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Narrative Podcasting in an Age of Obsession

Neil Verma

Evaluating the rise of podcasting and the storytelling trends that emerged

It has been a decade since *Serial* brought the narrative podcast to the center of popular culture. In that time, there has been an enormous boom in the production of podcasts that tell stories, particularly in the fields of true crime, storytelling, history, and narrative fiction. Now that the initial glow around the medium has begun to fade, it is time to reevaluate the medium’s technological, political, economic, and cultural rise, in particular what types of storytelling accompanied that rise.

*Narrative Podcasting in an Age of Obsession* is the first book to look back on this prodigious body of material and attempt to make sense of it from a structural, historical, and analytic point of view. Focusing on more than 350 podcasts and other audio works released between *Serial* and the COVID pandemic, the book explores why so many of these podcasts seem “obsessed with obsession,” why they focus not only on informing listeners but also dramatizing the labor that goes into it, and why fiction podcasts work so hard to prove they are a brand new form, even as they revive features of radio from decades gone by. This work also examines the industry’s reckoning with its own implication in systemic racism, misogyny, and other forms of discrimination. Employing innovative new critical techniques for close listening—including pitch tracking software and spectrograms—*Narrative Podcasting in an Age of Obsession* makes a major contribution to podcast studies and media studies more broadly.

Neil Verma is Assistant Professor of Sound Studies in the Department of Radio/Television/Film at Northwestern University. His books include *Theater of the Mind: Imagination, Aesthetics and American Radio Drama* (2012) and, as coeditor, *Indian Sound Cultures, Indian Sound Citizenship* (2020) and *Anatomy of Sound: Norman Corwin and Media Authorship* (2016).
“Pugh’s willingness to kick Chaucer off his pedestal is a refreshing departure from staid scholarship on the poet, but it’s clear that Pugh’s criticisms stem from a deep love for his subject, warts and all. The result is an unusually lively take on the medieval classic.”
— Publishers Weekly

**Bad Chaucer**

*The Great Poet’s Greatest Mistakes in the Canterbury Tales*

**Tison Pugh**

Explores how Geoffrey Chaucer’s blunders in the classic *Canterbury Tales* make it far from a perfect masterpiece

Acclaimed for centuries as the “Father of English Literature,” Geoffrey Chaucer enjoys widespread and effusive praise for his classic *Canterbury Tales*—and rightfully so. Still, even the greatest of authors cannot claim perfection, and so *Bad Chaucer* analyzes his various missteps, missed opportunities, and other blunders in this peerless masterpiece. From a vexing catalog of trees in the *Knight’s Tale* to the flirtations with blasphemy in the *Parson’s Tale*, this volume progresses through the *Canterbury Tales* story by story, tale by tale, pondering the most egregious failing of each in turn. Viewed collectively, Chaucer’s troubles stem from clashing genres that disrupt interpretive clarity, themeless themes that undermine any message a tale might convey, mischaracterized characters who act without clear motivation, purposeful and otherwise pleasurable badness that show Chaucer’s appreciation for the humor of bad literature, and outmoded perspectives that threaten to alienate modern readers. Badness is not always to be lamented but often celebrated, even cherished, for badness infuses artistic creations with the vitality that springs from varied responses, spirited engagements, and the inherent volatility of enjoying literature. On the whole, *Bad Chaucer*: swerves literary criticism in a new direction by examining the provocative question, for too long overlooked, of what this great author got wrong.

**Tison Pugh** is Pegasus Professor of English at the University of Central Florida. He is the author or editor of over two dozen books, including *On the Queerness of Early English Drama: Sex in the Subjunctive and Chaucer’s (Anti-) Eroticsisms and the Queer Middle Ages*. 

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**MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES | LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORY**

January 2024

6 x 9, 274 pages

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Ebook 978-0-472-22125-7
Seeds of Mobilization
The Authoritarian Roots of South Korea’s Democracy
Joan E. Cho

Examines the roles of industrialization and tertiary education in Korea’s nonlinear path to democracy

South Korea is sometimes held as a dream case of modernization theory, a testament to how economic development leads to democracy. Seeds of Mobilization takes a closer look at the history of South Korea to show that Korea’s advance to democracy was not linear. Instead, while Korea’s national economy grew dramatically under the regimes of Park Chung Hee (1961–79) and Chun Doo Hwan (1980–88), the political system first became increasingly authoritarian. Because modernization was founded on industrial complexes and tertiary education, these structures initially helped bolster the authoritarian regimes. In the long run, however, these structures later facilitated the anti-regime protests by various social movement groups—most importantly, workers and students—that ultimately brought democracy to the country.

By using original subnational protest event datasets, government publications, oral interviews, and publications from labor and student movement organizations, Joan E. Cho takes a long view of democratization that incorporates the decades before and after South Korea’s democratic transition. She demonstrates that Korea’s democratization resulted from a combination of factors from below and from above, and that authoritarian development itself was a hidden root cause of democratic development in South Korea. Seeds of Mobilization shows how socioeconomic development did not create a steady pressure toward democracy but acted as a “double-edged sword” that initially stabilized autocratic regimes before destabilizing them over time.

Joan E. Cho is Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies, and Assistant Professor by courtesy of Government, at Wesleyan University.

“In this richly researched and elegantly written book, Joan Cho uses the case of South Korea to make an original and nuanced argument about how the geospatial patterns of industrial and educational policies bolstered authoritarian durability initially but also unintentionally laid the organizational foundations off which social forces mobilized to democratize Korea.”
—Celeste Arrington, George Washington University

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Greasepaint Puritan

Boston to 42nd Street in the Queer Backstage Novels of Bradford Ropes

Maya Cantu

Recovers the life and art of Bradford Ropes, author of 42nd Street and chronicler of gay lives in early show business

Greasepaint Puritan details the life and work of Bradford Ropes, author of the bawdy 1932 novel 42nd Street, on which the classic film and its stage adaptation are based. Each of Ropes’s long-forgotten novels was inspired by his own experiences as a performer, and focused on the lives of gay men in show business, offering rare glimpses into backstage Broadway. But why did Ropes’s body of work, and consequently his biographical footsteps, disappear into such obscurity?

Greasepaint Puritan aims to find out and reclaim his story. Descended from Mayflower Pilgrims, Ropes rebelled against the “Proper Bostonian” life, in a career that touched upon the Jazz Age, American vaudeville, and theater censorship. We follow Ropes’s successful career as both a performer and the author of the trilogy of backstage novels: 42nd Street, Stage Mother, and Go Into Your Dance. Populated by scheming stage mothers, precocious stage children, grandiose bit players, and tart-tongued chorines, these novels centered on the lives and relationships of gay men on Broadway during the Jazz Age and Prohibition era. Rigorously researched, Greasepaint Puritan chronicles Ropes’s career as a successful screenwriter in 1930s and ’40s Hollywood, where he continued to be a part of a dynamic gay subculture within the movie industry before returning to obscurity in the 1950s. His legacy lives on in the Hollywood and Broadway incarnations of 42nd Street—but Greasepaint Puritan restores the “forgotten melody” of the man who first envisioned its colorful characters.

Maya Cantu is a dramaturg, interdisciplinary scholar, and historian who teaches on the Drama Faculty of Bennington College. She is also the author of American Cinderellas on the Broadway Musical Stage: Imagining the Working Girl from “Irene” to “Gypsy”.

“A significant contribution to our further understanding and appreciation of American theater and entertainment in the mid-20th century. Bradford Ropes deserves a bright spotlight, and Maya Cantu has provided it.”

—Jack F. Sharrar, author of Avery Hopwood: His Life and Plays

Theater and Performance | Gay and Lesbian Studies | Cinema Studies

January 2024

6 x 9, 330 pages, 16 illustrations
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Kinetic California

Dancing Funk and Disco Era Kinships

Naomi Macalalad Bragin

Explores the collective making of black social and vernacular dance in the 1970s, precursor to today’s global hip hop culture

Kinetic California: Dancing Funk and Disco Era Kinships documents the emergence of new forms of black social and vernacular dance in 1970s California, forms embedded in local cultural histories but connected to the contemporary global culture of hip hop/streetsdance. The book weaves interviews and ethnographies of first generation (1960s–70s) dancers of strutting, boogaloo, robotting, popping, locking, waacking, and punking styles, as it advances a theory of dance as kinetic kinship formation, through a focus on techniques and practices of the dancers themselves. The term given to these collective movement practices is *kinesthetic*, to bring attention to motion at the core of Black aesthetics that generate dances as forms of kinship beyond blood relation. Kinetics reorient dancers toward kinetic kinship in ways that give continuity to black dance lineages under persistent conditions of disappearance and loss. As dancers engage kinethics, they reinvent gestural vocabularies that describe worlds they imagine into knowing-being.

The stories in *Kinetic California* attend to the aesthetics of everyday movement, seen through the lens of young artists who from childhood listened to their family’s soul and funk records, observed the bent-leg strolls and rhythmic handshakes of people moving through their neighborhoods, and watched each other move at house parties, school gyms, and around-the-way social clubs. Their aesthetic sociality and geographic movement provided materials for collective study and creative play. Naomi Macalalad Bragin attends to such multidirectional conversations between dancer, community, and tradition, by way of which California dance lineages emerge and take flight.

**Naomi Macalalad Bragin** is Associate Professor at the University of Washington Bothell.

“Urgent and provocative, this book brings streetsdance into conversation with Black feminist theory and Black Queer theory in important ways. *The book’s structure and its pauses for poetic explorations are compelling, and confirm that Bragin dances well with words, translation, and those who have shared their stories with her.*”

—Thomas F. DeFrantz, Northwestern University

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“This volume offers an important and groundbreaking contribution to the study of German theater and racial representations. It follows on significant developments in the globalization of the Black Lives Matter movement but also intense debates on the nature of theatrical representation in Germany.”
—Randall Halle, University of Pittsburgh

**Staging Blackness**

*Representations of Race in German-Speaking Drama and Theater*

Priscilla Layne and Lily Tonger-Erk, Editors

**Examining how Blackness has been historically staged in German theater and how it should be represented today**

*Staging Blackness* provides a multifaceted look at how Blackness has been staged in Germany from the eighteenth century, the birth of German national theater, until the present. In recent years, the German stage has been at the forefront of discussions about race, from cases of blackface to fights for better representation within the professional community. These debates frequently invoke larger discussions about the politics of race in German theater and their origins, and beyond.

Written by scholars and theater professionals with a wide variety of historical and theoretical expertise, the chapters seek to explore the connections between the German discourse on national theater and emerging ideas about race, analyze how dramaturges deal with older representations of Blackness in current productions, and discuss the contributions Black German playwrights and dramaturges have made to this discourse. Historians question how these plays were staged in their time, while cultural studies scholars contemplate how to interpret the function of race in these plays and how they can continue to be staged today.

**Priscilla Layne** is Professor of German and Adjunct Associate Professor of African and Afro-American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Lily Tonger-Erk** is Associate Professor at the German Studies Department of the University of Tübingen, Germany.
The Next Draft
*Inspiring Craft Talks from the Rainier Writing Workshop*
Brenda Miller, Editor

**Essays inspiring readers to take an innovative approach to writing**

*The Next Draft: Inspiring Craft Talks from the Rainier Writing Workshop* brings together a selection of the “morning talks” delivered by the renowned authors who teach at the prestigious Rainier Writing Workshop MFA program. These morning talks are a highlight of the residencies at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, featuring inspiring, innovative approaches to writing and literature across genres. For this collection, Brenda Miller has selected essays that feature diverse and illustrious writers such as Geoffrey Davis, Marjorie Sandor, Barrie Jean Borich, Jenny Johnson, Oliver de la Paz, Lia Purpura, Kent Myers, Rebecca McClanahan, and others. Ranging from reading and writing in the Jewish tradition of midrash to the role of the writer as cultural critic in the 21st century, *The Next Draft* brings to life the kind of intellectual and creative excitement that underlies the intensive MFA experience at Pacific Lutheran University. Not only do these talks show innovative approaches to writing and literature across genres, they inspire the reader to think about how to read differently and thus bring their own work to a new level.

**Brenda Miller’s** most recent book is *A Braided Heart: Essays on Writing and Form*. She is the author of five more essay collections, including *An Earlier Life*, which received the Washington State Book Award for Memoir, and she is the recipient of six Pushcart Prizes. She is a Professor of Creative Writing at Western Washington University and Associate Faculty at the Rainier Writing Workshop.

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Stephanie Dinkins

On Love & Data

Srimoyee Mitra

Art’s power to challenge inequities and build inclusive dialogues

Stephanie Dinkins is renowned for her critical investigations into artificial intelligence and machine learning systems as they intersect race, gender, and our future histories. By using her training in documentary practices as a photo-based artist, she creates inclusive platforms for dialogue and action toward building technological ecosystems and datasets that are equitable, accessible, and transparent. Her immersive installations, community-based workshops, and public talks seek audience participation and engagement in a way that pushes the boundaries of new media and socially engaged art practices in the 21st century.

Stephanie Dinkins: On Love & Data brings together nationally renowned curators and theorists who draw from methodologies of art criticism, social practice, new media theory, and critical studies to offer an in-depth analysis of key installations in Dinkins’s survey exhibition. The book also includes an important essay by Stephanie Dinkins on her concept of Afro-now-ism in which she expands on her theoretical framework and positionality as a Black new media artist in the 21st century. Dinkins’s artistic research transcends the boundaries of visual art to challenge and expose the bias and inequities of caste, race, and gender, which are encoded within digital systems on which governance, healthcare, and security infrastructures in the United States are based.

Srimoyee Mitra is the Director of the Stamps Gallery at the University of Michigan. She is an award-winning curator, writer, and arts administrator whose work is invested in building empathy and mutual respect. Her previous publications include Border Cultures (Black Dog Publishing, 2015).

“Stephanie Dinkins: On Love and Data is a beautiful reflection on technology, and in particular AI, through the lens of Dinkins’s unique artistic practice. In this pivotal moment of technological advancement, the publication offers alternatives to the proliferation of bias-based systems—inspiring ways to imagine a justice-oriented digital future.”

—Justine Ludwig, Executive Director, Creative Time
Crippling Girlhood
Anastasia Todd

2022 Winner of the Tobin Siebers Prize for Disability Studies in the Humanities!

Disabled girls’ complex roles in contemporary media culture

Crippling Girlhood offers a new theorization of disabled girlhood, tracing how and why representations of disabled girls emerge with frequency in twenty-first century U.S. media culture. It uncovers how the exceptional figure of the disabled girl most often appears as a resource to work through post-Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) anxieties about the family, healthcare, labor, citizenship, and the precarity of the bodymind. In paying critical attention to disabled girlhood, the book uses feminist disability studies to rupture the unwitting assumption in girls’ studies that girlhood is necessarily non-disabled.

By closely examining the ways that disabled girls represent themselves, Anastasia Todd goes beyond a critique of the figure of the privileged disabled girl subject in the national imagination to explore how disabled girls circulate their own capacious re-envisioning of what it means to be a disabled girl. In analyzing a range of cultural sites, including YouTube, TikTok, documentaries, and GoFundMe campaigns, Todd shows how disabled girls actively upend what we think we know about them and their experience, recasting the meanings ascribed to their bodyminds in their own terms. By analyzing disabled girls’ self-representational practices and cultural productions, Todd shows how disabled girls deftly theorize their experiences of ableism, sexism, racism, and ageism, and cultivate communities online, creating archives of disability knowledge and politicizing other disabled people in the process.

Anastasia Todd is Assistant Professor of Gender and Women’s Studies at the University of Kentucky.

CRIPPING
GIRLHOOD
ANASTASIA TODD

“Anastasia Todd delicately handles discourses surrounding living breathing disabled girls (and women) without ever passing judgment on any particular girl or the ways she might be implicated in the reproduction of harmful narratives about disability. It’s a love letter to crip girls, flawlessly and accessibly written. For feminist disability studies scholars, this book will read like having a conversation with a group of colleague-friends.”

—Amanda Apgar, Loyola Marymount University

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Ghosts and the Overplus

Reading Poetry in the Twenty-First Century

Christina Pugh

Celebrating the voices, current and past, that surface in lyric poetry

Ghosts and the Overplus is a celebration of lyric poetry in the twenty-first century and how lyric poetry incorporates the voices of our age as well as the poetic “ghosts” from the past. Acclaimed poet and award-winning teacher Christina Pugh is fascinated by how poems continually look backward into literary history. Her essays find new resonance in poets ranging from Emily Dickinson to Gwendolyn Brooks to the poetry of the present. Some of these essays also consider the way that poetry interacts with the visual arts, dance, and the decision to live life as a nonconformist. This wide-ranging collection showcases the critical discussions around poetry that happened in America over the first two decades of our current millennium. Essay topics include poetic forms continually in migration, such as the sonnet; poetic borrowings across visual art and dance; and the idiosyncrasies of poets who lived their lives against the grain of literary celebrity and trend. What unites all of these essays is a drive to dig more deeply into the poetic word and act: to go beyond surface reading in order to reside longer with poems. In essays both discursive and personal, Pugh shows that poetry asks us to think differently—in a way that gathers feeling into the realm of thought, thereby opening the mysteries that reside in us and in the world around us.

Christina Pugh has published five books of poems including Stardust Media (2020), winner of the Juniper Prize for Poetry from the University of Massachusetts Press. She has received fellowships and awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Poetry Society of America, the Bogliasco Foundation, and the Illinois Arts Council. A recent Visiting Artist at the American Academy in Rome, she is a professor in the Program for Writers at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

“A spirited, nonconformist book. Christina Pugh has been covering the waterfront of poetry in English for years as poet, critic, teacher, and editor, and her essays rise from those rambles. She reads Dickinson and Bishop against the fashionable grain, plucks at the notion of ‘mainstream poetry,’ and brings us up close to Jonson, Milton, Stevens, Milosz, Gwendolyn Brooks, Ed Roberson, and others in prose both sensuous and precise. A rich adventure of poetic discovery.”
—Rosanna Warren, author of So Forth: Poems

POETRY AND POETRY CRITICISM | MODERN LITERATURE

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Lana Miller
**Instrument of Memory**  
*Encounters with the Wandering Jew*  
Lisa Lampert-Weissig

Reimagining the Wandering Jew legend and the curse of immortality in centuries of Jewish and Christian art

How can immortality be a curse? According to the Wandering Jew legend, as Jesus made his way to Calvary, a man refused him rest, cruelly taunting him to hurry to meet his fate. In response, Jesus cursed the man to wander until the Second Coming. Since the medieval period, the legend has inspired hundreds of adaptations by artists and writers. *Instrument of Memory: Encounters with the Wandering Jew*, the first English-language study of the legend in over fifty years, is also the first to examine the influence of the legend’s medieval and early modern sources over the centuries into the present day. Using the lens of memory studies, the work shows how the Christian tradition of the legend centered the memory of the Passion at the heart of the Wandering Jew’s curse. *Instrument of Memory* also shows how Jewish artists and writers have reimagined the legend through Jewish memory traditions. Through this focus on memory, Jewish adapters of the legend create complex renderings of the Wandering Jew that recognize not only the entanglement of Jewish and Christian memory, but also the impact of that entanglement on Jewish subjects. This book presents a complex, sympathetic, and more fully realized version of the legend while challenging the limits of the presentism of memory studies.

Lisa Lampert-Weissig is Professor of English Literature and Comparative Medieval Studies and Jerome and Miriam Katzin Chair of Jewish Civilization at the University of California, San Diego.

“Lisa Lampert-Weissig’s volume significantly contributes to the rich and varied scholarship on the Wandering Jew. With her deep knowledge of European languages and cultures she beautifully reads texts from the Middle Ages through the nineteenth and the twentieth century almost to our own time, focusing the powerful lens of memory studies on the cultural interactions woven into the art of Jewish and Christian authors and artists. Well worth reading and teaching!”

—Galit Hasan-Rokem,  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**YOU MAY ALSO BE INTERESTED IN:**

**MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES | JEWISH STUDIES**

January 2024  
6 x 9, 292 pages, 7 figures  
Cloth 978-0-472-13346-8 | $75.00S  
Mediating Gender in Post-Authoritarian South Korea
Michelle Cho and Jesook Song, Editors

An interdisciplinary look at gender and sexuality in contemporary South Korea

Mediating Gender in Post-Authoritarian South Korea focuses on the relationship between media representation and gender politics in South Korea. Its chapters feature notable voices of South Korea’s burgeoning sphere of gender critique enabled by social media, doing what no other academic volume has yet accomplished in the sphere of Anglophone studies on this topic. Seeking to interrogate the role of popular media in establishing and shaping gendered common sense, this volume fosters cross-disciplinary conversations linked by the central thesis that gender discourse and representation are central to the politics, aesthetics, and economics of contemporary South Korea. In the post-authoritarian period (the late 1980s to the #MeToo present), media representation and popular discourse changed the gender conventions that are found at the core of civic, political, and cultural debates.

This book maps the ways in which popular media and public discourse make the social dynamics of gender visible and open them up for debate and dismantling. In presenting innovative new research on the ways in which popular ideas about gender gain concrete form and political substance through mass mediation, our contributors investigate the discursive production of gender in contemporary South Korea through trends, tropes, and thematics, as popular media become the domain in which new gendered subjectivities and relations transpire. The essays in this volume introduce new ways of thinking about gender as a platform and a conceptual infrastructure in the post-authoritarian era.

Michelle Cho is Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto in Canada. Jesook Song is Professor of Anthropology, affiliated with Women and Gender Studies, Sexuality Diversity Studies, and Korean Studies at the University of Toronto in Canada.
China as Number One?
The Emerging Values of a Rising Power
Yang Zhong and Ronald F. Inglehart

Examining the contemporary rise in China’s political, economic, and military power through the opinions of its citizens

One of the most significant global events in the last forty years has been the rise of China—economically, technologically, politically, and militarily. The question on people’s minds for decades has been whether China will replace the United States as a superpower in the near future. China as Number One? explores China’s soft powers through the eyes of Chinese citizens. Utilizing data from the World Values Survey, the contributors to this collection analyze the potential soft power of a rising China by examining its residents’ social values. A comprehensive study of changes and continuities in the political and social values of Chinese citizens, the book examines findings in the context of evolutionary modernization theory and cross-national comparison.

China as Number One? explores China’s soft powers through the eyes of Chinese citizens. Utilizing data from the World Values Survey, the contributors to this collection explore the potential soft power of a rising China by examining its residents’ social values. A comprehensive study of changes and continuities in the political and social values of Chinese citizens, the book examines findings in the context of evolutionary modernization theory and cross-national comparison.

Yang Zhong is Professor of Political Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Ronald F. Inglehart was Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Michigan. In his lifetime, Inglehart published over 400 peer-reviewed articles and fourteen authored or co-authored books. China as Number One? is his final book.
Incarceration Games
A History of Role-Play in Psychology, Prisons, and Performance
Stephen Scott-Bottoms

Revisiting the Stanford Prison Experiment and other psychological experiments as performance and theater

Do you want to play a game?

Incarceration Games reexamines the complex history and troubled legacy of improvised, interactive role-playing experiments. With particular attention to the notorious Stanford prison study, the author draws on extensive archival research and original interviews with many of those involved, to refocus attention on the in-game choices of the role-players themselves.

Role-playing as we understand it today was initially developed in the 1930s as a therapeutic practice within the New York state penal system. This book excavates that history and traces the subsequent adoption of these methods for lab experimentation, during the postwar “stage production era” in American social psychology. It then examines the subsequent mutation of the Stanford experiment, in particular, into cultural myth—exploring the ways in which these distorted understandings have impacted on everything from reality TV formats to the “enhanced interrogation” of real-world terror suspects. Incarceration Games asks readers to reconsider what they thought they knew about this tangled history, and to look at it again from the role-player’s perspective.

Stephen Scott-Bottoms is Professor of Contemporary Theatre and Performance at the University of Manchester.

“...the most thorough treatment to date of Philip Zimbardo’s so-called Stanford Prison Experiment and its cultural afterlives, Incarceration Games moves well beyond ‘gotcha’ sensibility to delve into the multiple and varied cultural mediations of the study and its kin, as they became iconic shorthands for understanding disciplinary institutions, social control, and dehumanization. The reading of social psychology through a performance studies lens is long overdue and well executed, providing a refreshing, novel perspective.”

—Michael Pettit, author of The Science of Deception: Psychology and Commerce in America Criminal Justice System
Garden of Egypt

Irrigation, Society, and the State in the Premodern Fayyûm

Brendan Haug

Examining how relationships with water flow through Egyptian history

Garden of Egypt: Irrigation, Society, and the State in the Premodern Fayyûm is the first environmental history of Egypt’s Fayyûm depression. The volume studies human relationships with flowing water, from the third century BCE to the thirteenth century CE. Until the arrival of modern perennial irrigation in the nineteenth century, the Fayyûm was the only region of premodern Egypt to be irrigated by a network of artificial canals. By linking large numbers of rural communities together in shared dependence on this public irrigation infrastructure, canalization introduced to Egypt a radically new way of interacting both with the water of the Nile and with fellow farmers. Drawing upon ancient Greek papyri, medieval Arabic literature, and modern comparative evidence, this book explores the ways in which the Nile’s water, local farmers, and state power together continually reshaped this irrigated landscape over more than thirteen centuries. Following human/water relationships through both space and time further helps to erode disciplinary boundaries and bring multiple periods of Egyptian history into contact with one another.

Brendan Haug is Archivist of the Papyrology Collection, University of Michigan, and Associate Professor of Classical Studies, University of Michigan.

“Garden of Egypt revolutionizes our understanding of water and society in ancient Egypt. Haug grasps the dynamic interactions between humans and the environment in the Fayyûm specifically and more generally in the ancient Roman world.”
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Daphne Barak-Erez

Analyzes the classical stories of the Hebrew Bible through the lens of modern law

*Biblical Judgments* invites readers to consider today’s timeless dilemmas of law and government, social justice, and human rights, through the perspective of a text that has helped shape Western society: the Hebrew Bible. By focusing on biblical narratives and literature rather than on traditional interpretations of biblical law, Daphne Barak-Erez looks beyond specific legal norms to concentrate on what the stories can reveal about the “big” issues. She discusses questions such as: What can modern-day governmental regulation learn from the exercise of food rationing in Egypt as a response to Pharaoh’s dream of a future famine? How does social distancing in the time of COVID compare with people sent outside the camp as a precautionary measure against Bible-era plagues? What can promoters of social justice glean from the demands made to Moses that daughters should also inherit from their father when biblical law did not recognize inheritance rights of women?

Rather than offering a historical study, Barak-Erez draws upon famous court decisions from around the world to root her analysis in modern law. Organized by subject matter, *Biblical Judgments* analyzes how the themes of law and government, judging and judges, human rights and social justice, criminal law, private law, and family and inheritance law are presented through a number of different stories. In recounting the compelling narratives of the Hebrew Bible, *Biblical Judgments* exposes their inherent legal tensions and what we can learn from them and with them about legal dilemmas today.

**Daphne Barak-Erez** is a Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel. She was formerly Dean and Professor of Law at the Faculty of Law of Tel Aviv University.
None of the Above

Protest Voting in Latin American Democracies

Mollie J. Cohen

How citizens casting an invalid vote still contribute to democracy

Around the world each year, millions of citizens turn out to vote but leave their ballots empty or spoil them. Increasingly, campaigns have emerged that promote “invalid” votes like these. Why do citizens choose to cast blank and spoiled votes? And how do campaigns mobilizing the invalid vote influence this decision? None of the Above answers these questions using evidence from presidential and gubernatorial elections in eighteen Latin American democracies. Author Mollie J. Cohen draws on a broad range of methods and sources, incorporating data from electoral management bodies, nationally representative surveys, survey experiments, focus groups, semi-structured interviews, and news sources.

Contrary to received wisdom, this book shows that most citizens cast blank or spoiled votes in presidential elections on purpose. By participating in invalid vote campaigns, citizens can voice their concerns about low-quality candidates while also expressing a preference for high-quality democracy. Campaigns promoting blank and spoiled votes come about more often, and succeed at higher rates, when incumbent politicians undermine the quality of elections. Surprisingly, invalid vote campaigns can shore up the quality of democracy in the short term. None of the Above shows that swings in blank and spoiled vote rates can serve as a warning about the trajectory of a country’s democracy.

Mollie J. Cohen is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Purdue University.

“A wonderful example of a well-executed scholarly book that takes an interesting and misunderstood phenomenon—invalid voting—and explores both the meaning and the consequences across a wide range of contexts. Dr. Cohen is a true expert on this topic. This book showcases her deep knowledge of protest voting in Latin American elections and presents convincing evidence that the practice of invalid voting in protest is more important than many might think at first.”

—Carew Boulding,
University of Colorado at Boulder

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Rape at the Opera
*Staging Sexual Violence*
Margaret Cormier

How opera practitioners represent sexual violence on today’s opera stages

The most-performed operas today were written at least a hundred years ago and carry some outdated and deeply problematic ideas. In *Rape at the Opera*, Margaret Cormier argues that production and performance are vital elements of opera, and that the primary responsibility of opera critics and creators is not to opera composers and librettists but to the public. Cormier demonstrates that where some directors explicitly respond to contemporary dialogues about sexual violence, others utilize sexual violence as a surefire way to titillate, to shock, and to generate press for a new production.

Drawing on archival footage as well as attendance at live events, Cormier establishes methods to evaluate how representations of sexual violence work on stage, and then demonstrates that while some directors explicitly respond to contemporary dialogues about sexual violence, others utilize it as a surefire way to titillate, to shock, and to generate press for a new project.

*Margaret Cormier* is an independent scholar and opera dramaturg.

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Opera for Everyone
*The Industry’s Experiments with American Opera in the Digital Age*
Megan Steigerwald Ille

How one opera company represents the economic precarity and aesthetic possibilities of operatic performance in the twenty-first century U.S.

*Opera for Everyone* draws on seven years of multi-sited ethnography to examine the acclaimed experimental productions of Los Angeles-based opera company The Industry. Steigerwald Ille understands *The Industry’s* productions as part of an emerging wave of U.S. operas that integrate new media and interactive performance through means such as site-specificity and simulcast video, and then traces the company’s path from *Crescent City* (2012), the company’s first production, to *Sweet Land* (2020), the company’s final production before switching to a new production model. Steigerwald Ille argues that by moving opera outside of the opera house, *The Industry’s* productions expose the economic and aesthetic structures key to the circulation of operatic performance at the same time that they deploy opera as a tool for digital listening, community engagement, popular entertainment, and commentary on systemic racism and settler colonialism.

*Megan Steigerwald Ille* is Assistant Professor of Musicology at the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati.

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Bodies on the Front Lines
Performance, Gender, and Sexuality in Latin America and the Caribbean
Brenda Werth and Katherine Zien, Editors

Performances as feminist, queer, and trans activism, from theater and flash mobs to street protests and online manifestos

Revolutionary feminisms and queer and trans activist movements are traversing Latin America and the Caribbean. Bodies on the Front Lines situates recent performances and protest actions within legacies of homegrown gender and sexual rights activism from the Global South. These performances play crucial roles in the elaboration, auto-theorization, translation, and reception of feminist, queer, and trans activism.

The volume's contributors draw from rich legacies of theater, performance, and activism in the region, as well as decolonial and intersectional theorizing, to demonstrate the ways that performance practices enable activists to sustain their movements. In chapters covering a wide geographical area, leading scholars in the fields of theater and performance studies showcase the aesthetic, social, and political work of performance in generating and fortifying gender and sexual activism in the Americas.

Brenda Werth is Associate Professor of Latin American and Spanish Studies at American University. Katherine Zien is Associate Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies at McGill University.

Pragmatic Liberation and the Politics of Puerto Rican Diasporic Drama
Jon D. Rossini

Explores drama’s powerful capacity to model nuanced political action

Pragmatic Liberation and the Politics of Puerto Rican Diasporic Drama explores the work of a unique group of playwrights—Puerto Rican dramatists writing in the United States—who offer a model of political engagement. As members of the Puerto Rican diaspora, they have a heightened awareness of the systematic discrimination and the colonial citizenship created by Puerto Rico’s territorial status. Pragmatic Liberation analyzes the work of established playwrights as well as work that has previously received little attention in the world of theater studies, including René Marqués’s Palm Sunday. The book demonstrates how these playwrights use basic strategies of dramatic world building, premise, and given circumstances to model a nuanced way of moving toward liberation, while sensitive to the potential impact these actions might have on those closest to us. This is a crucially important model that needs more attention in our currently polarized political moment.

Jon D. Rossini is Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance and Performance Studies at the University of California, Davis.
**StarCraft**

*Legacy of the Real-Time Strategy*

Simon Dor

**One game’s influence on the rise of e-sports and video game strategy**

*StarCraft* (Blizzard Entertainment, 1998) is a real-time strategy video game, placing the player in command of three extraterrestrial races fighting against each other for strategic control of resources, terrain, and power. Simon Dor examines the game’s unanticipated effect by delving into the history of the game and the two core competencies it encouraged: decoding and foreseeing. Although *StarCraft* was not designed as an e-sport, its role in developing foreseeing skills helped give rise to one of the earliest e-sport communities in South Korea.

Apart from the game’s clear landmark status, *StarCraft* offers a unique insight into changes in gaming culture and, more broadly, the marketability and profit of previously niche areas of interest. The book places *StarCraft* in the history of real-time strategy games in the 1990s in terms of visual style, narrative tropes, and control. It shows how design decisions, technological infrastructures, and a strong contribution from its gaming community through Battle.net and its campaign editor were necessary conditions for the flexibility it needed to grow its success.

Simon Dor is Associate Professor of video game studies at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue.

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**Improvising Across Abilities**

*Pauline Oliveros and the Adaptive Use Musical Instrument*

The AUMI Editorial Collective

**An exploration of the instrument that allows everyone to access artistic practice**

One of the lesser-known projects of composer, improviser, and humanitarian, Pauline Oliveros (1932–2016), the Adaptive Use Musical Instrument (AUMI) was designed as a liberating and affordable alternative to the constraints of instruments created only for normative bodies, thus opening a doorway for people of all ages, genders, abilities, races, and socioeconomic backgrounds to access artistic practice with others. *Improvising Across Abilities: Pauline Oliveros and the Adaptive Use Musical Instrument* brings together scholars, musicians, and family members of people with disabilities to collectively recount years of personal experiences, research, and perspectives on the societal and community impact of inclusive musical improvisation. More than a book about AUMI, this book is an invitation to readers to use AUMI in their own communities.

**Sensing Health**

*Bodies, Data, and Digital Health Technologies*

Mikki Kressbach

*An exploration of the experience of health in the age of the smart watch*

In the age of smart watches and fitness trackers, the concept of health emerges through an embodied experience of a digital health device or platform, not simply through the biomedical data it provides. *Sensing Health* analyzes popular digital health technologies as aesthetic experiences to understand how these devices and platforms have impacted the way individuals perceive their bodies, behaviors, health, and well-being.

Across five chapters focused on different categories of digital health—menstrual trackers, sexual wellness technologies, fitness trackers, meditation and breathing technologies, and posture and running wearables—*Sensing Health* demonstrates a method of analysis that acknowledges and critiques the biomedical structures of digital health technology while remaining attentive to the lived experiences of users. Through a focus on the intersection of technological design and experience, this method can be used by researchers, scholars, designers, and developers alike.

*Mikki Kressbach* is an Assistant Professor of Film, TV and Media Studies at Loyola Marymount University.

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**After Disruption**

*A Future for Cultural Memory*

Trevor Owens

*How we plan for and develop a more just, sustainable, and healthy future for memory infrastructure*

In *After Disruption*, Trevor Owens warns that our institutions of cultural memory—libraries, archives, museums, humanities departments, research institutes, and more—have been “disrupted,” and largely not for the better. He calls for memory workers and memory institutions to take back control of envisioning the future of memory from management consultants and tech sector evangelists. The first half of the book draws on critical scholarship on the history of technology and business to document and expose the sources of tech startup ideologies and their pernicious results, revealing that we need powerful and compelling counter frameworks and values to replace these ideologies. The second half of the book makes the case for the centrality of maintenance, care, and repair as interrelated frameworks to build a better future in which libraries, archives, and museums can thrive as sites of belonging and connection through collections.

*Trevor Owens* is a Public Historian in Residence at American University, a Lecturer for the University of Maryland’s College of Information, and the Director of Digital Services at The Library of Congress.
Performing the Greek Crisis
Navigating National Identity in the Age of Austerity
Natalie Zervou

Examining how changes in dance amid the Greek financial crisis altered perceptions and discourses of Greece’s culture and national identity.

Performing the Greek Crisis explores the impact of the Greek financial crisis (2009–19) on the performing arts sector in Greece, and especially on contemporary concert dance. When Greece became the first European Union member to be threatened with default, the resulting budget cuts pushed dance to develop in unprecedented directions. The book examines the repercussions that the crisis had on artists’ daily lives and experience, weaving the personal with the political to humanize a phenomenon that to date had been examined chiefly through economic and statistical lenses. Informed by her own experience of growing up in Greece and including interviews and rich descriptions of performances, Natalie Zervou offers a glimpse into a pivotal moment in Greek history.

Natalie Zervou is Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Singing the Land
Hebrew Music and Early Zionism in America
Eli Sperling

How song shaped American Zionism

Singing the Land examines the proliferation and use of popular Hebrew Zionist music amongst American Jewry during the first half of the twentieth century. This music, which helped to instill diasporic Zionism in American Jewish communities, represents an early and underexplored means of fostering mainstream American Jewish engagement with the Jewish state and Hebrew national culture as they evolved after Israel declared its independence in 1948. This evolutionary process brought Zionism from being an often-polemical notion in American Judaism at the turn of the twentieth century to a mainstream component of American Jewish life by 1948. Hebrew music ultimately emerged as an important means through which many American Jews physically participated in or “performed” aspects of Zionism and Hebrew national culture from afar.

Exploring the history, events, contexts, and tensions that comprised what may be termed the “Zionization” of American Jewry during the first half of the twentieth century, Eli Sperling analyzes primary sources within the historical contexts of Zionist national development and American Jewish life.

Eli Sperling is an Israel Institute Teaching Fellow in the Department of International Affairs at the University of Georgia.
**Revolutionary Stagecraft**

*Theater, Technology, and Politics in Modern China*

Tarryn Li-Min Chun

Reveals the deep entanglement of technological modernization, political agendas, and the performing arts in modern China

*Revolutionary Stagecraft* draws on a rich corpus of literary, historical, and technical materials to reveal a deep entanglement among technological modernization, political agendas, and the performing arts in modern China. This unique approach to Chinese theater history combines a close look at plays themselves, performance practices, technical theater details, and behind-the-scenes debates over “how to” make theater amid the political upheavals of China’s 20th century. The book begins at a pivotal moment in the 1920s—when Chinese theater artists began to import, use, and write about modern stage equipment—and ends in the early days of China’s current scientific and technological boom, in the 1980s. By examining iconic plays and performances from the perspective of the stage technologies involved, Tarryn Li-Min Chun provides a fresh perspective on their composition and staging. The chapters include stories on the challenges of creating imitation neon, rigging up a makeshift revolving stage, and representing a nuclear bomb detonating onstage.

Tarryn Li-Min Chun is Assistant Professor in the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre at the University of Notre Dame.

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**Disorienting Politics**

*Chimerican Media and Transpacific Entanglements*

Fan Yang

Understanding Chimerican entanglements through 21st-century media

*Disorienting Politics* mines 21st-century media artifacts—including films like *The Martian* and TV/streaming media shows such as *Firefly* and *House of Cards*—to make visible the economic, cultural, political, and ecological entanglements of China and the United States. Describing these transpacific entanglements as “Chimerica”—coined by economic historians to reference the symbiosis of China and America—Yang examines how Chimerican media, originating in the US but traversing national boundaries in their production, circulation, and consumption, co-create the imagined figure of rising China.

This interdisciplinary book demonstrates the ways in which race is embedded in geopolitics even when the subject of discussion is the Chinese state rather than the people. Bridging media and cultural studies, Asian and American studies, geography, and globalization studies, *Disorienting Politics* calls for a relational politics that acknowledges the multifarious interconnectivity between people, places, media, and environment.

Fan Yang is Associate Professor in the Department of Media and Communication Studies at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC).
Seeking a Future for the Past

Space, Power, and Heritage in a Chinese City
Philipp Demgenski

An ethnography that illuminates the political economy of urbanization in contemporary China

This book examines the complexities and changing sociopolitical dynamics of urban renewal in contemporary China. Drawing on ten years of ethnographic fieldwork in the northeastern Chinese city of Qingdao, Demgenski tells the story of the slow, fragmented, and contentious transformation of Dabaodao—an area in the city’s former colonial center—from a place of common homes occupied by the urban poor into a showcase of architectural heritage and site for tourism and consumption. The ethnography provides a nuanced account of the diverse experiences and views of a range of groups involved in shaping, and being shaped, by the urban renewal process—local residents, migrant workers, preservationists, planners, and government officials—foregrounding the voices and experiences of marginal groups, such as migrants in the city. Unpacking structural reasons for urban developmental impasses, it paints a nuanced local picture of urban governance and political practice in contemporary urban China.

Philipp Demgenski is Junior Professor in Anthropology in the Department of Sociology at Zhejiang University.

Transnational Philippines

Cultural Encounters in Philippine Literature in Spanish
Axel Gasquet and Rocío Ortúñio Casanova, Editors

A study of Philippine literary production that attempts to break the nation’s isolation from broader Spanish literature

Transnational Philippines approaches literature that has been forgotten or neglected in studies on other literatures in Spanish due, in part, to the fact that today Spanish is no longer spoken in the Philippines or in Asia. However, isolation has not always been the case, and by omitting Philippine literature in Spanish from the picture of world literatures and Spanish-language literatures, the landscape of these disciplines is incomplete. Transnational Philippines studies how this literary production stemmed from its relationship with other cultures, literature, and arts. It attempts to break this literature’s isolation and show how it is part of the broad literary system of literature written in Spanish. This book also questions the constraints of traditional literary genres in order to make room for Philippine texts and other colonial and postcolonial texts, so that those texts can be taken into consideration in literary studies.

Axel Gasquet is Professor of Spanish American literature and Civilization at the University Clermont Auvernia (France) and chief researcher of CNRS. Rocío Ortúñio Casanova is Assistant Professor at the UNED (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia) and is affiliated to the University of Antwerp.
The Imaginative Vision of Abdilatif Abdalla’s *Voice of Agony*

*Poems Translated by Ken Walibora Waliaula*

Abdilatif Abdalla, edited by Annmarie Drury

*First English literary translation of Abdilatif Abadalla’s influential *Voice of Agony***

The extraordinary Swahili poetry collection *Sauti ya Dhiki (Voice of Agony)*, is a collection of prison poems composed by Abdilatif Abdalla between 1969 and 1972. He originally wrote the poems while incarcerated by the government of Jomo Kenyatta for sedition as a result of his political activism and smuggled them out of prison on scraps of paper. *Imaginative Vision* is the first complete literary translation into English—translated by the late Kenyan novelist and scholar Ken Walibora Waliaula and edited by Annmarie Drury—of one of the most esteemed and influential collections of Swahili poetry of the twentieth century.

Under the editorship of scholar, translator, and poet Annmarie Drury, contributors bring insights from their diverse backgrounds to present contextualizing material that illuminates the poems at the heart of this book.

*Abdilatif Abdalla* is a celebrated Kenyan poet and political activist. *Annmarie Drury* is Associate Professor of English, Queens College, City University of New York.

Protest Arts, Gender, and Social Change

*Fiction, Popular Songs, and the Media in Hausa Society across Borders*

Ousseina D. Alidou

*The role of literature and popular songs in the cultural politics of Hausa society***

This book examines how a new generation of novelists, popular songwriters, and musical performers in contemporary Hausa society are using their creative works to effect social change. Alidou highlights the ways in which song performances produce an intertextual dialogue between their lyrics and visual dramatic narratives to raise awareness against social ills, including gender-based violence and social inequalities exposed by biomedical health pandemics such as HIV and COVID-19. In these creative Hausa narratives, the oppressed and marginalized have agency in articulating their own experiences.

While there is an abundance of social science studies giving voice to the dominant actors of hegemonic violence in Hausa society, there is a dearth of works that center the voices of the afflicted, unprivileged, and marginalized class, among whom are women and youth. One aim of this book is to examine the ways popular songs and fiction fill up the humanistic urgency to capture the dignity of the life of those dehumanized by local, national, and international hegemonic religious and secular forces.

*Ousseina D. Alidou* is Distinguished Professor of Linguistics and African Studies at Rutgers University.
Constructing Communities in Vergil’s *Aeneid*
*Cultural Memory, Identity, and Ideology*
Ted A. Wimperis

A new take on the *Aeneid*, drawing previously unexplored connections between Vergil’s fictional world and its political context

This book presents a new examination of memory, ethnic identity, and politics within the fictional world of this Roman epic, drawing previously unexplored connections between Vergil’s characters, settings, and narrative and the political context of the early Roman Empire. This book investigates how the *Aeneid’s* fictive ethnic communities—the Trojans, Carthaginians, Latins, and Arcadians who populate its poetic world—are shown to have identities, myths, and cultural memories of their own. And much like their real-life Roman counterparts, they engage in the politics of the past in such contexts as royal iconography, diplomacy, public displays, and incitements to war.

Where previous studies of identity and memory in the *Aeneid* have focused on the poem’s constructions of Roman identity, Wimperis turns the spotlight onto the characters themselves to show how the world inside the poem is replicating, as if in miniature, real forms of contemporary political and cultural discourse, reflecting an historical milieu where appeals to Roman identity were vigorously asserted in political rhetoric. The book applies this evidence to a broad literary analysis of the *Aeneid*, as well as a reevaluation of its engagement with Roman imperial ideology in the Age of Augustus.

Ted A. Wimperis is Assistant Professor of Classical Languages at Elon University.

*ANCIENT ROME | LITERARY CRITICISM AND THEORY*

January 2024
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The Reputation of the Roman Merchant
Jane Sancinoto

Defying a reputation for deceit and greed, Roman merchants strategized to present their good traits and successes

Roman merchants, artisans, and service providers faced substantial prejudice. Contemporary authors labeled them greedy, while the Roman on the street accused merchants of lying and cheating. Legally and socially, merchants were kept at arm’s length from respectable society. Yet merchants were common figures in daily life, populating densely packed cities and traveling around the Mediterranean. *The Reputation of the Roman Merchant* focuses on the strategies retailers, craftsmen, and many other workers used to succeed, examining how they developed good reputations despite the stigma associated with their work. In a novel approach, blending social and economic history, this book considers how reputation worked as an informal institution, establishing and reinforcing traditional Roman norms while lowering the cost of doing business for individual workers. From histories and novels to inscriptions and art, this volume identifies common reputation strategies, explores how points of pride and personal accomplishments were shared with others, and explains responses to merchant activities on the small-scale. The book concludes that merchants invested heavily in their reputations as a way to set themselves apart from common, negative stereotypes without admitting that there was anything shameful about the work they did.

Jane Sancinoto is Assistant Professor of History, University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

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January 2024
6 x 9, 272 pages
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Climate Games
Experiments on How People Prevent Disaster
Talbot M. Andrews, Andrew W. Delton, and Reuben Kline

Experiments reveal people can work together to prevent climate change

Can humanity work together to mitigate the effects of climate change? *Climate Games* argues we can. This book brings together a decade and a half of experimentation, conducted by researchers around the world, which shows that people can and will work together to prevent disasters like climate change. These experiments, called *economic games*, put money on the line to create laboratory disasters. Participants must work together by spending a bit of money now to prevent themselves from losing even more money in the future. Will people sacrifice their own money to prevent disaster? Can people make wise decisions? And can people decide wisely on behalf of others? The answer is a resounding yes. This book describes disaster experiments that test how real people respond to climate change’s unique constellation of challenges and deliver a positive message: People will prevent disaster.

Talbot M. Andrews is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Connecticut. Andrew W. Delton is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and the College of Business at Stony Brook University. Reuben Kline is Associate Professor of Political Science at Stony Brook University.

Greenland in Arctic Security
(De)securitization Dynamics under Climatic Thaw and Geopolitical Freeze
Marc Jacobsen, Ole Wæver and Ulrik Pram Gad, Editors

How a nation at the center of the Arctic region fits into security studies

Greenland has increasingly captivated imaginations around the globe. Yet, while it is central to the Arctic region, its role has been poorly understood. *Greenland in Arctic Security* delivers a comprehensive overview of how security dynamics unfold in and in relation to Greenland. Each chapter analyzes specific discourses and dynamics pertaining to hard or soft security questions. Spanning from great power interests in geostategic infrastructure to domestic debates on promoting and protecting Greenland identity when engaging with the outside world. In addition, the book offers perspectives on other security questions that have been catalyzed by the effects of climate change.

Marc Jacobsen is Assistant Professor at the Royal Danish Defence College. Ole Wæver is Professor of International Relations at the University of Copenhagen, founder of the Centre for Advanced Security Theory, and Director of the Centre for Resolution of International Conflicts. Ulrik Pram Gad is a Senior Researcher at the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS).
**Generational Politics in the United States**

*From the Silents to Gen Z and Beyond*

Sally Friedman and David Schultz, Editors

**How generational change impacts the future of American politics**

*Generational Politics in the United States* is the first comprehensive book that examines the concept of generations from a political science perspective. It defines what a generation is and how to sort out the differences between life cycle, cohort, and aging effect. The book brings together an array of political science scholars who examine the role of generations in American politics and how it relates to other variables such as age, race, gender, and socioeconomic status. It discusses how politics in the United States are impacted by changes in generations, including how the passing of the Baby Boom generation and rise of the Millennials and Gen Z will change American politics. By examining the differences in political attitudes, engagement, and impact of recent generations, *Generational Politics in the United States* suggests how generational change will impact American politics in the future.

**Sally Friedman** is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University at Albany. **David Schultz** is Hamline University Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Legal Studies, and Environmental Studies and Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota.

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**State Institutions, Civic Associations, and Identity Demands**

*Regional Movements in Greater Southeast Asia*

Amy H. Liu and Joel Sawat Selway, Editors

**An in-depth look at why autonomy movements fail or succeed**

While the media tends to pay the most attention to violent secessionist movements or peaceful independence movements, it is just as important to understand why there are regions where political movements for autonomy fail to develop. In neglecting regions without political movements or full-blown independence demands, theories may be partial at best and incorrect at worst.

**State Institutions, Civic Associations, and Identity Demands** examines over a dozen regions, comparing and contrasting successful cases to abandoned, unsuccessful, or dormant cases. While each chapter is written by a country expert, the contributions rely on a range of methods, from comparative historical analysis, to ethnography, field interviews, and data from public opinion surveys. Together, they contribute important new knowledge on little-known cases that nevertheless illuminate the history of regions and ethnic groups in Southeast Asia.

**Amy H. Liu** is Professor of Government at the University of Texas at Austin. **Joel Sawat Selway** is Associate Professor of Political Science at Brigham Young University.
Decisiveness and Fear of Disorder

*Political Decision-Making in Times of Crisis*
Julius Maximilian Rogenhofer

Examines how the need to appear decisive becomes the paramount consideration for politicians in crisis situations.

*Decisiveness and Fear of Disorder* examines how democratic representatives make decisions in crisis situations. By analyzing parliamentary asylum debates from Germany’s Asylum Compromise in 1992–1993 and the 2015–2016 refugee crisis, Julius Rogenhofer identifies representatives’ ability to project decisiveness as a crucial determinant for whether the rights and demands of irregular migrants were adequately considered in democratic decision-making. Both crisis situations showcase an emotive dimension to the parliamentary meaning-making process. As politicians confront fears of social and political disorder, they focus on appearing decisive in the eyes of the public and fellow representatives, even at the expense of human rights considerations and inclusive deliberation processes. Rogenhofer shows how his theoretical approach allows us to reinterpret a range of crisis situations beyond the irregular migration context, including democracies’ initial responses to COVID, the European Sovereign Debt Crisis, and United States climate politics. These additional case studies help position concerns with decisiveness amid the challenges that populism and technocracy increasingly pose to representative democracies.

Julius Maximilian Rogenhofer is a solicitor and a Visiting Fellow at KU Leuven.

**ASSAULT ON THE MEDIA**

*The Nixon Years*
New and expanded edition, Updated with *Analysis of 21st-Century Threats to Democracy*

William E. Porter and Thomas A. Mascaro

Taking a 21st century look at the lasting effects of Nixon-era attacks on journalism

Informed by a half-century of historical analyses and released documents, this expanded edition of William E. Porter’s award-winning *Assault on the Media* analyzes new documents of significance; synthesizes recent historical analyses; incorporates legal evaluations by journalism scholars; and traces how Nixon-era plans cultivated the divisive state of 21st-century society and amplified assaults on journalism. It also evaluates lasting concerns about the Supreme Court’s Pentagon Papers decision and journalists cited for contempt as a form of prior restraint; the currencies of power and race in protecting confidential sources; and regulatory decisions that hamper effective journalism. *Assault on the Media* not only documents the incidents and circumstances of governmental intimidation, harassment, and regulation of the news media during the Nixon presidency, but it offers insights into the long-term effects and their relevance today.

William E. Porter was Professor Emeritus of Journalism at the University of Michigan. Thomas A. Mascaro is Professor Emeritus in the School of Media and Communication at Bowling Green State University.
The Dynamics of European Integration

Causes and Consequences of Institutional Choices

Thomas König

Examine how certain policy models can work within the context of disensus and polarization in Europe while still promoting solidarity and trust in the European Union.

In Europe’s recent history, there have been several challenges to the strength of the European Union—Brexit, COVID, financial crises, and global tensions—bringing an increased need to understand the ways that the European Union could successfully stay together or fall apart. In *The Dynamics of European Integration*, Thomas König introduces a new theory of (supra)national partyism to help explain the causes and consequences of choices made by political leaders for Europe. He uses a game-theoretical perspective to look at how conditions for leaders change through accessions of new members, shocks, and crises, and separates institutional choices into two different games played by office- and policy-seeking political leaders—the interstate summit game and the national game of party competition.

**Thomas König** is Professor of Political Science and European Politics at the University of Mannheim.

Chasing Greatness

On Russia’s Discursive Interaction with the West over the Past Millennium

Anatoly Reshetnikov

How a millennia idealizing political greatness has affected Russia

Over the last two decades, it has become clear that Russia insists on its great power status, even at considerable cost. *Chasing Greatness* provides an interpretive explanation of the tacit rules that shape Russia’s great power identity today. Anatoly Reshetnikov argues that this never-ending chase for greatness is a result of how Russia and its predecessors—including the USSR, Russian Empire, Muscovy, and Kiev Rus’—historically interacted with its neighbors to the east, the south, and particularly the west. By analyzing an extensive amount of original source material, including primary sources that have not been previously translated into English, he reconstructs a millennial history of the Russian concepts that express political greatness. He also traces numerous encounters between Russia and the West, as well as Russia’s troubled integration into the European society of states in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, to show how these concepts have affected Russia’s interaction with international society.

Anatoly Reshetnikov is Assistant Professor of International Relations at Webster University.
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Mohammed Albakry and Clint Bryan

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Mohammed Albakry is Professor of English and Applied Linguistics at Middle Tennessee State University. Clint Bryan is Associate Professor of English and Dean of College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University.

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Barrie J. Roberts has worked as a public interest attorney for Legal Services of Northern California, Inc., and as the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Administrator for two southern California courts.

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**A Passion for Cooperation**
*Adventures of a Wide-Ranging Scientist*
Robert Axelrod

*A lifetime of achieving the gold standard of interdisciplinary research*

*A Passion for Cooperation* is the exciting autobiography of Robert Axelrod, one of the most acclaimed and wide-ranging scientists of the last fifty years. After being recognized by President Kennedy for being a promising young scientist while in high school, Axelrod built a career dedicated to collaborating with business school professors, international relations scholars, political scientists, computer scientists, and even evolutionary biologists and cancer researchers. Fifty years later, he was honored by President Obama with the National Medal of Science for scientific achievement and leadership and his work has been referred to as the gold standard of interdisciplinary research. Through stories of the difficulties and rewards of interdisciplinary collaborations, readers will discover how Axelrod’s academic and practical work have enriched each other and demonstrated that opportunities for cooperation are much greater than generally thought.

Robert Axelrod is Distinguished University Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, Emeritus, at the University of Michigan.

**Destination Detroit**
*Discourses on the Refugee in a Post-Industrial City*
Rashmi Luthra

*A revealing analysis of how interest groups shape conversations about refugees in Metro Detroit*

Deindustrialized cities in the United States are at a particular crossroads when it comes to the contest over refugees. Do refugees represent opportunity or danger? These cities are in desperate need to stem population and resource loss, problems that an influx of refugees could seemingly help address. However, the cities are simultaneously dealing with local communities that are already feeling internally displaced by economic and technological flux. For these existing citizens, the prospect of incoming refugee populations can be perceived as a threat to financial, cultural, and personal security.

Few U.S. locations provide a more vivid case study of this fight than Metro Detroit, where competing interest groups are waging war over the meaning of the figure of the refugee. This book dives deeply into the discourse on refugees occurring among various institutions in Metro Detroit.

Rashmi Luthra is Professor Emerita of Public Communication and Culture Studies at the University of Michigan–Dearborn.
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*My Life as a Biomedical Scientist*
John A. Williams

This is a personal story that weaves together the personal and professional aspects of a rewarding life in biomedical research. The book also provides insight into the state of American biomedical education, medical schools, and how research is funded and published.

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*Stories of Love, Loss, and Wonder*
Kelly Cooper Paradis and Helen Kang Morgan

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*Academic Global Health*
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Transforming the Authority of the Archive
Undergraduate Pedagogy and Critical Digital Archives
Andi Gustavson and Charlotte Nunes, Editors

While there has long been a place for archival exploration in undergraduate education (especially primary source analysis of items curated by archivists and educators), the models offered here engage students not only in analyzing collections, but also in the manifold challenges of building, stewarding, and communicating about collections. In transforming what archives are to undergraduate education, the projects detailed in this book transform the authority of the archive, as students and community partners claim powers to curate and create history.

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Women Making History
The Revolutionary Feminist Postcard Art of Helaine
Victoria Press
Julia M. Allen and Jocelyn H. Cohen

This is the first book to demonstrate the relationships between the feminist art movement, the women in print movement, and the scholars studying women’s history. Readers will be drawn to both the large quantity of illustrative materials and the theoretical framework of the book, as it provides an expanded understanding of rhetorical multimodality.

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Vikash Yadav and Jason A. Kirk

This book is designed as a supplement and update for existing syllabi that trace India’s political economy from the birth of the republic to the quest for economic liberalization and great power status. Undergraduates and scholars interested in India’s foreign policy and political reform will find value in this timely book.

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Italy to Argentina
Travel Writing and Emigrant Colonialism
Tullio Pagano

This book examines Italian emigration to Argentina and the Rio de la Plata region through the writings of Italian economists, poets, anthropologists, and political activists from the 1860s to the beginning of World War I. He shows that Italians played an important role in the so-called conquest of the desert, which led to Argentina’s economic expansion and the suppression and killing of the remaining indigenous population. Many of the texts he discusses have hardly been studied before.

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Game Poems
Videogame Design as Lyric Practice
Jordan Magnuson

Scholars, critics, and creators describe certain videogames as being “poetic," yet what that means or why it matters is rarely discussed. In *Game Poems: Videogame Design as Lyric Practice*, independent game designer Jordan Magnuson explores the convergences between game making and lyric poetry and makes the surprising proposition that videogames can operate as a kind of poetry apart from any reliance on linguistic signs or symbols.

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