East Asian Studies at the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale University.
Amorous Hope, A Pastoral Play

A Bilingual Edition

Valeria Miani

Edited and Translated by Alexandra Coller

A seventeenth-century play showing the reality of life for women.

Valeria Miani’s Amorous Hope is a play of remarkable richness, subtlety, and verve. It presents a scathing exposure of society’s double-standards and it champions women’s dramatic agency by centering on the bleak reality they often faced, a reality that attempted to harm and silence its victims. The play’s salient episodes reflect realities modern women still face today.

Miani’s literary achievements attest to her emergence as a cultural protagonist alongside Europe’s most talented women writers, such as Isabella Andreini, and she challenged the premodern notion that a woman’s eloquence is an indication of her sexual promiscuity.

Valeria Miani (1563–1620) was a Paduan playwright known for her protofeminism and verse compositions. Alexandra Coller is associate professor in the Department of Languages and Literatures at Lehman College, City University of New York. She is the author of Women, Rhetoric, and Drama in Early Modern Italy.

“Amorous Hope is a work of considerable interest by a playwright only recently becoming better known after long neglect. Coller’s introduction, which makes use of excellent and up-to-date scholarship, persuasively presents Miani’s participation within a network of literati and academia members and pursues this topic of interconnections through a detailed account of her poems published in anthologies alongside the verses of others. Its discussion of the play focuses on Miani’s treatment of the main issue: male injustices to women and the corrections or penalties delivered by the two leading female characters.”—Janet L. Smarr, University of California San Diego

The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe: The Toronto Series

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Lucrece and Brutus
Glory in the Land of Tender
Madeleine de Scudéry
Edited and Translated by Sharon Diane Nell

A collection of texts by a pioneering seventeenth-century French woman author.

Comprising texts by Madeleine de Scudéry, including many from her novel *Clélie*, this volume focuses on the story of Lucretia, the Roman matron whose rape and suicide led to the downfall of the Roman monarchy. Through her work, Scudéry seeks to contrast the enormous cultural contributions of women with their physical vulnerability and to propose an alternative to sexual violation, as envisioned on the Map of the Land of Tender that charts an imaginary land in the novel and outlines a path toward love. In Scudéry’s version of this tale, Lucrece and her beloved, Brutus, follow the path of tender friendship. Scudéry contradicts history’s characterization of Lucrece as craving glory in the form of fame. Indeed, contrary to ancient sources, Lucrece’s glory will be her decision to sacrifice herself secretly for her tender friend.

*Madeleine de Scudéry* (1607–1701) was a seventeenth-century French author of conversations, novellas, and novels, including *Clélie, Histoire Ro- maine*. *Sharon Diane Nell* is professor of French and dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at St. Edward’s University, Austin, Texas. She is the author of numerous articles and is the coeditor and cotranslator, with Aurora Wolfgang, of Jacques Du Bosc’s *L’Honnête Femme: The Respectable Woman in Society and the New Collection of Letters and Responses by Contemporary Women*.

“In this erudite and insightful work, Nell assembles and expertly translates passages from Madeleine de Scudéry’s corpus, illuminating the foundational story of Lucretia, a Roman matron who turns her rape by Sextus Tarquinius into an act of supreme heroism through her suicide, which ultimately causes the downfall of the Roman monarchy. Scudéry’s version of this story poetically intertwines two of the main cultural preoccupations of mid-seventeenth-century France concerning women: female heroism and salon life, including the notion of tender friendship.”—Aurora Wolfgang, Michigan State University
Expedition Relics from High Arctic Greenland

Peter R. Dawes

A history of Euro-American exploration through 101 artifacts.

Protected by remote tundra, undisturbed artifacts from late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century expeditions into Greenland provide a unique window into the history of exploration. Expedition Relics from High Arctic Greenland reveals the grueling story of European-American exploration through 101 of these artifacts—from personal documents and carvings to professional equipment and supplies. Discovered at thirty-two sites along Greenland’s north-west coast, these sundry artifacts chart the history of American, British, and Scandinavian exploration in the Arctic from 1853 through 1934. Beautifully illustrated, this book offers unprecedented access to one of the most remarkable eras of geographical discovery.

Peter R. Dawes is an emeritus research scientist at the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland in Copenhagen. He has worked on numerous geological projects in Greenland, Canada, and Australia, eventually specializing in High Arctic Greenland (Avannaarsua), of which he compiled the first post-war geological map in the 1970s.
The Lamentations of Isis and Nephthys
Fragmentary Osirian Papyri, Part I
Andrea Kucharek and Marc Coenen

A definitive collection of the ancient Egyptian liturgy’s many textual variants.

An ancient Egyptian liturgy, The Lamentations of Isis and Nephthys tells the story of how two sister goddesses resurrected the murdered god Osiris. No single version of the poem exists, and various forms have been discovered for use in both formal religious ceremonies and private funerary services. This edition collects all known copies and variants of the ritual text alongside extensive commentary from two leading scholars.

Andrea Kucharek is a research associate at the Egyptological department at the University of Heidelberg. Marc Coenen holds MA and PhD degrees in ancient Near Eastern studies from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, and he currently works as an officer with the Emergency Rescue Zone of South-West Limburg.
Tocharian and Indo-European Studies

Edited by Birgit Anette Olsen, Hannes Fellner, Michaël Peyrot, and Georges-Jean Pinault

The most diverse and comprehensive treatment of the relationships between ancient Tocharian A and B and other Indo-European languages.

Studying now-extinct languages from the first millennium, early twentieth-century archaeologists discovered previously unknown Tocharian A and Tocharian B writings on Buddhist manuscripts near northwest China. Tocharian and Indo-European Studies is the central publication for the study of these two closely related languages, focusing both on philological and linguistic approaches toward their relationship with other Indo-European languages.

Birgit Anette Olsen is professor of Indo-European linguistics at the University of Copenhagen. Hannes Fellner is assistant professor of Tocharian and Indo-European linguistics at the University of Vienna. Michaël Peyrot is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Leiden on Tocharian and Indo-European linguistics. Georges-Jean Pinault is professor of linguistics at the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris.
1900 ~ The Year of Art Nouveau

Paris ~ Copenhagen · Copenhagen ~ Paris

Charlotte Christensen

A fully illustrated collection of the Designmuseum Danmark’s contribution to the 1900 World Exhibition in Paris.

At the height of the dynamic “new” style’s popularity, the 1900 World Exhibition in Paris offered a platform to the world’s recently established museums of decorative arts to celebrate the Art Nouveau on an unprecedented stage. 1900 ~ The Year of Art Nouveau describes how the fledgling Designmuseum Danmark (formerly the Danish Museum of Art & Design) acquired a substantial international collection prior to the festival, with special attention to the local Danish works exhibited in Paris.
The Art of Weaving
Danish Hand Weaving in the 20th Century
Charlotte Paludan

A full-color album of twentieth-century Danish textiles.

With nearly three hundred full-color images, The Art of Weaving unveils the remarkable textile collection of the Designmuseum Danmark for an international audience, giving unprecedented insight into the craft of Danish weaving during the last century.
Danish Silver 1600–2000

Lise Funder

An illustrated catalog of Denmark’s cutlery through the ages.

Replete with nearly four hundred images, *Danish Silver 1600–2000* is the first international collection to showcase the rich artistry of Danish cutlery.
The IBOIS Notebooks—Vol. 1

Edited by Yves Weinand and Christophe Catsaros

With Contributions by Françoise Fromonot and Stéphane Berthier

A thorough and interdisciplinary look at the many aspects of wood construction over the past three hundred years.

The IBOIS Notebooks offer a societal, ecological, cultural, and political look at wood construction. Through the work and critical analyses of authors from various disciplines, these notebooks reveal the structuring, sometimes contradictory, and often underestimated role of timber construction in the architectural evolution of the last three centuries. This biannual editorial project, led by Christophe Catsaros, philosopher, journalist, and architecture critic, and Yves Weinand, architect-engineer and director of the Wood Construction Laboratory (IBOIS) at École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), draws the outlines of an original and transdisciplinary account. Going beyond the established distinction between the humanities and applied sciences, the notebooks offer alternative relationships for innovative wood construction. Behind this original and cross-disciplinary panorama—where researchers, builders, and historians question the potential of a material—is the ambition of a radical change, as evidenced both by the research and the achievements of the EPFL’s Wood Construction Laboratory.

Yves Weinand is a Belgian architect and civil engineer and one of the most recognized researchers in the field of contemporary wood construction. He founded the Weinand design office, and he is director of EPFL’s Wood Construction Laboratory (IBOIS). Christophe Catsaros is an independent architecture critic. He is the author of several books and a regular contributor to Artpress, Volume, and Architecture d’Aujourd’hui, among others.
A New Era of American Architectural Concrete
From Wright to SOM
Roberto Gargiani

The most significant research conducted on concrete architecture in the United States from 1940 to 1970.

The affirmation of reinforced concrete and the kinds of space generated by its structures is one of the most fascinating and revolutionary chapters in the history of twentieth-century architecture and engineering. This richly illustrated, three-volume essay offers the first complete overview of all the most significant research conducted in concrete in the United States from 1940 to 1970. It includes the greatest architects of the time, from Frank Lloyd Wright to I.M. Pei, Louis Kahn, Emery Roth & Sons, and others.

The analysis of the works presented on the pages of the three books reconstructs the most important inventions in the use of concrete, whether reinforced or not, prefabricated or cast in place, used in the form of skeleton, walls, columns, blocks, or panels. The book also includes a chapter on a new kind of ornament, permitted by special plastic products applied to formwork, and other chapters dedicated to the different processing techniques used to obtain various surface textures. It enters the complex theoretical universe of truths and lies, upon which the greatest architects have debated through the manipulation of concrete. Finally, it guides readers up to the decline of the creative force of structures. A New Era of American Architectural Concrete not only offers the first exhaustive history of an architectural technique that was decisive in the United States, but also a new vision of twentieth-century American architecture.

Roberto Gargiani has published several works on Perret, Le Corbusier, Labrouste, Semper, and Brunelleschi. He previously taught the history of architecture in Florence, Rouen, Paris, and Rome. He is currently professor of the history of architecture and construction at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne’s (EPFL) School of Architecture.
Peace in Ukraine seemed possible following Volodymyr Zelensky’s 2019 election. The new president reopened conversations with both the European Union and separatist authorities, bringing an end to the Donbass conflict in sight. Such an achievement promised revitalized talks between Europe and Russia, and so the nearly forgotten conflict returned to global prominence. Ukraine in the Crosshairs of Geopolitical Power Play analyzes why European and Russian objectives in Ukraine place daunting limits of any potential compromise.

Peter W. Schulze (1942–2020) was professor of political sciences at the Georg August University Göttingen. Winfried Veit is a political scientist, author, and consultant.
Re/imaginations of Disability in State Socialism

Visions, Promises, Frustrations

Edited by Katerina Kolárová and Martina Winkler

An interdisciplinary survey of disability in socialist states throughout global history.

In Re/imaginations of Disability in State Socialism, an interdisciplinary group of scholars examines how disability has been conceptualized and treated in socialist states throughout global history. Drawing on intersectional theories that set disability in conversation with other identity categories such as race, age, gender, and sexuality, this book offers a unique approach to this crucial issue.

Katerina Kolárová is professor of gender studies at Charles University in Prague. Martina Winkler is professor of eastern European history at the Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel.
Trans*Time
Projecting Transness in European Series
Edited by Danae Gallo González

The first study of trans* representation across European television.

Trans* visibility has reached a peak in recent years, so much so, that we can state that we are witnessing a primetime, or trans*time, in television and digital streaming series. This visibility has occurred concurrently with a process of social popularization and academic legitimization of the series. Paradoxically, trans* people face ever-mounting discrimination, insidious violence, and fatal murder rates. Trans*Time is the first international, media, and comparative approach to the representation of trans* characters in series in Europe.

Danae Gallo González is research associate in Hispanic and Lusophone cultures and literatures at the Institut für Romanistik.
Regimes of Contention

Resistance and the Governmentality of Resources in Indigenous Philippines

Macario Lacbawan

An anthropological reflection on the shifting governmentality of Indigenous resources in the Philippines.

The notion of indigeneity in the Philippines is politically fraught. Most who live on the archipelago are descendants of aboriginal peoples, whether they claim tribal affiliation or not, and those who do enact traditional identities share little else in common. As a result, the term “indigenous” remains unstable and malleable seventy-five years after independence. Connecting insights from Tillian and Foucauldian social theory, Regimes of Contention illuminates how the ever-changing Philippine state, from the 1970s through today, constructs artificial subjectivities that Indigenous peoples must embody to access ancestral resources held by the federal government. What emerges is a lucid illustration of how governmentality is entangled with indigeneity in the Philippines.

Macario Lacbawan is a PhD student in cultural anthropology at Uppsala University in Sweden and has worked as a research associate at the Collaborative Research Center 1095 in Frankfurt, Germany.
An ethnography on early-career workers facing job insecurity at the United Nations.

Rapid economic changes since the 1970s have left many early-career workers in a precarious double-bind—caught between organizational visions shaped during the post-war boom and the austere reality that they may need to reinvent their careers overnight. *Privileged Precarities* explores this dilemma through an ethnographic study of early-career professionals at the United Nations. Drawing on a variety of social theories, Linda M. Mülli untangles the personal narratives UN workers craft to make sense of their job insecurity, increased flexibility, and relative privilege. These striking case studies offer broad insights into the mechanisms of organizational power and individual agency in post-Fordist, capitalist society.

*Linda M. Mülli* completed her Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at the University of Basel and the Ludwig-Maximilian-University in Munich.
Our Cancers

Poems

Dan O’Brien

Poet and playwright Dan O’Brien chronicles the year and a half during which both he and his wife were treated for cancer.

On the fourteenth anniversary of 9/11—an event that caused their downtown apartment to become “suffused with the World Trade Center’s carcinogenic dust”—Dan O’Brien’s wife discovers a lump in her breast. Surgery and chemotherapy soon follow, and on the day of his wife’s final infusion, O’Brien learns of his own diagnosis. He has colon cancer and will need to undergo his own intensive treatment over the next nine months.

*Our Cancers* is a compelling account of illness and commitment, of parenthood and partnership. This spare and powerful sequence creates an intimate mythology that seeks meaning in illness while also celebrating the resilience of sufferers, caregivers, and survivors.

As O’Brien explains in an introduction, “The consecutiveness of our personal disasters, with a daughter not yet two years old at the start of it, was shattering and nearly silencing. At hospital bedsides, in hospital beds myself, and at home through the cyclical assaults of our therapies, these poems came to me in fragments, as if my unconscious were attempting to reassemble our lives, our identities and memories . . . as if I were in some sense learning how to speak again.”

Dan O’Brien is a poet and playwright. His previous poetry collections include *War Reporter*, *New Life*, and *Scarsdale*. O’Brien is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in Drama and two PEN America Awards for playwriting. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and daughter.
A multicultural saga, *This Fierce Blood* follows three generations of women in the Sylte family.

In rural late-nineteenth-century New England, Wilhelmina Sylte is a settler starting a family with her Norwegian immigrant husband. When she forms an inexplicable connection with a mountain lion and her cubs living near their farm, Mina grapples with divided loyalties and the mysterious bond she shares with the animals.

In 1927, Wilhelmina’s daughter-in-law, newly widowed Josepa, is accused of witchcraft by a local priest for using the healing practices passed down from her Native mother. Fighting for her family’s reputation and way of life, Sepa finds strength in worldly and otherworldly sources.

When Magdalena, an ecologist, inherits her great-grandmother Wilhelmina’s Vermont property, she and her astrophysicist husband decide to turn the old farm into a summer science camp for teens. As Magda struggles with both personal and professional responsibilities, the boundary between science and myth begins to blur.

Rich in historical and cultural detail, *This Fierce Blood* combines magical realism with themes of maternal ancestral inheritance, and also explores the ways Hispano/Indigenous traditions both conflicted and wove together, shaping the distinctive character of the American Southwest. Readers of Téa Obreht and Katherine Arden will find much to admire in this debut novel.

*Malia Márquez’s short fiction and essays have been recognized in contests such as the Staunch Short Story Prize. Márquez was born in New Mexico, grew up in New England, and currently lives in Los Angeles.*
The Role of the Educational Interpreter

Perceptions of Administrators and Teachers

Stephen B. Fitzmaurice

While educational interpreting has been studied for decades, the research has historically focused on the tasks educational interpreters are engaged in during their workday. In *The Role of the Educational Interpreter*, Stephen B. Fitzmaurice takes a new approach using role theory to examine how administrators and teachers perceive the role and work of educational (K–12) interpreters.

Through a series of qualitative interviews and quantitative questionnaires with district administrators, school administrators, general education teachers, and teachers of the deaf, Fitzmaurice documents their perceptions of educational interpreters. Findings from the data reveal the perceptions of administrators and teachers set the stage for role ambiguity, role conflicts, and subsequent role overload for educational interpreters. Fitzmaurice elaborates on the implications of the research, and also provides concrete recommendations for researchers and practitioners, including an emphasis on the importance of involving the Deaf community in this work. This volume aims to offer clarity on the role of the educational interpreter and dispel the confusion and conflicts created by divergent perspectives. A shared understanding of the role of the educational interpreter will allow administrators, teachers, and interpreters to work collaboratively to improve educational outcomes for deaf students.

Stephen B. Fitzmaurice is Associate Professor of Interpreting: American Sign Language (ASL) and lead faculty for the ASL-English Educational Interpreting program at Clemson University. He is also the director of the South Carolina Educational Interpreting Center and has worked as a professional ASL-English interpreter for over twenty-five years.
Turn on the Words!
Deaf Audiences, Captions, and the Long Struggle for Access

Harry G. Lang

The story of how captioning came into the lives of deaf and hard of hearing people has not been told with any detail, though captions are one of the greatest technological advancements in the effort to improve access to films, television, and other video content for both deaf and hearing audiences. In _Turn on the Words!,_ Harry G. Lang documents the struggles and strategies over nearly a century of efforts to make spoken communication accessible through the use of captioning technology.

Lang describes the legislation, programs, and people who contributed great ingenuity and passion over decades to realize widespread access to captions, one breakthrough at a time. He also chronicles the resistance to captioned films from Hollywood studios and others, and the Deaf and hearing activists who championed the right to access. Deaf, hard of hearing, disabled, and English-as-a-second-language audiences now experience improved access to the educational, occupational, and cultural benefits of film and television programming. The struggle continues as deaf audiences advocate for equal access in a variety of settings such as movie theaters and online video-sharing platforms. This is a history of technological innovation as well as a testament to the contributions of the Deaf community to the benefit of society as a whole.

Harry G. Lang is Professor Emeritus, National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology. His previous books include _Fighting in the Shadows: Untold Stories of Deaf People in the Civil War_ and _A Phone of Our Own: The Deaf Insurrection Against Ma Bell._ He is a recipient of the Dr. John S. and Dr. Betty J. Schuchman Deaf History Award for excellence in the field of Deaf history.
GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY PRESS

Above the Birch Line
Poems
Pia Taavila-Borsheim

*Above the Birch Line* reflects a lifetime of observation and experience, and offers glimpses of the loves, aches, and comforts that have accompanied author Pia Taavila-Borsheim along the way. Written primarily in free verse, the poems are imagistic in nature, with an ongoing metaphor of visual representations of nature, especially water. Starting with her childhood and continuing through late adulthood, Taavila-Borsheim ruminates on her parents, travels, marriage, motherhood, and finally, aging and death.

“The poet does a beautiful job giving us the intimacy of perspective, the clarity of view, especially in the poems that look back, that deal with memory in poems that are narrative, but not prosy, lyrical but not needlessly inaccessible. There is a clear emotion running through these pages and the reader can relate to the voice of these poems. The tension between what is said and unsaid is beautifully balanced here.” —Ilya Kaminsky, author of *Deaf Republic*

“Pia Taavila-Borsheim’s *Above the Birch Line* invokes a rich, resonant past through the clear-eyed and compassionate lens of present wisdom. From the silences of Deaf parents whose sign language speaks volumes, to the tranquil summer days of Michigan rivers, outboard motors, and hours lost to ‘the lapping waves crowding one upon the other,’ Taavila-Borsheim writes with a sure touch and an inclusive vision. —Ned Balbo, author of *The Cylburn Touch-Me-Not: Poems*

Pia Taavila-Borsheim is professor of English at Gallaudet University. Her previous works include *Moon on the Meadow: Collected Poems*, *Two Win ters*, and *Love Poems*. She lives in Presque Isle, Michigan.

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“The poems in *Above the Birch Line* are a harvest of arresting detail, entrancing musicality, and consistently evocative narrative. You'll find your eyes, ears, and heart revisiting (and marveling at) each line, image and stanza the way one pores over, say, a score by Claude Debussy. Pia Taavila-Borsheim’s work honors her path, but she also takes us along on these vivid recollections. Lucky, lucky us.” —Reuben Jackson, author of *Scattered Clouds: New and Selected Poems*
In this follow up to Educational Interpreting: How It Can Succeed, published in 2004, Elizabeth A. Winston and Stephen B. Fitzmaurice present information on the current state of educational interpreting, which includes newly available evidence-based research in this nascent field of academic study. This volume includes a focus on interpreting in post-secondary settings, as well as K-12 settings. The contributors consist of researchers, working educational interpreters (both deaf and hearing), and deaf consumers of educational interpreting services.

Elizabeth A. Winston is director of the Teaching Interpreting Educators and Mentors (TIEM) Center in Loveland, CO, where she directs research into interpreter education practices, discourse analysis, assessment, and evaluation. Stephen B. Fitzmaurice is Associate Professor of Interpreting: American Sign Language (ASL) and lead faculty for the ASL-English Educational Interpreting program at Clemson University. He is also the director of the South Carolina Educational Interpreting Center and has worked as a professional ASL-English interpreter for over twenty-five years.
The Importance of Being Poirot

Jeremy Black

Written by the renowned British historian who has been described as both utterly thorough and humanely delicate, Jeremy Black offers a guided tour through the mind of Agatha Christie and life during the Great World Wars. His incomparable treatment of literary craft developing alongside global military engagement nearly overshadows the natural draw of the crime drama that is the subject of his book. Indeed, the “prurience and sensationalism” of crime is not as exciting as Black’s aptitude for drawing the reality from the fiction (and periphery sources), giving Christie a much louder voice than she might ever have dreamed. If Christie is also moralist and mirror to her times, Black here plays his part as the detective and reveals layers of previously unmined truths in her stories.

Hercule Poirot as a character is masterfully imagined, but Black shows us how he is inseparable from Christie’s turbulent and changing world. He also illuminates significant social commentary in Christie’s fiction, and in so doing Black often uses his authority to vindicate Christie’s work from hastily, at times stupidly, applied labels and interpretations. He is especially magnificent in his chapters, “Xenophobia” and “The Sixties.” Black nevertheless gives due recognition to Christie’s critics when they have something relevant and reasonable to say, and hence the reader finds yet another service in Black’s comprehensive review of the reviewers over the expanse of Christie’s writing career.

The Golden Age of detective novels represents much more than a triumph of a literary genre. It is in its own right a story of how the challenge to address the problem of evil was accepted. Its convergence with the plot-rich narrative of the twentieth century in the modern age renders Black’s account a thrilling masterpiece, seducing historians to read fiction and crime junkies to read more history.

Jeremy Black is professor of history at the University of Exeter and the author of more than one hundred and forty books.
Slave State
Rereading Orwell’s 1984
David Lowenthal

David Lowenthal transposes present society onto that in the novel, 1984, and illustrates “how the quest for a perfect society led instead to the worst—in the course of revolting against which the true ends of life are established.” It is more than suspicion: the year 2021 is 1984. What many understand by instinct, Lowenthal here articulates in clear terms using the political prophesy of this no longer futuristic literature. To be one without truthful unity? This is the picture of human brotherhood ushering in the only thing worse than inequality—enslavement.

There is no positive political message in 1984, argues Lowenthal, but there is positive moral message that is nearly always overlooked by commentators. “Through the movement of the novel, Orwell tries to impress on the passions, hearts and minds of his readers the most valuable lessons concerning the right and wrong way to live. With the decline of Christianity’s influence in forming the moral sense of the West and the concomitant increase in power hunger, wielding instruments born of modern enlightenment, what mankind most needed was moral guidance, conveyed not abstractly, through philosophy, but in such a way as to grip the whole soul.”

But can Orwell be trusted as a guide to the goodness in human nature? Lowenthal says he can be, and more. He gives us a sketch of the intellectual process that compels Orwell to ultimately outgrow Marxism, his detection and rejection of totalitarian regimes (above all in Communism), and in what way the principles of liberalism of his day were given warning labels by a writer who was not a formally educated political philosopher.
Moling in Meditation
A Psalter for an Early Irish Monk

Paul Murray

Fr. Paul Murray is a wildly popular poet and authority on mystical Christian spirituality. His forthcoming collection of poems is, as the title suggests, inspired by the seventh-century Irish version of Saint Francis of Assisi, Moling the Monk. At home in Ireland, Moling still holds the admiration and imagination of the people, and its literature continues to be captivated by his influence and legend. Before Saint Francis, the “wren, a tiny fly, and a fox” were already singing to and playfully antagonizing the Irish Moling.

Murray’s poems are dedicated to Moling, thoughtfully as a fellow “monk” and wanderer in the woods and seascapes, but also as an equally capable Irish lyricist. Murray remembers that even Seamus Heaney ascribed to the early Irish monks the ability to make “springwater music out of certain feelings in a way unmatched in any other European language.” Moling is a critical element of this tradition, and Murray as a key component of its present pays tribute to him in the most appropriate fashion—verses written in the acute, observant fondness of small significant things. With Murray, the reader imbibes the fresh air of Moling’s natural world and soul, a rush that is inseparably both vision and prayer: “Since, with the vain/ and with the vulgar,/ God has shared his bread/ and, through the poets/ and his saints, has said:/ ‘To me,/ nothing human is alien.’”

Paul Murray is an Irish Dominican who is recognized as a pre-eminent contemporary Catholic theologian, but also universally as a renowned poet. He has published five collections of poetry and celebrated works in theology and narrative intellectual and artistic history, including God’s Spies: Michelangelo, Shakespeare and Other Poets of Vision. He teaches literature of the mystical tradition at the Angelicum University in Rome.
A year into the global pandemic, Gene Fendt repositions the attention of the Western world on a literary classic that bears a vital perspective. Presently, civilization cannot allow itself to think about being better. First it has to survive. Referencing Thomas Merton’s claim that Camus’ fictional account is actually a “modern myth about the destiny of man” and indication of the blight of “ambiguous and false explanations, interpretations, conventions, justifications, legalizations, evasions which infect our struggling civilization,” Fendt makes the case that “modernity itself is a time of plague.”

Fendt asserts that perhaps “the originality of the modern plague is that most people admit of no symptoms.” This chilling likeness to the asymptomatic Covid-19 victim is but one of the images of what the plague stands for in both the novel and contemporary society. The existentialist fiction of Camus is unwrapped by Fendt’s fidelity to realism and Camus’ motivations as an artist. As Camus calls nihilistic art and culture “barbaric,” Fendt calls the barbarian a natural slave. If we are moved by the forces of powers that be without sense or knowledge of a proper end, we too have been rendered worse than ignorant.

Beyond the presentation of The Plague as a myth, Fendt also provides generous insight into elements of this work that give an autobiographical portrait of Albert Camus’ artistic development. He provides an intelligent challenge to labeling Camus an atheist, if Camus is truly the artist Fendt believes him to be. It is also an unlikely but important contribution to the political philosophical study of solidarity.

Gene Fendt is the Albertus Magnus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Nebraska, Kearney, where he has been teaching for over thirty years. He has published six other books and numerous articles on a wide range of figures and issues including Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Anselm, Hume, Kant, and Kierkegaard, as well as Camus, Pinter, Stoppard and Shakespeare.
God’s Poems
The Beauty of Poetry and Christian Imagination

John Poch

Poetry is exciting, but elusive to most. This is troublesome for Christians because the Bible, John Poch reminds us, is largely composed of poetical verse. In God’s Poems, Poch reintroduces sacred text as purposefully poetic, and explains what that means and invites the reader to with this insight live more thoughtfully and beautifully.

But that is not all. Poch as a well-established and regarded poet, turns his eye to contemporary poetry and vindicates its function in a “created and creative world.” Today many have abandoned the genre as a wasteland of misguided voice that really has nothing to say. The poet is a truth-teller, and Poch as devoted writer, teacher, and believer sends out a renewed call to turn to verse as a means of seeing oneself as God’s poema, or poem (Letter to Ephesians). The depth of self-knowing relates directly to an aptitude to engage the category of poetry at some level. A tragic void is filled with Poch’s effort to exhort the reader to patiently reconnect with poetry even though it has been hijacked by persons who want to be heard more than speak well.

For faithful readers or those seeking to return, Poch is a place to begin to understand contemporary writers worth knowing and which poets of the past must remain with us. In Virgilian fashion, he can see the panorama behind him and that which lies immediately ahead and instills a recovered love of an eternal medium that will be restored to a state of coherency and enlightened perspective. If Poch has faith in poetry it is because poetry is indeed a source of faith. If Justin Martyr claimed that everything that is true belongs to Christians, Poch shows us that everyone who speaks truth is to some degree a poet. Even God with his revealed wisdom chooses poetry as medium par excellence.

John Poch is President’s Excellence Research Professor in the creative writing program at Texas Tech University and the author of six books of poetry and a number of other collaborative works. His poems have appeared in journals such as Poetry, Paris Review, Yale Review, The Christian Century, and Image.
Romano Guardini described Rainer Maria Rilke as the “poet who had things of such importance to say about the end of our own age [and] was also a prophet of things to come.” The complexity of Rilke is, then, “highly relevant to modern Man.” Decades after Guardini’s assessment, the reader who rediscoveres Rilke will find a depth of mind and soul that display a profundity the post-modern reader only thinks he possesses.

In an expanded collection of Rilke’s sonnets, Rick Anthony Furtak not only makes this lyrical masterpiece accessible to the English reader, but he proves himself a master of sorts as well. His introduction that elaborates on Rilke’s marriage of vision and voice, intention and enigma, haunted companionship and abandonment is a stand-alone marvel for the reader. Furtak’s praised translation of *Sonnets to Orpheus* is surpassed in this much broader collection of verse that also includes the original German text. It is Furtak’s great achievement that Rilke resonates with the contemporary reader, who uncertain and searching wants to believe that the vision of existence can mirror much more than his own consciousness. In his feat of rendering Rilke in English, contextualizing the philosophical meanings of verse, and presenting literary romanticism, Furtak provides a formidable contribution to the vindication of true poetic voice.

Rick Anthony Furtak is associate professor of philosophy at Colorado College. He is the author of *Wisdom in Love and Knowing Emotions*, and the editor of essay collections on Kierkegaard and Thoreau.
The Abandoned Generation

Gabriele Kuby

Presented by Theresa Farnan
Translated by James Patrick Kirchner

A broken family throws formidable stumbling blocks onto the path of life that a society as a whole must traverse. But the stones under the feet of the children in these situations are the most hurtful and most in need of redress. Gabriele Kuby answers the call and does so with an acute sense of responsibility. As a child of divorce and later divorcee, Kuby speaks to herself when she urges the men and women of her generation to consider how failing as spouses we fail as parents, and as such cause the most trouble for our children.

Reading Kuby’s analysis of cultural, sociological and biological data, the danger is clear and present. Yet Kuby asserts that, generally, our plight goes unnoticed and is veiled from our eyes. We need to see children for who and what they really are to us, to the family, and society at large. In the words of Fulton Sheen, “Children play a redeemer role in the family. They represent the victory of love over the insatiable ego. They symbolize the defeat of selfishness and the triumph of giving love.” Tragically, children are increasingly less a part of Western culture. This leaves the family, in the best case scenario, an artifact, and in the worst case, a casualty.

The topics addressed by Kuby cover towering influences in postmodern family life: Gender politics, the abortion mentality, daycare (“Socialism 2.0”), premature stress, rights of children, digital distractions, pornography, and divorce. A native German, Kuby’s work is, heartbreakingly, as relevant to American society as her own. This European perspective drives home the urgent need to recognize our situation as global and embedded, and one that requires more than political mobilization of mainstream efforts and responses.

Gabriele Kuby is a German sociologist, author, and international speaker. The Global Sexual Revolution – Destruction of Freedom in the Name of Freedom has been translated into fifteen languages. Theresa Farnan is the coauthor of Get Out Now: Why You Should Pull Your Child from Public School Before It’s Too Late and Where Did I Come From? Where Am I Going? How Do I Get There?
This is the second volume, following the well-received edition of Mill’s writing essential to understanding the liberal tradition. His commentary on a full spectrum of issues gives further insight into the strengths and vulnerabilities of liberal democratic theory in practice. Rare and difficult to locate material is here brought to attention and made available.

The contribution of Mill’s most authoritative biographer, Nicholas Capaldi, is a singular and unmatched highlight. The tenor of St. Augustine’s Press volume on Mill is distinct in its intention to place his work in the framework of political philosophy and the conversation of the viability of liberalism as a tradition of thought.

Zbigniew Janowski received his M.A. from The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, and his PhD from The Committee on Social Thought at The University of Chicago. He is the author of Homo Americanus, Cartesian Theodicy, Augustinian-Cartesian Index, How to Read Descartes’ Meditations, and (with Catherine O’Neil) Agamemnon’s Tomb. He is also the editor of Leszek Kołakowski’s The Two Eyes of Spinoza and Other Essays on Philosophers, My Correct Views on Everything and John Stuart’s Mill’s writings: On Democracy, Freedom and Government & Other Selected Writings. He is a member of Centre d’Etudes Cartésienne, Université de Paris-IV-Sorbonne.
Tale of a Criminal Mind Gone Good

Nathan Lefler

In this concise and creative book, Nathan Lefler places G. K. Chesterton and René Girard in conversation on the art of being deceived. The campaign to get rid of (or mythicize) the Judaic and the Christian is not progress, it is a fog. Girard noted early on that returning preeminent status to the Judeo-Christian influence would have the (paradoxical) effect of clearing the air, such that humans might actually breath and reason well again.

Entrée G. K. Chesterton. If Girard recognizes the talent certain literary figures have for observing what celebrated philosophers fail to see, Chesterton is one of these men of real vision. Lefler in his match-making is interested in “Romance and the romantic,” and placing Girard and Chesterton in a kind of dialogue he draws a clearer concept of Romanticism. Who is the Romantic hero? And why do we so badly need to know? If what Lefler sees in Chesterton and Girard requires “special pleading” on the part of the reader for the author to make himself more clear, Lefler obliges. He takes a sharp turn into the Father Brown stories and points the reader to Chesterton’s famous villain: Flambeau, the “colossus of crime”. The moral transition from sinner to saint in Flambeau is strikingly anti-Romantic and, with Girard in mind, also very much anti-mimetic. Or is it? Lefler argues that even Girard would have “inclined his own regal forehead in delight and awe” at Chesterton’s portrayal of the crowning Romantic quality and unlikely machete in an overgrown jungle of the self-intoxicated modern imagination—namely, humility.

Lefler makes his mark in several places with this new study. As literary critic, both Chesterton and Girard are honored. As philosopher, Lefler speaks as if somehow he managed to find a pocket of unpolluted air to breath. As theologian, he betrays that he also loves what Chesterton and Girard loved. And as special service to the reader, the full text of Chesterton’s The Queer Feet is provided.

Nathan Lefler is professor of theology in the Department of Theology/Religious Studies at the University of Scranton.
The importance of engaging the problems of contemporary political theory has brought us to an unprecedented reliance on the historical commentary already provided by giants like Alexis de Tocqueville and Edmund Burke. Among these is also the less often noted Numa Denis Fustel de Coulanges and his landmark work, *The Ancient City*.

Fustel de Coulanges plunged deep into the world and language of the ancient Greeks and Romans. His presentation of religion as a factor in civilization equates to a vision of how and why the ancient city-state died. This is a non-partisan and spiritually unmotivated work of political-philosophical merit, in which from a perspective of Cartesian doubt Coulanges strips away layers of cultural façade until the most foundational and hidden stratospheres of Greek and Roman institutions are laid bare.

*The Ancient City* places ancient Greek and Roman cities in relation to each other, and the daily life in both are illustrated in detail. Morality and custom are rendered as living and breathing entities, and the dynamics of social life are displayed in a way that the tragic influence of Christianity is rendered obvious, yet not heartbreaking.

This new translation is an essential component to a well-rounded understanding of where the notion of the city and political ordering come from, the role of religion in politics, the development of law, and its reliance on custom and the eternal fabric of the family.
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