Redefining Geek – Bias and the Five Hidden Habits of Tech-Savvy Teens

Bias and the Five Hidden Habits of Tech-Savvy Teens
Cassidy Puckett

Summary
A surprising and deeply researched look at how everyone can develop tech fluency by focusing on five easily developed learning habits.

Picture a typical computer geek. Likely white, male, and someone you’d say has a “natural instinct” for technology. Yet, after six years teaching technology classes to first-generation, low-income middle school students in Oakland, California, Cassidy Puckett has seen firsthand that being good with technology is not something people are born with—it’s something they learn. In Redefining Geek, she overturns the stereotypes around the digitally savvy and identifies the habits that can help everyone cultivate their inner geek.

Drawing on observations and interviews with a diverse group of students around the country, Puckett zeroes in on five technology learning habits that enable tech-savvy teens to learn new technologies: a willingness to try and fail, management of frustration and boredom, use of models, and the abilities to use design logic and identify efficiencies. In Redefining Geek, she shows how to measure and build these habits, and she demonstrates how many teens historically marginalized in STEM are already using these habits and would benefit from recognition for their talent, access to further learning opportunities, and support in career pathways. She argues that if we can develop, recognize, and reward these technological learning habits in all kids—especially girls and historically marginalized racial and ethnic groups—we can address many educational inequities and disparities in STEM.

Revealing how being good with technology is not about natural ability but habit and persistence, Redefining Geek speaks to the ongoing conversation on equity in technology education and argues for a more inclusive technology learning experience for all students.

Contributor Bio
Cassidy Puckett is assistant professor of sociology at Emory University.
Power in the Wild – The Subtle and Not-So-Subtle Ways Animals Strive for Control over Others

The Subtle and Not-So-Subtle Ways Animals Strive for Control over Others

Lee Alan Dugatkin

Summary

From the shell wars of hermit crabs to little blue penguins spying on potential rivals, power struggles in the animal kingdom are as diverse as they are fascinating, and this book illuminates their surprising range and connections.

The quest for power in animals is so much richer, so much more nuanced than who wins what knock-down, drag-out fight. Indeed, power struggles among animals often look more like an opera than a boxing match. Tracing the path to power for over thirty different species on six continents, writer and behavioral ecologist Lee Alan Dugatkin takes us on a journey around the globe, shepherded by leading researchers who have discovered that in everything from hyenas to dolphins, bonobos to field mice, cichlid fish to cuttlefish, copperhead snakes to ravens, and meerkats to mongooses, power revolves around spying, deception, manipulation, forming and breaking up alliances, complex assessments of potential opponents, building social networks, and more. Power pervades every aspect of the social life of animals: what they eat, where they eat, where they live, whom they mate with, how many offspring they produce, whom they join forces with, and whom they work to depose. In some species, power can even change an animal’s sex. Nor are humans invulnerable to this magnificently intricate melodrama: Dugatkin’s tales of the researchers studying power in animals are full of unexpected pitfalls, twists and turns, serendipity, and the pure joy of scientific discovery.

Contributor Bio

Lee Alan Dugatkin is an animal behaviorist, evolutionary biologist, and historian of science in the Department of Biology at the University of Louisville. He is the author of more than one hundred and fifty papers and the author or coauthor of many books, including *The Altruism Equation: Seven Scientists Search for the Origins of Goodness*. 
Summary

An octopus expert and celebrated artist offer a deep dive to meet the enchanting inhabitants of the world’s marine ecosystems.

Have you ever walked along the beach and wondered what kind of creatures can be found beneath the waves? Have you pictured what it would be like to see the ocean not from the shore, but from its depths? These questions drive Janet Voight, an expert on mollusks who has explored the seas in the submersible Alvin that can dive some 14,000 feet below the water’s surface. In this book, she partners with artist Peggy Macnamara to invite readers to share her undersea journeys of discovery.

With accessible scientific description, Voight introduces the animals that inhabit rocky and sandy shores, explains the fragility of coral reefs, and honors the extraordinary creatures that must search for food in the ocean’s depths, where light and heat are rare. These fascinating insights are accompanied by Macnamara’s stunning watercolors, illuminating these ecosystems and other scenes from Voight’s research. Together, they show connections between life at every depth—and warn of the threats these beguiling places and their eccentric denizens face.

Contributor Bio

Janet Voight is the Women’s Board Associate Curator for Invertebrate Zoology at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

Peggy Macnamara is artist-in-residence at the Field Museum and an adjunct associate professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the author of several books published by the University of Chicago Press.

David Quammen is the author of numerous books, including Spillover: Animal Infections and the Next Human Pandemic and The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in an Age of Extinction.
Where Research Begins – Choosing a Research Project That Matters to You (and the World)

Choosing a Research Project That Matters to You (and the World)

Thomas S. Mullaney, Christopher Rea

Summary

Plenty of books tell you how to do research. This book helps you figure out WHAT to research in the first place, and why it matters.

The hardest part of research isn't answering a question. It's knowing what to do before you know what your question is. Where Research Begins tackles the two challenges every researcher faces with every new project: How do I find a compelling problem to investigate—one that truly matters to me, deeply and personally? How do I then design my research project so that the results will matter to anyone else?

This book will help you start your new research project the right way for you with a series of simple yet ingenious exercises. Written in a conversational style and packed with real-world examples, this easy-to-follow workbook offers an engaging guide to finding research inspiration within yourself, and in the broader world of ideas.

Read this book if you (or your students):

- have difficulty choosing a research topic
- know your topic, but are unsure how to turn it into a research project
- feel intimidated by or unqualified to do research
- worry that you’re asking the wrong questions about your research topic
- have plenty of good ideas, but aren’t sure which one to commit to
- feel like your research topic was imposed by someone else
- want to learn new ways to think about how to do research.

Under the expert guidance of award-winning researchers Thomas S. Mullaney and Christopher Rea, you will find yourself on the path to a compelling and meaningful research project, one that matters to you—and the world.

Contributor Bio

Thomas S. Mullaney is professor of history at Stanford University and a Guggenheim fellow. His books include The Chinese Typewriter: A History and Your Computer is on Fire.
The Education of Betsey Stockton – An Odyssey of Slavery and Freedom

Gregory Nobles

Summary

The first full-length biography of an extraordinary woman born into slavery who, through grit and determination, became a historic social and educational leader.

The life of Betsey Stockton (ca. 1798–1865) is a remarkable story of a Black woman’s journey from slavery to emancipation, from antebellum New Jersey to the Hawai’ian Islands, and from her own self-education to a lifetime of teaching others—all told against the backdrop of the early United States’ pervasive racism. It’s a compelling chronicle of a critical time in American history and a testament to the courage and commitment of a woman whose persistence grew into a potent form of resistance.

When Betsey Stockton was a child, she was “given, as a slave” to the household of Rev. Ashbel Green, a prominent pastor and later the president of what is now Princeton University. Although she never went to school, she devoured the books in Green’s library. After being emancipated, she used that education to benefit other people of color, first in Hawai’i as a missionary, then Philadelphia, and, for the last three decades of her life, Princeton—a college town with a genteel veneer that never fully hid its racial hostility. Betsey Stockton became a revered figure in Princeton’s sizeable Black population, a founder of religious and educational institutions, and a leader engaged in the day-to-day business of building communities.

In this first book-length telling of Betsey Stockton’s story, Gregory Nobles illuminates both a woman and her world, following her around the globe, and showing how a determined individual could challenge her society’s racial obstacles from the ground up. It’s at once a revealing lesson on the struggles of Stockton’s times and a fresh inspiration for our own.

Contributor Bio

Gregory Nobles is professor emeritus of history at Georgia Institute of Technology and a historian who has written extensively on the era from the American Revolution to the Civil War. He is the author or coauthor of several books, most recently John James Audubon: The Nature of the American Woodsman.
**Victories Never Last – Reading and Caregiving in a Time of Plague**

Reading and Caregiving in a Time of Plague

Robert Zaretsky

**Summary**

A timely and nuanced book that sets the author’s experience as a nursing home volunteer during the pandemic alongside the wisdom of great thinkers who confronted their own plagues.

In any time of disruption or grief, many of us seek guidance in the work of great writers who endured similar circumstances. During the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, historian and biographer Robert Zaretsky did the same while also working as a volunteer in a nursing home in south Texas. In *Victories Never Last* Zaretsky weaves his reflections on the pandemic siege of his nursing home with the testimony of six writers on their own times of plague: Thucydides, Marcus Aurelius, Michel de Montaigne, Daniel Defoe, Mary Shelley, and Albert Camus, whose novel *The Plague* provides the title of this book.

Zaretsky delves into these writers to uncover lessons that can provide deeper insight into our pandemic era. At the same time, he goes beyond the literature to invoke his own experience of the tragedy that enveloped his Texas nursing home, one which first took the form of chronic loneliness and then, inevitably, the deaths of many residents whom we come to know through Zaretsky’s stories. In doing so, Zaretsky shows the power of great literature to connect directly to one’s own life in a different moment and time.

For all of us still struggling to comprehend this pandemic and its toll, Zaretsky serves as a thoughtful and down-to-earth guide to the many ways we can come to know and make peace with human suffering.

**Contributor Bio**

Robert Zaretsky’s books include *Boswell’s Enlightenment*, *A Life Worth Living*, *Catherine & Diderot*, and *The Subversive Simone Weil*, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press. A columnist for the *Jewish Daily Forward*, he is also a frequent contributor to the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and Slate. Zaretsky lives in Houston with his wife and children.
On Not Knowing – How to Love and Other Essays
How to Love and Other Essays
Emily Ogden

Summary
A beautifully written suite of personal essays on the value of not knowing.

Moments of clarity are rare and fleeting; how can we become comfortable outside of them, in the more general condition of uncertainty within which we make our lives? Written by English professor Emily Ogden while her children were small, On Not Knowing forays into this rich, ambivalent space. Each of her sharply observed essays invites the reader to think with her about questions she can’t set aside: not knowing how to give birth, to listen, to hold it together, to love.

Unapologetically capacious in her range of reference and idiosyncratic in the canon she draws on, Ogden moves nimbly among the registers of experience, from the operation of a breast pump to the art of herding cattle; from one-night stands to the stories of Edgar Allan Poe; from kayaking near a whale to a psychoanalytic meditation on drowning. Committed to the accumulation of knowledge, Ogden nonetheless finds that knowingness for her can be a way of getting stuck, a way of not really living. Rather than the defensiveness of willful ignorance, On Not Knowing celebrates the defenselessness of not knowing yet—possibly of not knowing ever. Ultimately, this book shows how resisting the temptation of knowingness and embracing the position of not knowing becomes a form of love.

Contributor Bio
Emily Ogden is associate professor of English at the University of Virginia and the author of Credulity: A Cultural History of US Mesmerism, also published by the University of Chicago Press. You can find her on Twitter at @ENOgden. She lives in Charlottesville, VA.
Audubon at Sea – The Coastal and Transatlantic Adventures of John James Audubon

The Coastal and Transatlantic Adventures of John James Audubon
Christoph Irmscher, Richard J. King, Subhankar Banerjee

Summary
This one-of-a-kind, lavishly illustrated anthology celebrates Audubon’s connection to the sea through both his words and art.

The American naturalist John James Audubon (1785–1851) is widely remembered for his iconic paintings of American birdlife. But as this anthology makes clear, Audubon was also a brilliant writer—and his keen gaze took in far more than creatures of the sky. Culled from his published and unpublished writings, Audubon at Sea explores Audubon’s diverse observations of the ocean, the coast, and their human and animal inhabitants. With Audubon expert Christoph Irmscher and scholar of the sea Richard J. King as our guides, we set sail from the humid expanses of the American South to the shores of England and the chilly landscapes of the Canadian North. We learn not only about the diversity of sea life Audubon documented—birds, sharks, fish, and whales—but also about life aboard ship, travel in early America, Audubon’s work habits, and the origins of beloved paintings. And as we face an unfathomable loss of seabirds today, Audubon’s warnings about the fragility of birdlife in his time are prescient and newly relevant.

Charting the course of Audubon’s life and work, from his birth in Haiti to his death in Manhattan, Irmscher and King’s wide-ranging introduction and carefully drawn commentary confront the challenges Audubon’s legacy poses for us today, including his participation in American slavery and the thousands of birds he killed for his art. Beautifully illustrated, with a foreword by distinguished photographer and conservationist Subhankar Banerjee, and rounded out by hundreds of historical and ornithological notes, Audubon at Sea is the most comprehensively annotated collection of Audubon’s work ever published.

Contributor Bio

Christoph Irmscher directs the Wells Scholars Program at Indiana University Bloomington, where he is also distinguished professor of English. Among his many books are The Poetics of Natural History and Louis Agassiz: Creator of American Science. For more information, visit http://christophirmscher.com.

Richard J. King is visiting associate professor of maritime literature and history at the Sea Education Association in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. For more than twenty years he has been sailing and teaching aboard tall ships in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. He writes and illustrates a column on marine animals for Sea History magazine, edits the "Searchable Sea Literature" website, and was the founding series editor of Seafaring America. For more information, visit http://www.richardjkinfo/.
Red Leviathan – The Secret History of Soviet Whaling

The Secret History of Soviet Whaling
Ryan Tucker Jones

Summary

A revealing and authoritative history that shows how Soviet whalers secretly helped nearly destroy endangered whale populations, while also contributing to the scientific understanding necessary for these creatures’ salvation.

The Soviet Union killed over six hundred thousand whales in the twentieth century, many of them illegally and secretly. That catch helped bring many whale species to near extinction by the 1970s, and the impacts of this loss of life still ripple through today’s oceans. In this new account, based on formerly secret Soviet archives and interviews with ex-whalers, environmental historian Ryan Tucker Jones offers a complete history of the role the Soviet Union played in the whales’ destruction. As other countries—especially the United States, Great Britain, Japan, and Norway—expanded their pursuit of whales to all corners of the globe, Stalin determined that the Soviet Union needed to join the hunt. What followed was a spectacularly prodigious, and often wasteful, destruction of humpback, fin, sei, right, and sperm whales in the Antarctic and the North Pacific, done in knowing violation of the International Whaling Commission’s rules. Cold War intrigue encouraged this destruction, but, as Jones shows, there is a more complex history behind this tragic Soviet experiment. Jones compellingly describes the ultimate scientific irony: today’s cetacean studies benefited from Soviet whaling, as Russian scientists on whaling vessels made key breakthroughs in understanding whale natural history and behavior. And in a final twist, Red Leviathan reveals how the Soviet public began turning against their own country’s whaling industry, working in parallel with Western environmental organizations like Greenpeace to help end industrial whaling—not long before the world’s whales might have disappeared altogether.

Contributor Bio

Ryan Tucker Jones is the Ann Swindells Associate Professor of history at the University of Oregon. He is the author of Empire of Extinction: Russians and the North Pacific’s Strange Beasts of the Sea, 1741-1867 and coeditor of Across Species and Cultures: New Histories of Pacific Whaling.
Race at the Top – Asian Americans and Whites in Pursuit of the American Dream in Suburban Schools
Asian Americans and Whites in Pursuit of the American Dream in Suburban Schools
Natasha Warikoo

Summary
An illuminating, in-depth look at competition in suburban high schools with growing numbers of Asian Americans, where white parents are determined to ensure that their children remain at the head of the class.

The American suburb conjures an image of picturesque privilege: manicured lawns, quiet streets, and—most important to parents—high-quality schools. These elite enclaves are also historically white, allowing many white Americans to safeguard their privileges by using public schools to help their children enter top colleges. That’s changing, however, as Asian American professionals increasingly move into wealthy suburban areas to give their kids that same leg up for their college applications and future careers.

As Natasha Warikoo shows in *Race at the Top*, white and Asian parents alike will do anything to help their children get to the top of the achievement pile. She takes us into the affluent suburban East Coast school she calls “Woodcrest High,” with a student body about one-half white and one-third Asian American. As increasing numbers of Woodcrest’s Asian American students earn star-pupil status, many whites feel displaced from the top of the academic hierarchy, and their frustrations grow. To maintain their children’s edge, some white parents complain to the school that schoolwork has become *too* rigorous. They also emphasize excellence in extracurriculars like sports and theater, which maintains their children’s advantage.

Warikoo reveals how, even when they are bested, white families in Woodcrest work to change the rules in their favor so they can remain the winners of the meritocracy game. Along the way, Warikoo explores urgent issues of racial and economic inequality that play out in affluent suburban American high schools. Caught in a race for power and privilege at the very top of society, what families in towns like Woodcrest fail to see is that everyone in their race is getting a medal—the children who actually lose are those living beyond their town’s boundaries.

Contributor Bio
**Natasha Warikoo** is professor of sociology at Tufts University. She is the author of, most recently, *The Diversity Bargain*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Dawn at Mineral King Valley – The Sierra Club, the Disney Company, and the Rise of Environmental Law
The Sierra Club, the Disney Company, and the Rise of Environmental Law
Daniel P. Selmi

Summary
The story behind the historic Mineral King Valley case, which reveals how the Sierra Club battled Disney’s ski resort development and launched a new environmental era in America.

In our current age of climate change–induced panic, it’s hard to imagine a time when private groups were not actively enforcing environmental protection laws in the courts. It wasn’t until 1972, however, that a David and Goliath–esque Supreme Court showdown involving the Sierra Club and Disney set a revolutionary legal precedent for the era of environmental activism we live in today.

Set against the backdrop of the environmental movement that swept the country in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Dawn at Mineral King Valley tells the surprising story of how the US Forest Service, the Disney company, and the Sierra Club each struggled to adapt to the new, rapidly changing political landscape of environmental consciousness in postwar America. Proposed in 1965 and approved by the federal government in 1969, Disney’s vast development plan would have irreversibly altered the practically untouched Mineral King Valley, a magnificently beautiful alpine area in the Sierra Nevada mountains. At first, the plan met with unanimous approval from elected officials, government administrators, and the press—it seemed inevitable that this expanse of wild natural land would be radically changed and turned over to a private corporation. Then the scrappy Sierra Club forcefully pushed back with a lawsuit that ultimately propelled the modern environmental era by allowing interest groups to bring litigation against environmentally destructive projects.

An expert on environmental law and appellate advocacy, Daniel P. Selmi uses his authoritative narrative voice to recount the complete history of this revolutionary legal battle and the ramifications that continue today, almost 50 years later.

Contributor Bio
Daniel P. Selmi is the Fritz B. Burns Chair in Real Property Emeritus at Loyola Law School, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.
The Paradox of Democracy – Free Speech, Open Media, and Perilous Persuasion
Free Speech, Open Media, and Perilous Persuasion
Zac Gershberg, Sean Illing

Summary
A thought-provoking history of communications that challenges ideas about freedom of speech and democracy.

At the heart of democracy lies a contradiction that cannot be resolved, one that has affected free societies since their advent: Though freedom of speech and media has always been a necessary condition of democracy, that very freedom is also its greatest threat. When new forms of communications arrive, they often bolster the practices of democratic politics. But the more accessible the media of a society, the more susceptible that society is to demagoguery, distraction, and spectacle. Tracing the history of media disruption and the various responses to it over time, Zac Gershberg and Sean Illing reveal how these changes have challenged democracy—often with unsettling effects.

The Paradox of Democracy captures the deep connection between communication and political culture, from the ancient art of rhetoric and the revolutionary role of newspapers to liberal broadcast media and the toxic misinformation of the digital public sphere. With clear-eyed analysis, Gershberg and Illing show that our contemporary debates over media, populism, and cancel culture are not too different from democratic cultural experiences of the past. As we grapple with a fast-changing, hyper-digital world, they prove democracy is always perched precipitously on a razor’s edge, now as ever before.

Contributor Bio
Zac Gershberg is associate professor of journalism and media studies at Idaho State University.
Sean Illing is a senior writer at Vox and the host of its Conversations podcast. He lives in Gulfport, Mississippi.
The Beat Cop – Chicago`s Chief O`Neill and the Creation of Irish Music
Chicago`s Chief O`Neill and the Creation of Irish Music
Michael O`Malley

Summary
The remarkable story of how modern Irish music was shaped and spread through the brash efforts of a Chicago police chief.

Irish music as we know it today was invented not just in the cobbled lanes of Dublin or the green fields of County Kerry, but also in the burgeoning metropolis of early-twentieth-century Chicago. The genre’s history combines a long folk tradition with the curatorial quirks of a single person: Francis O`Neill, a larger-than-life Chicago police chief and an Irish immigrant with a fervent interest in his home country’s music.

Michael O`Malley’s The Beat Cop tells the story of this singular figure, from his birth in Ireland in 1865 to his rough-and-tumble early life in the United States. By 1901, O`Neill had worked his way up to become Chicago’s chief of police, where he developed new methods of tracking criminals and recording their identities. At the same time, he also obsessively tracked and recorded the music he heard from local Irish immigrants, enforcing a strict view of what he felt was and wasn’t authentic. Chief O’Neill’s police work and his musical work were flip sides of the same coin, and O’Malley delves deep into how this brash immigrant harnessed his connections and policing skills to become the foremost shaper of how Americans see, and hear, the music of Ireland.

Contributor Bio
Michael O’Malley is professor of US history in the Department of History and Art History at George Mason University.
Pow! Right in the Eye! – Thirty Years behind the Scenes of Modern French Painting

Thirty Years behind the Scenes of Modern French Painting
Berthe Weill, Lynn Gumpert, William Rodarmor

Summary

Memoir of a provocative Parisian art dealer at the heart of the 20th-century art world, available in English for the first time.

Berthe Weill, a formidable Parisian dealer, was born into a Jewish family of very modest means. One of the first female gallerists in the business, she first opened the Galerie B. Weill in the heart of Paris’s art gallery district in 1901, holding innumerable exhibitions over nearly forty years. Written out of art history for decades, Weill has only recently regained the recognition she deserves.

Under five feet tall and bespectacled, Weill was beloved by the artists she supported, and she rejected the exploitative business practices common among art dealers. Despite being a self-proclaimed “terrible businesswoman,” Weill kept her gallery open for four decades, defying the rising tide of antisemitism before Germany’s occupation of France. By the time of her death in 1951, Weill had promoted more than three hundred artists—including Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Amedeo Modigliani, Diego Rivera, and Suzanne Valadon—many of whom were women and nearly all young and unknown when she first exhibited them.

Pow! Right in the Eye! makes Weill’s provocative 1933 memoir finally available to English readers, offering rare insights into the Parisian avant-garde and a lively inside account of the development of the modern art market.

Contributor Bio

Berthe Weill (1865-1951) was a French art dealer.
Lynn Gumpert is director of the Grey Art Gallery at New York University. She is coeditor of Taking Shape: Abstraction from the Arab World, 1950s-1980s.
William Rodarmor is a translator of books including Claudine Cohen's The Fate of the Mammal: Fossil, Myth and History and Bernard Moitessier's Tamata and the Alliance, which won the 1996 Lewis Galantière Award from the American Translators Association.
No Sign
Peter Balakian

Summary
New poetry collection from Peter Balakian, author of Ozone Journal, winner of the Pulitzer Prize.

In these poems, Peter Balakian wrestles with national and global cultural and political realities, including challenges for the human species amid planetary transmutation and the impact of mass violence on the self and culture. At the collection’s heart is “No Sign,” another in Balakian’s series of long-form poems, following “A-Train/Ziggurat /Elegy” and “Ozone Journal,” which appeared in his previous two collections. In this dialogical multi-sectioned poem, an estranged couple encounters each other, after years, on the cliffs of the New Jersey Palisades. The dialogue that ensues reveals the evolution of a kaleidoscopic memory spanning decades, reflecting on the geological history of Earth and the climate crisis, the film Hiroshima Mon Amour, the Vietnam War, a visionary encounter with the George Washington Bridge, and the enduring power of love.

Whether meditating on the sensuality of fruits and vegetables, the COVID-19 pandemic, the trauma and memory of the Armenian genocide, James Baldwin in France, or Arshile Gorky in New York City, Balakian’s layered, elliptical language, wired phrases, and shifting tempos engage both life’s harshness and beauty and define his inventive and distinctive style.

Contributor Bio
Peter Balakian is the author of eight books of poems including Ozone Journal, which won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for poetry, and Ziggurat, both published by the University of Chicago Press. His memoir Black Dog of Fate won the PEN/Albrand Award and was a New York Times notable book, and The Burning Tigris won the Raphael Lemkin Prize and was a New York Times bestseller and New York Times notable book. He is Donald M. and Constance H. Rebar Professor of the Humanities in the Department of English at Colgate University.
**Proceed to Check Out**

Alan Shapiro

**Summary**

Award-winning poet Alan Shapiro offers a new collection of poems reflecting on mortality and finitude.

Alan Shapiro’s fourteenth collection of poetry, *Proceed to Check Out*, is a kind of summing up, or stock-taking, by an aging poet, of his precarious place in a world dominated by the ever-accelerating pace of technological innovation, political disruption, personal loss, and racial strife. These poems take on fundamental subjects—like the nature of time and consciousness and how or why we become who we are—but Shapiro presses them into becoming urgent and timely.

Employing idiomatic range and formal variety, Shapiro’s poems move through recurring dreams, the coercions of childhood, and the mysterious connections of mind and matter, pleasure and memory. They meet an abiding need to find empathy and understanding in even the most challenging places—amid disaffection, public discord, and estrangement. His grasp of contemporary life—in all its insidious violence and beauty—is distinct, comprehensive, and profound.

**Contributor Bio**

*Alan Shapiro* has written many books of poetry and prose, most recently *Against Translation*, *That Self-Forgetful Perfectly Useless Concentration*, and *Reel to Reel*, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. Shapiro has won the Kingsley Tufts Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and an American Academy of Arts and Letters literature award, among others, and has received fellowships from both the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. He currently lives in Durham, North Carolina, with his dog, Sammy.
The Lookout Man
Stuart Dischell

Summary
Vivid poems full of drama and action by award-winning poet Stuart Dischell.

Sometimes elegiac, sometimes deadly comic, and always transformative, The Lookout Man embodies the energy, spirit, and craft that we have come to depend upon in Stuart Dischell’s poetry. Inhabiting a mix of lyric structures, these poems are set in diverse locales from the middle of the ocean to the summit of Mont Blanc, from the backyards of America to the streets of international cities. There is a hesitant, almost encroaching wisdom in The Lookout Man, as Dischell allows his edgy vision and singular perspectives to co-exist with the music of his poems. In lines that close the book and typify Dischell’s work, he writes, “I will ask the dogwoods to remind me // What it means to live along the edges of the woods, / To be promiscuous but bear white flowers.”

Contributor Bio
Stuart Dischell is the author of six collections of poetry, including Dig Safe, Backwards Days, and Children with Enemies. His first collection, Good Hope Road, was selected for the National Poetry Series, and he has received fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Ledig-Rowohlt Foundation. Dischell teaches in the MFA program in creative writing at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
Sound Experiments – The Music of the AACM
The Music of the AACM
Paul Steinbeck

Summary
A groundbreaking study of the trailblazing music of Chicago’s AACM, a leader in the world of jazz and experimental music.

Founded on Chicago’s South Side in 1965 and still thriving today, the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM) is the most influential collective organization in jazz and experimental music. In Sound Experiments, Paul Steinbeck offers an in-depth historical and musical investigation of the collective, analyzing individual performances and formal innovations in captivating detail. He pays particular attention to compositions by Muhal Richard Abrams and Roscoe Mitchell, the Association’s leading figures, as well as Anthony Braxton, George Lewis (and his famous computer-music experiment, Voyager), Wadada Leo Smith, and Henry Threadgill, along with younger AACM members such as Mike Reed, Tomeka Reid, and Nicole Mitchell.

Sound Experiments represents a sonic history, spanning six decades, that affords insight not only into the individuals who created this music but also into an astonishing collective aesthetic. This aesthetic was uniquely grounded in nurturing communal ties across generations, as well as a commitment to experimentalism. The AACM’s compositions broke down the barriers between jazz and experimental music and made essential contributions to African American expression more broadly. Steinbeck shows how the creators of these extraordinary pieces pioneered novel approaches to instrumentation, notation, conducting, musical form, and technology, creating new soundscapes in contemporary music.

Contributor Bio
Paul Steinbeck is associate professor of music at Washington University in St. Louis. He is the author of Message to Our Folks: The Art Ensemble of Chicago and coauthor of Exercises for the Creative Musician.
Radical American Partisanship – Mapping Violent Hostility, Its Causes, and the Consequences for Democracy
Mapping Violent Hostility, Its Causes, and the Consequences for Democracy
Nathan P. Kalmoe, Lilliana Mason

Summary
Radical partisanship among ordinary Americans is rising, and it poses grave risks for the prospects of American democracy.

Political violence is rising in the United States, with Republicans and Democrats divided along racial and ethnic lines that spurred massive bloodshed and democratic collapse earlier in the nation’s history. The January 6, 2021 insurrection and the partisan responses that ensued are a vivid illustration of how deep these currents run. How did American politics become so divided that we cannot agree on how to categorize an attack on our own Capitol?

For over four years, through a series of surveys and experiments, Nathan P. Kalmoe and Lilliana Mason have been studying radicalism among ordinary American partisans. In this groundbreaking book, they draw on new evidence—as well as insights from history, psychology, and political science—to put our present partisan fractiousness in context and to explain broad patterns of political and social change. Early chapters reveal the scope of the problem, who radical partisans are, and trends over time, while later chapters identify the conditions that partisans say justify violence and test how elections, political violence, and messages from leaders enflame or pacify radical views. Kalmoe and Mason find that ordinary partisanship is far more dangerous than pundits and scholars have recognized. However, these findings are not a forecast of inevitable doom; the current climate also brings opportunities to confront democratic threats head-on and to create a more inclusive politics. Timely and thought-provoking, Radical American Partisanship is vital reading for understanding our current political landscape.

Contributor Bio
Nathan P. Kalmoe is associate professor of political communication in Louisiana State University’s Manship School of Mass Communication and Department of Political Science. He is the author of With Ballots & Bullets: Partisanship & Violence in the American Civil War and co-author of Neither Liberal nor Conservative: Ideological Innocence in the Mass Public.
Lilliana Mason is associate research professor of political science at Johns Hopkins University’s SNF Agora Institute and Department of Political Science. She is author of Uncivil Agreement: How Politics Became Our Identity.
Democratize Work – The Case for Reorganizing the Economy

The Case for Reorganizing the Economy
Isabelle Ferreras, Julie Battilana, Dominique Média, Miranda Richmond Mouillot

Summary
An urgent and deeply resonant case for the power of workplace democracy to restore balance between economy and society.

What happens to a society—and a planet—when capitalism outgrows democracy? The tensions between democracy and capitalism are longstanding, and they have been laid bare by the social effects of COVID-19. The narrative of “essential workers” has provided thin cover for the fact that society’s lowest paid and least empowered continue to work risky jobs that keep our capitalism humming. Democracy has been subjugated by the demands of capitalism. For many, work has become unfair.

In Democratize Work, essays from a dozen social scientists—all women—articulate the perils and frustrations of our collective moment, while also framing the current crisis as an opportunity for renewal and transformation. Amid mounting inequalities tied to race, gender, and class—and with huge implications for the ecological fate of the planet—the authors detail how adjustments in how we organize work can lead to sweeping reconciliation. By treating workers as citizens, treating work as something other than an asset, and treating the planet as something to be cared for, a better way is attainable. Building on cross-disciplinary research, Democratize Work is both a rallying cry and an architecture for a sustainable economy that fits the democratic project of our societies.

Contributor Bio
Isabelle Ferreras is a senior research associate at the National Fund for Scientific Research in Brussels, professor of sociology at the University of Louvain in Belgium, and a senior research associate of the Labor and Worklife Program at Harvard Law School. She serves as president of the Royal Academy of Science, Letters and Fine Arts of Belgium.

Julie Battilana is the Joseph C. Wilson Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School and the Alan L. Gleitsman Professor of Social Innovation at Harvard Kennedy School, where she is also the founder and faculty chair of the Social Innovation and Change Initiative.

Dominique Média is professor of sociology and director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in the Social Sciences at Paris Dauphine University PSL.
The Channels of Student Activism – How the Left and Right Are Winning (and Losing) in Campus Politics Today

by Amy J. Binder, Jeffrey L. Kidder

Summary

An eye-opening analysis of collegiate activism and its effects on the divisions in contemporary American politics.

The past six years have been marked by a contentious political atmosphere that has touched every arena of public life, including higher education. Though most college campuses are considered ideologically progressive, how can it be that the right has been so successful in mobilizing young people even in these environments?

As Amy J. Binder and Jeffrey L. Kidder show in this surprising analysis of the relationship between political activism on college campuses and the broader US political landscape, while liberal students often outnumber conservatives on college campuses, liberal campus organizing remains removed from national institutions that effectively engage students after graduation. And though they are usually in the minority, conservative student groups have strong ties to national right-leaning organizations, which provide funds and expertise, as well as job opportunities and avenues for involvement after graduation. Though the left is more prominent on campus, the right has built a much more effective system for mobilizing ongoing engagement. What’s more, the conservative college ecosystem has worked to increase the number of political provocations on campus and lower the public’s trust in higher education.

In analyzing collegiate activism from the left, right, and center, The Channels of Student Activism shows exactly how politically engaged college students are channeled into two distinct forms of mobilization and why that has profound consequences for the future of American politics.

Contributor Bio

Amy J. Binder is professor of sociology at the University of California San Diego. She is the author of Contentious Curricula and coauthor of Becoming Right.

Jeffrey L. Kidder is professor of sociology at Northern Illinois University. He is the author of Parkour and the City and Urban Flow.
America`s Philosopher – John Locke in American Intellectual Life

John Locke in American Intellectual Life
Claire Rydell Arcenas

Summary

*America’s Philosopher* examines how John Locke has been interpreted, reinterpreted, and misinterpreted over three centuries of American history.

The influence of polymath philosopher John Locke (1632–1704) can still be found in a dizzying range of fields, as his writings touch on issues of identity, republicanism, and the nature of knowledge itself. Claire Rydell Arcenas’s new book tells the story of Americans’ longstanding yet ever-mutable obsession with this English thinker’s ideas, a saga whose most recent manifestations have found the so-called Father of Liberalism held up as a right-wing icon.

The first book to detail Locke’s trans-Atlantic influence from the eighteenth century until today, *America’s Philosopher* shows how and why interpretations of his ideas have captivated Americans in ways few other philosophers—from any nation—ever have. As Arcenas makes clear, each generation has essentially remade Locke in its own image, drawing inspiration and transmuting his ideas to suit the needs of the particular historical moment. Drawing from a host of vernacular sources to illuminate Locke’s often contradictory impact on American daily and intellectual life from before the Revolutionary War to the present, Arcenas delivers a pathbreaking work in the history of ideas.

Contributor Bio

Claire Rydell Arcenas is assistant professor of history at the University of Montana.
How Democracies Live – Power, Statecraft, and Freedom in Modern Societies
Power, Statecraft, and Freedom in Modern Societies
Stein Ringen

Summary
Times have not been kind to democracy. This book is in its defense.

In the new century, the triumph of democracy at the end of the Cold War turned to retrenchment. The core democracies, in America and Britain, succumbed to polarization and misrule. Dictatorships, such as China, made themselves assertive. New democracies in Central Europe turned to muddled ideologies of “illiberal democracy.” In this book, Stein Ringen offers a meditation on what democracy is, the challenges it faces, and how it can be defended. Ringen argues that democracy must be rooted in a culture that supports the ability of citizens to exchange views and information among themselves and with their rulers.

Drawing on the ideas of Machiavelli, Aristotle, Tocqueville, Max Weber, and others, Ringen shows how power is the fuel of government, and statecraft turns power into effective rule. Democracy should prize freedom and minimizing unfairness, especially poverty. Altogether, Ringen offers powerful insight on the meaning of democracy, including a new definition, and how countries can improve upon it and make it function more effectively. Timely and thought-provoking, How Democracies Live is a sober reminder of the majesty of the democratic enterprise.

Contributor Bio
Stein Ringen is emeritus professor at Green Templeton College, University of Oxford and visiting professor of political economy at King’s College, London.
From Lived Experience to the Written Word –
Reconstructing Practical Knowledge in the Early Modern World

Pamela H. Smith

Summary

How and why early modern European artisans began to record their knowledge.

In *From Lived Experience to the Written Word*, Pamela H. Smith considers how and why, beginning in 1400 CE, European craftspeople began to write down their making practices. Rather than simply passing along knowledge in the workshop, these literate artisans chose to publish handbooks, guides, treatises, tip sheets, graphs, and recipe books, sparking early technical writing and laying the groundwork for how we think about scientific knowledge today.

Focusing on metalworking from 1400–1800 CE, Smith looks at the nature of craft knowledge and skill, studying present-day and historical practices, objects, recipes, and artisanal manuals. From these sources, she considers how we can reconstruct centuries of largely lost knowledge. In doing so, she aims not only to unearth the techniques, material processes, and embodied experience of the past but also to gain insight into the lifeworld of artisans and their understandings of matter.

Contributor Bio

**Pamela H. Smith** is the Seth Low Professor of History at Columbia University and founding director of the Center for Science and Society and of its cluster project, the Making and Knowing Project. She is the author of *The Business of Alchemy* and *The Body of the Artisan*, the latter also published by the University of Chicago Press. She is the co-editor of *Ways of Making and Knowing* and *The Matter of Art* and editor of *Entangled Itineraries*. 
Living in the Future – Utopianism and the Long Civil Rights Movement
Utopianism and the Long Civil Rights Movement
Victoria W. Wolcott

Summary

Living in the Future reveals the unexplored impact of utopian thought on the major figures of the Civil Rights Movement.

Utopian thinking is often dismissed as unrealistic, overly idealized, and flat-out impractical—in short, wholly divorced from the urgent conditions of daily life. This is perhaps especially true when the utopian ideal in question is reforming and repairing the United States’ bitter history of racial injustice. But as Victoria W. Wolcott provocatively argues, utopianism is actually the foundation of a rich and visionary worldview, one that specifically inspired the major figures of the Civil Rights Movement in ways that haven’t yet been fully understood or appreciated.

Wolcott makes clear that the idealism and pragmatism of the Civil Rights Movement were grounded in nothing less than an intensely utopian yearning. Key figures of the time, from Martin Luther King Jr. and Pauli Murray to Father Divine and Howard Thurman, all shared a belief in a radical pacifism that was both specifically utopian and deeply engaged in changing the current conditions of the existing world. Living in the Future recasts the various strains of mid-twentieth-century civil rights activism in a utopian light, revealing the power of dreaming in a profound and concrete fashion, one that can be emulated in other times that are desperate for change, like today.

Contributor Bio

Victoria W. Wolcott is professor of history at the University of Buffalo.
Hayek – A Life, 1899 – 1950
A Life, 1899–1950
Bruce Caldwell, Hansjoerg Klausinger

Summary
The definitive account of the distinguished economist’s formative years.

Few twentieth-century figures have been lionized and vilified in such equal measure as Friedrich Hayek—economist, social theorist, leader of the Austrian school of economics, and champion of classical liberalism. Hayek’s erudite arguments in support of individualism and the market economy have attracted a devout following, including many at the levers of power in business and government. Critics, meanwhile, cast Hayek as the intellectual forefather of “neoliberalism” and of all the evils they associate with that pernicious doctrine.

In *Hayek: A Life*, historians of economics Bruce Caldwell and Hansjörg Klausinger draw on never-before-seen archival and family material to produce an authoritative account of the influential economist’s first five decades. This includes portrayals of his early career in Vienna; his relationships in London and Cambridge; his family disputes; and definitive accounts of the creation of *The Road to Serfdom* and of the founding meeting of the Mont Pèlerin Society.

A landmark work of history and biography, *Hayek: A Life* is a major contribution both to our cultural accounting of a towering figure and to intellectual history itself.

Contributor Bio

**Bruce Caldwell** is research professor of economics and the director of the Center for the History of Political Economy at Duke University. He is the general editor of the Collected Works of F. A. Hayek series, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

**Hansjoerg Klausinger** is associate professor emeritus in the Department of Economics at WU Vienna University of Economics and Business.
Inventing the Alphabet – The Origins of Letters from Antiquity to the Present

The Origins of Letters from Antiquity to the Present

Johanna Drucker

Summary

The first comprehensive intellectual history of alphabet studies.

Inventing the Alphabet provides the first account of two-and-a-half millennia of scholarship on the alphabet. Drawing on decades of research, Johanna Drucker dives into sometimes obscure and esoteric references, dispelling myths and identifying a pantheon of little-known scholars who contributed to our modern understandings of the alphabet, one of the most important inventions in human history.

Beginning with Biblical tales and accounts from antiquity, Drucker traces the transmission of ancient Greek thinking about the alphabet’s origin and debates about how Moses learned to read. The book moves through the centuries, finishing with contemporary concepts of the letters in alpha-numeric code used for global communication systems. Along the way, we learn about magical and angelic alphabets, antique inscriptions on coins and artifacts, and the comparative tables of scripts that continue through the development of modern fields of archaeology and paleography.

This is the first book to chronicle the story of the intellectual history through which the alphabet has been “invented” as an object of scholarship.

Contributor Bio

Johanna Drucker is the Breslauer Professor of Bibliographical Studies and a distinguished professor in the Department of Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has been the recipient of Fulbright, Mellon, and Getty Fellowships and in 2019 was the inaugural Distinguished Senior Humanities Fellow at the Beinecke Library, Yale University. Her artist books are included in museums and libraries in North America and Europe, and her creative work was the subject of a traveling retrospective, Druckworks 1972-2012: 40 Years of Books and Projects. Her publications include Visualizing Interpretation, Iliazd: Meta-biography of a Modernist, and The Digital Humanities Coursebook.
National Parks Forever – Fifty Years of Fighting and a Case for Independence
Fifty Years of Fighting and a Case for Independence
Jonathan B. Jarvis, T. Destry Jarvis, Christopher Johns

Summary
Two leaders of the National Park Service provide a front-row seat to the disastrous impact of partisan politics over the past fifty years—and offer a bold vision for the parks’ future.

The US National Parks, what environmentalist and historian Wallace Stegner called America’s “best idea,” are under siege. Since 1972, partisan political appointees in the Department of the Interior have offered two conflicting views of the National Park Service (NPS): one vision emphasizes preservation and science-based decision-making, and another prioritizes economic benefits and privatization. These politically driven shifts represent a pernicious, existential threat to the very future of our parks.

For the past fifty years, brothers Jonathan B. and T. Destry Jarvis have worked both within and outside NPS as leaders and advocates. National Parks Forever interweaves their two voices to show how our parks must be protected from those who would open them to economic exploitation, while still allowing generations to explore and learn in them. Their history also details how Congress and administration appointees have used budget and staffing cuts to sabotage NPS’s ability to manage the parks and even threatened their existence. Drawing on their experience, Jarvis and Jarvis make a bold and compelling proposal: that it is time for NPS to be removed from the Department of the Interior and made an independent agency, similar to the Smithsonian Institution, giving NPS leaders the ability to manage park resources and plan our parks’ protection, priorities, and future.

Contributor Bio
Jonathan B. Jarvis was the eighteenth director of the National Park Service, serving from 2009 to 2017. He served for forty years with the NPS as ranger, biologist, and park superintendent in eight national parks.
T. Destry Jarvis has had leadership roles at the National Parks Conservation Association, Student Conservation Association, National Park Service, and National Recreation & Parks Association. Currently, he is vice president of US/ICOMOS, the US National Committee for the International Council on Monuments and Sites, better known as the World Heritage Program.
A Problem of Fit – How the Complexity of College Pricing Hurts Students and Universities

How the Complexity of College Pricing Hurts Students—and Universities
Phillip B. Levine

Summary
A critical examination of the complex system of college pricing—how it works, how it fails, and how fixing it can help both students and universities.

How much does it cost to attend college in the United States today? The answer is more complex than many realize. College websites advertise a sticker price, but uncovering the actual price—the one after incorporating financial aid—can be difficult for students and families. This inherent uncertainty leads some students to forgo applying to colleges that would be the best fit for them, or even not attend college at all. The result is that millions of promising young people may lose out on one of society’s greatest opportunities for social mobility. Colleges suffer too, losing prospective students and seeing lower enrollments and less socioeconomic diversity. If markets require prices to function well, then the American higher-education system—rife as it is with ambiguity in its pricing—amounts to a market failure.

In A Problem of Fit, economist Phillip B. Levine explains why institutions charge the prices they do and discusses the role of financial aid systems in facilitating—and discouraging—access to college. Affordability issues are real, but price transparency is also part of the problem. As Levine makes clear, our conversations around affordability and free tuition miss a larger truth: that the opacity of our current college-financing systems is a primary driver of inequities in education and society. In a clear-eyed assessment of educational access and aid in a post-COVID-19 economy, A Problem of Fit offers a trenchant new argument for educational reforms that are well within reach.

Contributor Bio
Phillip B. Levine is the Katharine Coman and A. Barton Hepburn Professor of Economics at Wellesley College, a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a nonresident fellow at the Brookings Institution. He is the author, coauthor, or coeditor of five books devoted to statistics, the analysis of social policy, and its effect on individual behavior.
Street Scriptures – Between God and Hip-Hop
Between God and Hip-Hop
Alejandro Nava

Summary
This book explores an important aspect of hip-hop that is rarely considered: its deep entanglement with spiritual life.

The world of hip-hop is saturated with religion, but rarely is that element given serious consideration. In Street Scriptures, Alejandro Nava focuses our attention on this aspect of the music and culture in a fresh way, combining his profound love of hip-hop, his passion for racial and social justice, and his deep theological knowledge. Street Scriptures offers a refreshingly earnest and beautifully written journey through hip-hop’s deep entanglement with the sacred.

Nava analyzes the religious heartbeat in hip-hop, looking at crosscurrents of the sacred and profane in rap, reggaeton, and Latinx hip-hop today. Ranging from Nas, Kendrick Lamar, Chance the Rapper, Lauryn Hill, and Cardi B to St. Augustine and William James, Nava examines the ethical-political, mystical-prophetic, and theological qualities in hip-hop, probing the pure sonic and aesthetic signatures of music, while also diving deep into the voices that invoke the spirit of protest. The result is nothing short of a new liberation theology for our time, what Nava calls a “street theology.”

Contributor Bio
Alejandro Nava is professor of religious studies at the University of Arizona. He is the author of The Mystical and Prophetic Thought of Simone Weil and Gustavo Gutiérrez, Wonder and Exile in the New World, and In Search of Soul. He has discussed hip-hop and religion on NPR, Fox News, HuffPost Live, and MSNBC, among other outlets.
None of Your Damn Business – Privacy in the United States from the Gilded Age to the Digital Age

Privacy in the United States from the Gilded Age to the Digital Age
Lawrence Cappello

Summary
Capello investigates why we’ve been so blithe about giving up our privacy and all the opportunities we’ve had along the way to rein it in.

Every day, Americans surrender their private information to entities claiming to have their best interests in mind. This trade-off has long been taken for granted, but the extent of its nefariousness has recently become much clearer. As None of Your Damn Business reveals, the problem is not so much that data will be used in ways we don’t want, but rather how willing we have been to have our information used, abused, and sold right back to us. In this startling book, Lawrence Cappello targets moments from the past 130 years of US history when privacy was central to battles over journalistic freedom, national security, surveillance, big data, and reproductive rights. As he makes dismayingly clear, Americans have had numerous opportunities to protect the public good while simultaneously safeguarding our information, and we’ve squandered them every time. None of Your Damn Business is a rich and provocative survey of an alarming topic that grows only more relevant with each fresh outrage of trust betrayed.

Contributor Bio
Lawrence Cappello is assistant professor of US constitutional history at the University of Alabama. He received his PhD from the City University of New York.
**Fully Grown – Why a Stagnant Economy Is a Sign of Success**

Why a Stagnant Economy Is a Sign of Success

Dietrich Vollrath

**Summary**

Vollrath challenges our long-held assumption that growth is the best indicator of an economy’s health.

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

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

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

Sure to be controversial, *Fully Grown* will reset the terms of economic debate and help us think anew about what a successful economy looks like.

**Contributor Bio**

Dietrich Vollrath is professor of economics at the University of Houston. He is coauthor of *Introduction to Economic Growth*, now in its third edition, and writes the Growth Economics Blog.
Downriver – Into the Future of Water in the West
Into the Future of Water in the West
Heather Hansman

Summary
Award-winning journalist rafts down the Green River, revealing a multifaceted look at the present and future of water in the American West.

The Green River, the most significant tributary of the Colorado River, runs 730 miles from the glaciers of Wyoming to the desert canyons of Utah. Over its course, it meanders through ranches, cities, national parks, endangered fish habitats, and some of the most significant natural gas fields in the country, as it provides water for 33 million people. Stopped up by dams, slaked off by irrigation, and dried up by cities, the Green is crucial, overused, and at-risk, now more than ever.

Fights over the river’s water, and what’s going to happen to it in the future, are longstanding, intractable, and only getting worse as the West gets hotter and drier and more people depend on the river with each passing year. As a former raft guide and an environmental reporter, Heather Hansman knew these fights were happening, but she felt driven to see them from a different perspective—from the river itself. So she set out on a journey, in a one-person inflatable pack raft, to paddle the river from source to confluence and see what the experience might teach her. Mixing lyrical accounts of quiet paddling through breathtaking beauty with nights spent camping solo and lively discussions with farmers, city officials, and other people met along the way, Downriver is the story of that journey, a foray into the present—and future—of water in the West.

Contributor Bio
Heather Hansman is an award-winning journalist whose work has appeared in Outside, California Sunday, Smithsonian, and many others. After a decade of raft guiding across the United States, she lives in Seattle.
Quantum Legacies – Dispatches from an Uncertain World
Dispatches from an Uncertain World
David Kaiser, Alan Lightman

Summary
A series of engaging essays that explore iconic moments of discovery and debate in physicists’ ongoing quest to understand the quantum world.

The ideas at the root of quantum theory remain stubbornly, famously bizarre: a solid world reduced to puffs of probability; particles that tunnel through walls; cats suspended in zombielike states, neither alive nor dead; and twinned particles that share entangled fates. For more than a century, physicists have grappled with these conceptual uncertainties while enmeshed in the larger uncertainties of the social and political worlds around them, a time pocked by the rise of fascism, cataclysmic world wars, and a new nuclear age.

In Quantum Legacies, David Kaiser introduces readers to iconic episodes in physicists’ still-unfolding quest to understand space, time, and matter at their most fundamental. In a series of vibrant essays, Kaiser takes us inside moments of discovery and debate among the great minds of the era—Albert Einstein, Erwin Schrödinger, Stephen Hawking, and many more who have indelibly shaped our understanding of nature—as they have tried to make sense of a messy world.

Ranging across space and time, the episodes span the heady 1920s, the dark days of the 1930s, the turbulence of the Cold War, and the peculiar political realities that followed. In those eras as in our own, researchers’ ambition has often been to transcend the vagaries of here and now, to contribute lasting insights into how the world works that might reach beyond a given researcher’s limited view. In Quantum Legacies, Kaiser unveils the difficult and unsteady work required to forge some shared understanding between individuals and across generations, and in doing so, he illuminates the deep ties between scientific exploration and the human condition.

Contributor Bio
David Kaiser is the Germeshausen Professor of the History of Science and professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is the author of several books, including How the Hippies Saved Physics: Science, Counterculture, and the Quantum Revival, and is coeditor of Groovy Science: Knowledge, Innovation, and American Counterculture, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Amber Waves – The Extraordinary Biography of Wheat, from Wild Grass to World Megacrop

The Extraordinary Biography of Wheat, from Wild Grass to World Megacrop

Catherine Zabinski

Summary

A biography of a staple grain we often take for granted, exploring how wheat went from wild grass to a world-shaping crop.

At breakfast tables and bakeries, we take for granted a grain that has made human civilization possible, a cereal whose humble origins belie its world-shaping power: wheat. *Amber Waves* tells the story of a group of grass species that first grew in scattered stands in the foothills of the Middle East until our ancestors discovered their value as a source of food. Over thousands of years, we moved their seeds to all but the polar regions of Earth, slowly cultivating what we now know as wheat, and in the process creating a world of cuisines that uses wheat seeds as a staple food. Wheat spread across the globe, but as ecologist Catherine Zabinski shows us, a biography of wheat is not only the story of how plants ensure their own success: from the earliest bread to the most mouthwatering pasta, it is also a story of human ingenuity in producing enough food for ourselves and our communities.

Since the first harvest of the ancient grain, we have perfected our farming systems to grow massive quantities of food, producing one of our species’ global mega crops—but at a great cost to ecological systems. And despite our vast capacity to grow food, we face problems with undernourishment both close to home and around the world. Weaving together history, evolution, and ecology, Zabinski’s tale explores much more than the wild roots and rise of a now-ubiquitous grain: it illuminates our complex relationship with our crops, both how we have transformed the plant species we use as food, and how our society—our culture—has changed in response to the need to secure food sources. From the origins of agriculture to gluten sensitivities, from our first selection of the largest seeds from wheat’s wild progenitors to the sequencing of the wheat genome and genetic engineering, *Amber Waves* sheds new light on how we grow the food that sustains so much human life.

Contributor Bio

Catherine Zabinski is professor of plant and soil ecology in the Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences at Montana State University in Bozeman. She received a fellowship from the Arthur P. Sloan Foundation to work on *Amber Waves*. 
Floating Gold – A Natural (and Unnatural) History of Ambergris
A Natural (and Unnatural) History of Ambergris
Christopher Kemp

Summary
A fascinating natural history of an incredibly curious substance.

"Preternaturally hardened whale dung" is not the first image that comes to mind when we think of perfume, otherwise a symbol of glamour and allure. But the key ingredient that makes the sophisticated scent linger on the skin is precisely this bizarre digestive by-product—ambergris. Despite being one of the world’s most expensive substances (its value is nearly that of gold and has at times in history been triple it), ambergris is also one of the world’s least known. But with this unusual and highly alluring book, Christopher Kemp promises to change that by uncovering the unique history of ambergris.

A rare secretion produced only by sperm whales, which have a fondness for squid but an inability to digest their beaks, ambergris is expelled at sea and floats on ocean currents for years, slowly transforming, before it sometimes washes ashore looking like a nondescript waxy pebble. It can appear almost anywhere but is found so rarely, it might as well appear nowhere. Kemp’s journey begins with an encounter on a New Zealand beach with a giant lump of faux ambergris—determined after much excitement to nothing more exotic than lard—that inspires a comprehensive quest to seek out ambergris and its story. He takes us from the wild, rocky New Zealand coastline to Stewart Island, a remote, windswept island in the southern seas, to Boston and Cape Cod, and back again. Along the way, he tracks down the secretive collectors and traders who populate the clandestine modern-day ambergris trade.

Floating Gold is an entertaining and lively history that covers not only these precious gray lumps and those who covet them, but presents a highly informative account of the natural history of whales, squid, ocean ecology, and even a history of the perfume industry. Kemp’s obsessive curiosity is infectious, and eager readers will feel as though they have stumbled upon a precious bounty of this intriguing substance.

Contributor Bio
Christopher Kemp is a scientist living in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is the author of Dark and Magical Places: The Neuroscience of Navigation.
D-Day Through French Eyes – Normandy 1944

Normandy 1944
Mary Louise Roberts

Summary
A gripping account of what it was like to be in the midst of the Norman Invasion on D-Day and immediately afterward.

Silent parachutes dotting the night sky—that’s how one woman in Normandy in June 1944 learned that the D-Day invasion was underway. Though they yearned for liberation, the people of Normandy steeled themselves for further warfare, knowing that their homes, land, and fellow citizens would have to bear the brunt of the attack. In D-Day through French Eyes, Mary Louise Roberts resets our view of the usual stories of that momentous operation, taking readers across the Channel to view the invasion anew. Roberts builds her history from an impressive range of gripping first-person accounts from French citizens, reinvigorating a story we thought we knew. The result is a fresh perspective on the heroism, sacrifice, and achievement of D-Day.

Contributor Bio
Mary Louise Roberts is the WARF Distinguished Lucie Aubrac Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is also the Charles Boal Ewing Chair in Military History at the United States Military Academy at West Point for the 2020-21 academic year. Her most recent books are What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American GI in World War II France and D-Day through French Eyes: Normandy 1944, both published by the University of Chicago Press.
To Live Peaceably Together – The American Friends Service Committee’s Campaign for Open Housing

The American Friends Service Committee's Campaign for Open Housing

Tracy E. K'Meyer

Summary

A groundbreaking look at how a predominantly white faith-based group reset the terms of the fight to integrate US cities.

The bitterly tangled webs of race and housing in the postwar United States hardly suffer from a lack of scholarly attention. But Tracy K’Meyer’s To Live Peaceably Together delivers something truly new to the field: a lively examination of a predominantly white faith-based group—the Quaker-aligned American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)—that took a unique and ultimately influential approach to cultivating wider acceptance of residential integration. Built upon detailed stories of AFSC activists and the obstacles they encountered in their work in Chicago, Philadelphia, and Richmond, California, To Live Peaceably Together is an engaging and timely account of how the organization allied itself to a cause that demanded constant learning, reassessment, and self-critique. K’Meyer details the spiritual and humanist motivations behind the AFSC, its members’ shifting strategies as they came to better understand structural inequality, and how those strategies were eventually adopted by a variety of other groups. Her fine-grained investigation of the cultural ramifications of housing struggles provides a fresh look at the last seventy years of racial activism.

Contributor Bio

Tracy E. K'Meyer is professor of history at the University of Louisville.
A Great and Rising Nation – Naval Exploration and Global Empire in the Early US Republic
Naval Exploration and Global Empire in the Early US Republic
Michael A. Verney

Summary
A Great and Rising Nation illuminates the unexplored early decades of the United States’ imperialist naval aspirations.

Conventional wisdom holds that, until the Spanish-American War of 1898, the United States was a feeble player on the world stage, with an international presence rooted in commerce rather than military might. Michael A. Verney’s A Great and Rising Nation flips this notion on its head, arguing that early US naval expeditions, often characterized as merely scientific, were in fact deeply imperialist. Circling the globe from the Mediterranean to South America and the Arctic, these voyages reflected the diverse imperial aspirations of the new republic, including commercial dominance in the Pacific World, religious empire in the Holy Land, proslavery expansion in South America, and diplomatic prestige in Europe. As Verney makes clear, the United States had global imperial aspirations far earlier than is commonly thought.

Contributor Bio
Michael A. Verney is assistant professor of History at Drury University.
Limits of the Numerical – The Abuses and Uses of Quantification
The Abuses and Uses of Quantification
Christopher Newfield, Anna Alexandrova, Stephen John

Summary
This collection examines the uses of quantification in climate science, higher education, and health.

Numbers may seem fragile—they are, after all, frequent objects of obfuscation or outright denial—but they have also never been more influential in our society, figuring into everything from college rankings to vaccine efficacy rates. This timely collection by a diverse group of humanists and social scientists challenges undue reverence or skepticism toward quantification and shows how it can be a force for good despite its many abuses.

Limits of the Numerical focuses on quantification in several contexts: the role of numerical estimates and targets in explaining and planning for climate change; the quantification of outcomes in teaching and research; and numbers representing health, the effectiveness of medical interventions, and well-being more broadly. The authors complicate our understanding of these numbers, uncovering, for example, epistemic problems with some core numbers in climate science. But their theme is less the problems revealed by case studies than the methodological issues common to them all. This volume shows the many ways that qualitative and quantitative approaches can productively interact—how the limits of the numerical can be overcome through equitable partnerships with historical, institutional, and philosophical analysis.

Contributor Bio
Christopher Newfield is director of research at the Independent Social Research Foundation, London.
Anna Alexandrova is a reader in the Philosophy of Science in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge, where she is also a fellow of King's College.
Stephen John is the Hatton Lecturer in the Philosophy of Public Health in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Cambridge, where he is also a fellow of Pembroke College.
Terms of Exchange – Brazilian Intellectuals and the French Social Sciences
Brazilian Intellectuals and the French Social Sciences
Ian Merkel

Summary
A collective intellectual biography that sheds new light on the Annales school, structuralism, and racial democracy.

Would the most recognizable ideas in the French social sciences have developed without the influence of Brazilian intellectuals? While any study of Brazilian social sciences acknowledges the influence of French scholars, Ian Merkel argues the reverse is also true: the “French” social sciences were profoundly marked by Brazilian intellectual thought, particularly through the University of São Paulo. Through the idea of the “cluster,” Merkel traces the intertwined networks of Claude Lévi-Strauss, Fernand Braudel, Roger Bastide, and Pierre Monbeig as they overlapped at USP and engaged with Brazilian scholars such as Mário de Andrade, Gilberto Freyre, and Caio Prado Jr..

Through this collective intellectual biography of Brazilian and French social sciences, *Terms of Exchange* reveals connections that shed new light on the Annales school, structuralism, and racial democracy, even as it prompts us to revisit established thinking on the process of knowledge formation through fieldwork and intellectual exchange. At a time when canons are being rewritten, this book reframes the history of modern social scientific thought.

Contributor Bio
Ian Merkel is an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at Freie Universität Berlin.
Medieval Marvels and Fictions in the Latin West and Islamic World
Michelle Karnes

Summary
A cross-cultural study of magical phenomena in the Middle Ages.

Marvels like enchanted rings and sorcerers’ stones were topics of fascination in the Middle Ages, not only in romance and travel literature but also in the period’s philosophical writing. Rather than constructions of belief accepted only by simple-minded people, Michelle Karnes shows that these spectacular wonders were near impossibilities that demanded scrutiny and investigation.

This is the first book to analyze a diverse set of writings on such wonders, comparing texts from the Latin West—including those written in English, French, Italian, and Castilian Spanish—with those written in Arabic as it works toward a unifying theory of marvels across different disciplines and cultures. Karnes tells a story about the parallels between Arabic and Latin thought, reminding us that experiences of the strange and the unfamiliar travel across a range of genres, spanning geographical and conceptual space and offering an ideal vantage point from which to understand intercultural exchange. Karnes traverses this diverse archive, showing how imagination imbues marvels with their character and power, making them at once enigmatic, creative, and resonant. Skirting the distinction between the real and unreal, these marvels challenge readers to discover the highest capabilities of both nature and the human intellect. Karnes offers a rare comparative perspective and a new methodology to study a topic long recognized as central to medieval culture.

Contributor Bio
Michelle Karnes is an associate professor of English and the history of philosophy and science at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of Imagination, Meditation, and Cognition in the Middle Ages and is editor of Studies in the Age of Chaucer.
Nonprofit Neighborhoods – An Urban History of Inequality and the American State

An Urban History of Inequality and the American State
Claire Dunning

Summary
An exploration of how and why American city governments delegated the responsibility for solving urban inequality to the nonprofit sector.

American cities are rife with nonprofit organizations that provide services ranging from arts to parks, and health to housing. These organizations have become so ubiquitous, it can be difficult to envision a time when they were fewer, smaller, and more limited in their roles. Turning back the clock, however, uncovers both an eye-opening story of how the nonprofit sector became such a dominant force in American society, as well as a troubling one of why this growth occurred alongside persistent poverty and widening inequality. Claire Dunning’s book connects these two stories in histories of race, democracy, and capitalism, revealing an underexplored transformation in urban governance: how the federal government funded and deputized nonprofits to help individuals in need, and in so doing avoided addressing the structural inequities that necessitated such action in the first place.

Nonprofit Neighborhoods begins in the decades after World War II, when a mix of suburbanization, segregation, and deindustrialization spelled disaster for urban areas and inaugurated a new era of policymaking that aimed to solve public problems with private solutions. From deep archival research, Dunning introduces readers to the activists, corporate executives, and politicians who advocated addressing poverty and racial exclusion through local organizations, while also raising provocative questions about the politics and possibilities of social change. The lessons of Nonprofit Neighborhoods exceed the municipal bounds of Boston, where much of the story unfolds, providing a timely history of the shift from urban crisis to urban renaissance for anyone concerned about American inequality—past, present, or future.

Contributor Bio
Claire Dunning is assistant professor of public policy and history at the University of Maryland, College Park.
Knowledge Regulation and National Security in Postwar America
Mario Daniels, John Krige

Summary
The first historical study of export control regulations as a tool for the sharing and withholding of knowledge.

In this groundbreaking book, Mario Daniels and John Krige set out to show the enormous political relevance that export control regulations have had for American debates about national security, foreign policy, and trade policy since 1945. Indeed, they argue that from the 1940s to today the issue of how to control the transnational movement of information has been central to the thinking and actions of the guardians of the American national security state. The expansion of control over knowledge and know-how is apparent from the increasingly systematic inclusion of universities and research institutions into a system that in the 1950s and 1960s mainly targeted business activities. As this book vividly reveals, classification was not the only—and not even the most important—regulatory instrument that came into being in the postwar era.

Contributor Bio
Mario Daniels is the DAAD Fachlektor at the Duitsland Instituut at the University of Amsterdam.
John Krige is the Kranzberg Professor Emeritus in the School of History and Sociology at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
Behind the Angel of History – The "Angelus Novus" and Its Interleaf

The "Angelus Novus" and Its Interleaf

Annie Bourneuf

Summary

The story of artist R. H. Quaytman’s discovery of an engraving hidden behind a famous artwork by Paul Klee.

This book begins with artist R. H. Quaytman uncovering something startling about a picture by Paul Klee. Pasted beneath Klee’s 1920 Angelus Novus—famous for its role in the writings of its first owner, Walter Benjamin—Quaytman found that Klee had interleaved a nineteenth-century engraving of Martin Luther, leaving just enough visible to provoke questions.

Behind the Angel of History reveals why this hidden face matters, delving into the intertwined artistic, political, and theological issues consuming Germany in the wake of the Great War. With the Angelus Novus, Klee responded to a growing call for a new religious art. For Benjamin, Klee’s Angelus became bound up with the prospect of meaningful dialogue among religions in Germany.

Reflecting on Klee’s, Benjamin’s, and Quaytman’s strategies of superimposing conflicting images, Annie Bourneuf reveals new dimensions of complexity in this iconic work and the writing it inspired.

Contributor Bio

Annie Bourneuf is associate professor of art history at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is the author of Paul Klee: The Visible and the Legible, which was also published by the University of Chicago Press and won the 2016 Robert Motherwell Book Award.
**Summary**

The first book to chart Scott Burton’s performance art and sculpture of the 1970s.

Scott Burton (1939–89) created performance art and sculpture that drew on queer experience and the sexual cultures that flourished in New York City in the 1970s. David J. Getsy argues that Burton looked to nonverbal body language and queer behavior in public space—most importantly, street cruising—as a foundation for rethinking the audiences and possibilities of art. Throughout the decade, he made complex works about bodies and how they communicate. Extending his performances about cruising, sexual signaling, and power dynamics, Burton also created functional sculptures that covertly signaled queerness by hiding in plain sight as furniture waiting to be used.

With research drawing from multiple archives and numerous interviews, Getsy charts Burton’s deep engagements with postminimalism, performance, feminism, behavioral psychology, design history, and queer culture. A restless and wide-ranging artist, Burton transformed his commitment to gay liberation into a unique practice of performance, sculpture, and public art that aspired to be anti-elitist, embracing of differences, and open to all. Filled with stories of Burton’s life in New York’s art communities, *Queer Behavior* makes a case for Burton as one of the most significant out queer artists to emerge in the wake of the Stonewall uprising and, in so doing, provides a rich account of the interwoven histories of queer art and performance art in the 1970s.

**Contributor Bio**

David J. Getsy is the Eleanor Shea Professor of Art History at the University of Virginia. He is the author of *Abstract Bodies: Sixties Sculpture in the Expanded Field of Gender; Rodin: Sex and the Making of Modern Sculpture;* and *Body Doubles: Sculpture in Britain, 1877-1905*. His edited volumes include *Scott Burton: Collected Writings on Art and Performance, 1965-1975* and *Queer*, an anthology of artists’ writings.
Picasso – Selected Essays
Selected Essays
Leo Steinberg, Sheila Schwartz, Richard Shiff

Summary
The fourth volume in the Essays by Leo Steinberg series, focusing on the artist Pablo Picasso.

Leo Steinberg was one of the most original art historians of the twentieth century, known for taking interpretive risks that challenged the profession by overturning reigning orthodoxies. In essays and lectures ranging from old masters to modern art, he combined scholarly erudition with eloquent prose that illuminated his subject and a credo that privileged the visual evidence of the image over the literature written about it. His writings, sometimes provocative and controversial, remain vital and influential reading. Steinberg’s perceptions evolved from long, hard looking at his objects of study. Almost everything he wrote included passages of formal analysis but always put into the service of interpretation.

This volume brings together Steinberg’s essays on Pablo Picasso, many of which have been studied and debated for decades, such as “The Philosophical Brothel,” as well as unpublished lectures, including “The Intelligence of Picasso,” a wide-ranging look at Picasso’s enduring ambition to stretch the agenda of representation, from childhood drawings to his last self-portrait. An introduction by art historian Richard Shiff contextualizes these works and illuminates Steinberg’s lifelong dedication to refining the expository, interpretive, and rhetorical features of his writing.

Picasso is the fourth volume in a series that presents Steinberg’s writings, selected and edited by his longtime associate Sheila Schwartz.

Contributor Bio
Leo Steinberg (1920-2011) was born in Moscow and raised in Berlin and London, emigrating with his family to New York in 1945. He was a professor of art history at Hunter College, City University of New York, and then Benjamin Franklin Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, where he remained until his retirement in 1990.

Sheila Schwartz worked with Leo Steinberg from 1968 until his death in 2011. She received her PhD from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, and is presently Research and Archives Director of The Saul Steinberg Foundation.
Teaching Expertise in Three Countries – Japan, China, and the United States

Japan, China, and the United States
Akiko Hayashi, Joseph Tobin

Summary

A comparison of the development of expertise in preschool teaching in China, Japan, and the United States.

In Teaching Expertise in Three Countries, Akiko Hayashi shows how teachers from Japan, China, and the United States think about what it means to be an expert teacher. Based on interviews with teachers conducted over the span of fifteen years and videos taken in their classrooms, Hayashi gives us a valuable portrait of expert teachers in the making. While Hayashi’s research uncovered cultural variations in the different national contexts, her analysis of how teachers adapted their pedagogy throughout their careers also revealed many cross-national similarities. Younger teachers often describe themselves as being in a rush, following scripts, and “talking too much,” while experienced teachers describe themselves as being quieter, knowing children better, and being more present.

Including a foreword by scholar of early childhood education Joseph Tobin, Teaching Expertise in Three Countries provides a foundation for understanding the sequence and pathways of development over the first decade of teaching in three national contexts, demonstrating the value of the field of comparative education in the process.

Contributor Bio

Akiko Hayashi is assistant professor at Keio University in Japan and the coauthor of Teaching Embodied, also published by the University of Chicago Press.

Joseph Tobin is professor of early childhood education at the University of Georgia and the author of several books, including Preschool in Three Cultures Revisited, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Other People`s Colleges – The Origins of American Higher Education Reform

The Origins of American Higher Education Reform
Ethan W. Ris

Summary
An illuminating history of the reform agenda in higher education.

For well over one hundred years, people have been attempting to make American colleges and universities more efficient and more accountable. Indeed, Ethan Ris argues in Other People`s Colleges, the reform impulse is baked into American higher education, the result of generations of elite reformers who have called for sweeping changes in the sector and raised existential questions about its sustainability. When that reform is beneficial, offering major rewards for minor changes, colleges and universities know how to assimilate it. When it is hostile, attacking autonomy or values, they know how to resist it. The result is a sector that has learned to accept top-down reform as part of its existence.

In the early twentieth century, the “academic engineers,” a cadre of elite, external reformers from foundations, businesses, and government, worked to reshape and reorganize the vast base of the higher education pyramid. Their reform efforts were largely directed at the lower tiers of higher education, but those efforts fell short, despite the wealth and power of their backers, leaving a legacy of successful resistance that affects every college and university in the United States. Today, another coalition of business leaders, philanthropists, and politicians is again demanding efficiency, accountability, and utility from American higher education. But, as Ris argues, top-down design is not destiny. Drawing on extensive and original archival research, Other People`s Colleges offers an account of higher education that sheds light on today’s reform agenda.

Contributor Bio
Ethan W. Ris is assistant professor of educational leadership at the University of Nevada, Reno.
Handbook of Quantitative Ecology
Justin Kitzes

Summary
An essential guide to quantitative research methods in ecology and conservation biology, accessible for even the most math-averse student or professional.

Quantitative research techniques have become increasingly important in ecology and conservation biology, but the sheer breadth of methods that must be understood—from population modeling and probabilistic thinking to modern statistics, simulation, and data science—as well as a lack of computational or mathematics training have hindered quantitative literacy in these fields. In this book, ecologist Justin Kitzes answers those challenges for students and practicing scientists alike.

Requiring only basic algebra and the ability to use a spreadsheet, the Handbook of Quantitative Ecology is designed to provide a practical, intuitive, and integrated introduction to widely used quantitative methods. Kitzes builds each chapter around a specific ecological problem and arrives, step by step, at a general principle through the act of solving that problem. Grouped into five broad categories—difference equations, probability, matrix models, likelihood statistics, and other numerical methods—the book introduces basic concepts, starting with exponential and logistic growth, and helps readers to understand the field’s more advanced subjects, such as permutation tests, stochastic optimization, and cellular automata. Complete with online solutions to all numerical problems, Kitzes’s Handbook of Quantitative Ecology is an ideal coursebook for both undergraduate and graduate students of ecology, as well as a useful and necessary resource for mathematically out-of-practice scientists.

Contributor Bio
Justin Kitzes is assistant professor of biological sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. He is coeditor of The Practice of Reproducible Research: Case Studies and Lessons from the Data-Intensive Sciences.
Summary
An eye-opening exploration of the medical origins of gender in modern US history.

Today, a world without “gender” is hard to imagine. Gender is at the center of contentious political and social debates, shapes policy decisions, and informs our everyday lives. Its formulation, however, is lesser known: Gender was first used in clinical practice. This book tells the story of the invention of gender in American medicine, detailing how it was shaped by mid-twentieth-century American notions of culture, personality, and social engineering.

Sandra Eder shows how the concept of gender transformed from a pragmatic tool in the sex assignment of children with intersex traits in the 1950s to an essential category in clinics for transgender individuals in the 1960s. Following gender outside the clinic, she reconstructs the variable ways feminists integrated gender into their theories and practices in the 1970s. The process by which ideas about gender became medicalized, enforced, and popularized was messy, and the route by which gender came to be understood and applied through the treatment of patients with intersex traits was fraught and contested. In historicizing the emergence of the sex/gender binary, Eder reveals the role of medical practice in developing a transformative idea and the interdependence between practice and wider social norms that inform the attitudes of physicians and researchers. She shows that ideas like gender can take on a life of their own and may be used to question the normative perceptions they were based on. Illuminating and deeply researched, the book closes a notable gap in the history of gender and will inspire current debates on the relationship between social norms and medical practice.

Contributor Bio
Sandra Eder is assistant professor in the Department of History at the University of California, Berkeley.
Knowing Manchuria – Environments, the Senses, and Natural Knowledge on an Asian Borderland
Environments, the Senses, and Natural Knowledge on an Asian Borderland
Ruth Rogaski

Summary
Making sense of nature in one of the world’s most contested borderlands.

According to Chinese government reports, hundreds of plague-infected rodents fell from the skies over Gannan county on an April night in 1952. Chinese scientists determined that these flying voles were not native to the region, but were vectors of germ warfare, dispatched over the border by agents of imperialism. Mastery of biology had become a way to claim political mastery over a remote frontier. Beginning with this bizarre incident from the Korean War, Knowing Manchuria places the creation of knowledge about nature at the center of our understanding of a little-known but historically important Asian landscape.

At the intersection of China, Russia, Korea, and Mongolia, Manchuria is known as a site of war and environmental extremes, where projects of political control intersected with projects designed to make sense of Manchuria’s multiple environments. Covering more than 500,000 square miles, Manchuria’s landscapes include temperate rainforests, deserts, prairies, cultivated plains, wetlands, and Siberian taiga. With analysis spanning the seventeenth century to the present day, Ruth Rogaski reveals how an array of historical actors—Chinese poets, Manchu shamans, Russian botanists, Korean mathematicians, Japanese bacteriologists, American paleontologists, and indigenous hunters—made sense of the Manchurian frontier. She uncovers how natural knowledge, and thus the nature of Manchuria itself, changed over time, from a sacred “land where the dragon arose” to a global epicenter of contagious disease; from a tragic “wasteland” to an abundant granary that nurtured the hope of a nation.

Contributor Bio
Ruth Rogaski is associate professor of history and Asian studies at Vanderbilt University. She is the author of Hygienic Modernity: Meanings of Health and Disease in Treaty-Port China.
Biotic Borders – Transpacific Plant and Insect Migration and the Rise of Anti-Asian Racism in America, 1890–1950

Jeannie N. Shinozuka

Summary

A rich and eye-opening history of the mutual constitution of race and species in modern America.

In the late nineteenth century, increasing traffic of transpacific plants, insects, and peoples raised fears of a "biological yellow peril" when nursery stock and other agricultural products shipped from Japan to meet the growing demand for exotics in the United States. Over the next fifty years, these crossings transformed conceptions of race and migration, played a central role in the establishment of the US empire and its government agencies, and shaped the fields of horticulture, invasion biology, entomology, and plant pathology. In Biotic Borders, Jeannie N. Shinozuka uncovers the emergence of biological nativism that fueled American imperialism and spurred anti-Asian racism that remains with us today.

Shinozuka provides an eye-opening look at biotic exchanges that not only altered the lives of Japanese in America but transformed American society more broadly. She shows how the modern fixation on panic about foreign species created a linguistic and conceptual arsenal for anti-immigration movements that flourished in the early twentieth century. Xenophobia inspired concerns about biodiversity, prompting new categories of “native” and “invasive” species that defined groups as bio-invasions to be regulated—or annihilated. By highlighting these connections, Shinozuka shows us that this story cannot be told about humans alone—the plants and animals that crossed with them were central to Japanese American and Asian American history. The rise of economic entomology and plant pathology in concert with public health and anti-immigration movements demonstrate these entangled histories of xenophobia, racism, and species invasions.

Contributor Bio

Jeannie N. Shinozuka is visiting assistant professor of history in the Department of International Studies at Soka University of America in Aliso Viejo, California.
What Is Regeneration?
Jane Maienschein, Kate MacCord

Summary
Two historians and philosophers of science offer an essential primer on the meaning and limits of regeneration.

In punishment for his stealing fire, the Greek gods chained Prometheus to a rock, where every day an eagle plucked out his liver, and every night the liver regenerated. While Prometheus may be a figure of myth, scholars today ask whether ancient Greeks knew that the human liver does, in fact, have a special capacity to regenerate. Some organs and tissues can regenerate, while others cannot, and some organisms can regenerate more fully and more easily than others. Cut an earthworm in half, and two wiggly worms may confront you. Cut off the head of a hydra, and it may grow a new head. Cut off a human arm, and the human will be missing an arm. Why the differences? What are the limits of regeneration, and how, when, and why does it occur?

In this book, historians and philosophers of science Jane Maienschein and Kate MacCord explore biological regeneration, delving into a topic of increasing interest in light of regenerative medicine, new tools in developmental and neurobiology, and the urgent need to understand and repair damage to ecosystems brought on by climate change. Looking across scales, from germ, nerve, and stem cells to individual organisms and complex systems, this short and accessible introduction poses a range of deep and provocative questions: What conditions allow some damaged microbiomes to regenerate where others do not? Why are forests following a fire said to regenerate sometimes but not always? And in the face of climate change in the era called the Anthropocene, can the planet regenerate to become healthy again, or will the global ecosystem collapse?

Contributor Bio
Jane Maienschein is University Professor, Regents Professor, and President’s Professor at Arizona State University, where she also directs the Center for Biology and Society. She also serves as fellow and director of the History and Philosophy of Science Project at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.
Kate MacCord is an instructor in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University and the program administrator of the McDonnell Initiative at the Marine Biological Laboratory, where she also serves as the McDonnell Fellow.
The Quest for Sexual Health – How an Elusive Ideal Has Transformed Science, Politics, and Everyday Life
How an Elusive Ideal Has Transformed Science, Politics, and Everyday Life
Steven Epstein

Summary
Offering an entryway into the distinctive worlds of sexual health and a window onto their spillover effects, sociologist Steven Epstein traces the development of the concept and parses the debates that swirl around it.

Since the 1970s, health professionals, researchers, governments, advocacy groups, and commercial interests have invested in the pursuit of something called "sexual health." Under this expansive banner, a wide array of programs have been launched, organizations founded, initiatives funded, products sold—and yet, no book before this one asks: What does it mean to be sexually healthy? When did people conceive of a form of health called sexual health? And how did it become the gateway to addressing a host of social harms and the reimagining of private desires and public dreams?

Conjoining "sexual" with "health" changes both terms: it alters how we conceive of sexuality and transforms what it means to be healthy, prompting new expectations of what medicine can provide. Yet the ideal of achieving sexual health remains elusive and open-ended, and the benefits and costs of promoting it are unevenly distributed across genders, races, and sexual identities. Rather than a thing apart, sexual health is intertwined with nearly every conceivable topical debate—from sexual dysfunction to sexual violence, from reproductive freedom to the practicalities of sexual contact in a pandemic. In this book Steven Epstein analyzes the rise, proliferation, uptake, and sprawling consequences of sexual health activities, offering critical tools to assess those consequences, expand capacities for collective decision making, and identify pathways that promote social justice.

Contributor Bio
Steven Epstein is professor of sociology and the John C. Shaffer Professor in the Humanities at Northwestern University. He is the author of several award-winning books, including Impure Science: AIDS, Activism, and the Politics of Knowledge and Inclusion: The Politics of Difference in Medical Research.
Ethics by Committee – A History of Reasoning Together about Medicine, Science, Society, and the State
Noortje Jacobs

Summary
How liberal democracies in the late twentieth century have sought to resolve public concerns over charged issues in medicine and science.

Ethics boards have become obligatory passage points in today’s medical science, and we forget how novel they really are. The use of humans in experiments is an age-old practice that records show goes back to at least the third century BC, and it has been popular as a practice since the early modern period. Yet in most countries around the world, hardly any formal checks and balances existed to govern the communal oversight of experiments involving human subjects until at least the 1960s. Ethics by Committee traces the rise of ethics boards for human experimentation in the second half of the twentieth century.

Using the Netherlands as a case study, historian Noortje Jacobs shows how the authority of physicians to make decisions about clinical research in this period gave way in most developed nations to formal mechanisms of communal decision-making that served to regiment the behavior of individual researchers. This historically unprecedented change in scientific governance came out of the growing international wariness of medical research in the decades after World War II and was meant to solidify a new way of reasoning together in liberal democracies about medicine and science. But what reasoning together meant, and who was invited to participate, changed drastically over time. In detailing this history, Jacobs shows that research ethics committees were originally intended not only to make human experimentation more ethical but also to raise its epistemic quality and intensify the use of new clinical research methods. By examining complex negotiations over the appropriate governance of human subjects research, Ethics by Committee is an important contribution to our understanding of the randomized controlled trial and the history of research ethics and bioethics more generally.

Contributor Bio
Noortje Jacobs is a historian in the Department of Medical Ethics, Philosophy, and History of Medicine at the Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam, Netherlands.
Knowledge Flows in a Global Age – A Transnational Approach

A Transnational Approach

John Krige

Summary

A transnational approach to understanding and analyzing knowledge circulation.

Focusing on what happens to knowledge at national borders, rather than treating it as flowing like currents across them, or diffusing out from center to periphery, the contributors to this collection stress the human intervention that shapes and drives how knowledge is processed, mobilized, and repurposed in transnational transactions to serve differing and uneven interests, constraints, and environments. The chapters consider both what knowledge travels and how it travels across borders of varying permeability that impede or facilitate its movement. They look closely at a vast range of platforms and objects of knowledge, from tangible commodities—like hybrid wheat seeds, penicillin, Robusta coffee, naval weaponry, and high-performance computers—to the more conceptual apparatuses of telecommunications, statistics, and food sovereignty. Moreover, this volume decenters the Global North, tracking how knowledge moves along multiple paths across the borders of Mexico, India, Portugal, Guinea-Bissau, the Soviet Union, China, Angola, and Palestine and the West Bank, as well as the United States and United Kingdom. The variety of the kinds of knowledge addressed in the chapters brings forth an extraordinary array of state and non-state actors and institutions committed to performing the work needed to move knowledge across national borders.

Contributor Bio

John Krige is the Kranzberg Professor Emeritus in the School of History and Sociology at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
**John Venn – A Life in Logic**

**A Life in Logic**

Lukas M. Verburgt

**Summary**

**The first comprehensive history of John Venn’s life and work.**

John Venn (1834–1923) is remembered today as the inventor of the famous Venn diagram. The postmortem fame of the diagram has until now eclipsed Venn’s own status as one of the most accomplished logicians of his day. Praised by John Stuart Mill as a “highly successful thinker” with much “power of original thought,” Venn had a profound influence on nineteenth-century scientists and philosophers, ranging from Mill and Francis Galton to Lewis Carroll and Charles Sanders Peirce. Venn was heir to a clerical Evangelical dynasty, but religious doubts led him to resign Holy Orders and instead focus on an academic career. He wrote influential textbooks on probability theory and logic, became a fellow of the Royal Society, and advocated alongside Henry Sidgwick for educational reform, including that of women’s higher education. Moreover, through his students, a direct line can be traced from Venn to the early analytic philosophy of G. E. Moore and Bertrand Russell, and family ties connect him to the famous Bloomsbury group.

This essential book takes readers on Venn’s journey from Evangelical son to Cambridge don to explore his life and work in context. Drawing on Venn’s key writings and correspondence, published and unpublished, Lukas M. Verburgt unearths the legacy of the logician’s wide-ranging thinking while offering perspective on broader themes in religion, science, and the university in Victorian Britain. The rich picture that emerges of Venn, the person, is of a man with many sympathies—sometimes mutually reinforcing and at other times outwardly and inwardly contradictory.

**Contributor Bio**

**Lukas M. Verburgt** is a fellow at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS) and a guest researcher at the Institute for Philosophy at Leiden University, Netherlands.
Defining Nature`s Limits – The Roman Inquisition and the Boundaries of Science

The Roman Inquisition and the Boundaries of Science
Neil Tarrant

Summary

A look at the history of censorship, science, and magic from the Middle Ages to the post-Reformation era.

Neil Tarrant challenges conventional thinking by looking at the longer history of censorship, considering a five-hundred-year continuity of goals and methods stretching from the late eleventh century to well into the sixteenth.

Unlike earlier studies, *Defining Nature`s Limits* engages the history of both learned and popular magic. Tarrant explains how the church developed a program that sought to codify what was proper belief through confession, inquisition, and punishment and prosecuted what they considered superstition or heresy that stretched beyond the boundaries of religion. These efforts were continued by the Roman Inquisition, established in 1542. Although it was designed primarily to combat Protestantism, from the outset the new institution investigated both practitioners of “illicit” magic and inquiries into natural philosophy, delegitimizing certain practices and thus shaping the development of early modern science. Describing the dynamics of censorship that continued well into the post-Reformation era, *Defining Nature`s Limits* is revisionist history that will interest scholars of the history science, the history of magic, and the history of the church alike.

Contributor Bio

Neil Tarrant is a research associate in the Centre for Renaissance and Early Modern Studies at the University of York.
Crossing the Boundaries of Life – Günter Blobel and the Origins of Molecular Cell Biology

Günter Blobel and the Origins of Molecular Cell Biology
Karl S. Matlin

Summary
A close look at Günter Blobel’s transformative contributions to molecular cell biology.

The difficulty of reconciling chemical mechanisms with the functions of whole living systems has plagued biologists since the development of cell theory in the nineteenth century. As Karl S. Matlin argues in Crossing the Boundaries of Life, it is no coincidence that this longstanding knot of scientific inquiry was loosened most meaningfully by the work of a cell biologist, the Nobel laureate Günter Blobel. In 1975, using an experimental setup that did not contain any cells at all, Blobel was able to target newly made proteins to cell membrane vesicles, enabling him to theorize how proteins in the cell distribute spatially, an idea he called the signal hypothesis. Over the next twenty years, Blobel and other scientists were able to dissect this mechanism into its precise molecular details. For elaborating his signal concept into a process he termed membrane topogenesis—the idea that each protein in the cell is synthesized with an "address" that directs the protein to its correct destination within the cell—Blobel was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1999. Matlin argues that Blobel’s investigative strategy and its subsequent application addressed a fundamental unresolved dilemma that had bedeviled biology from its very beginning, the relationship between structure and function, allowing biology to achieve mechanistic molecular explanations of biological phenomena. Crossing the Boundaries of Life thus uses Blobel’s research and life story to shed light on the importance of cell biology for twentieth-century science, illustrating how it propelled the development of adjacent disciplines like biochemistry and molecular biology.

Contributor Bio
Karl S. Matlin is professor emeritus of biological sciences and conceptual and historical studies of science at the University of Chicago.
Trees and Forests of Tropical Asia – Exploring Tapovan

Peter Ashton, David Lee

Summary

Informed by decades of researching tropical Asian forests, a comprehensive, up-to-date, and beautifully illustrated synthesis of the natural history of this unique place.

Trees and Forests of Tropical Asia invites readers on an expedition into the leafy, humid, forested landscapes of tropical Asia—the so-called tapovan, a Sanskrit word for the forest where knowledge is attained through tapasya, or inner struggle. Peter Ashton and David Lee, two of the world’s leading scholars on Asian tropical rain forests, reveal the geology and climate that have produced these unique forests, the diversity of species that inhabit them, the means by which rain forest tree species evolve to achieve unique ecological space, and the role of humans in modifying the landscapes over centuries. Following Peter Ashton’s extensive On the Forests of Tropical Asia, the first book to describe the forests of the entire tropical Asian region from India east to New Guinea, this new book provides a more condensed and updated overview of tropical Asian forests written accessibly for students as well as tropical forest biologists, ecologists, and conservation biologists.

Contributor Bio

Peter Ashton is professor emeritus in the Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology at Harvard University, where he served as director of the Arnold Arboretum. He is also an honorary research associate at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Ashton has published more than 260 research papers and books and has field experience in the forests of all but three nations in the Asian tropics. He is a Japan Prize laureate and recipient of many other awards, including the Linnean Medal, the David Fairchild Medal for Plant Exploration, and the UNESCO Sultan Qaboos Prize for Environmental Preservation.

For over fifty years, David Lee has researched leaves, first in the Asian tropics and later at Florida International University, where he taught for thirty years and is professor emeritus in the Department of Biological Sciences. He is the author of many articles and several books.
Can Microbial Communities Regenerate? – Uniting Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
S. Andrew Inkpen, W. Ford Doolittle

Summary
A philosopher of science and a molecular biologist reveal the surprising implications of a simple question: can microbial communities regenerate?

Microorganisms, such as bacteria, are important determinants of health at the individual, ecosystem, and global levels. And yet many aspects of modern life, from the overuse of antibiotics to chemical spills and climate change, can have devastating, lasting impacts on the communities formed by microorganisms. Drawing on the latest scientific research and real-life examples such as attempts to reengineer these communities through microbial transplantation, the construction of synthetic communities of microorganisms, and the use of probiotics, this book explores how and why communities of microorganisms respond to disturbance, and what might lead to failure. It also unpacks related and interwoven philosophical questions: What is an organism? Can a community evolve by natural selection? How can we make sense of function and purpose in the natural world? How should we think about regeneration as a phenomenon that occurs at multiple biological scales? Provocative and nuanced, this primer offers an accessible conceptual and theoretical understanding of regeneration and evolution at the community level that will be essential across disciplines including philosophy of biology, conservation biology, microbiomics, medicine, evolutionary biology, and ecology.

Contributor Bio
S. Andrew Inkpen is assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. He is also a project leader for the McDonnell Initiative at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA, where he focuses on facilitating collaborations between humanities researchers and life scientists.

W. Ford Doolittle is professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, where he has taught for fifty years. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a member of the US National Academy of Sciences.
Local Interests – Politics, Policy, and Interest Groups in US City Governments
Politics, Policy, and Interest Groups in US City Governments
Sarah F. Anzia

Summary
A policy-focused approach to understanding the role of interest groups in US municipal governments.

Local politics in the United States once seemed tranquil compared to the divisiveness and dysfunction of the country’s national politics. Those days have passed. As multiple wide-ranging crises have thrust America’s local governments into the spotlight, they have also exposed policy failures and systemic problems that have mounted for years. While issues such as policing and the cost of housing are debated nationally, much of the policymaking surrounding these issues occurs locally. In Local Interests, Sarah F. Anzia explores how local governments—and the interest groups that try to influence them—create the policies that drive the national conversation: policing, economic development, housing, and challenges of taxing and spending.

Anzia examines local interest groups in terms of the specific policies they pursue, including how these groups get active in politics and what impact they have. By offering new perspectives on these issues, Anzia contributes to our knowledge of how interest groups function and the significant role they play in shaping broader social outcomes.

Contributor Bio
Sarah F. Anzia is associate professor of public policy and political science at the University of California, Berkeley.
Leo Strauss on Plato's "Protagoras"
Leo Strauss, Robert C. Bartlett

Summary
A transcript of Leo Strauss’s key seminars on Plato’s Protagoras.

This book offers a transcript of Strauss’s seminar on Plato’s Protagoras taught at the University of Chicago in the spring quarter of 1965, edited and introduced by renowned scholar Robert C. Bartlett. These lectures have several important features. Unlike his published writings, they are less dense and more conversational. Additionally, while Strauss regarded himself as a Platonist and published some work on Plato, he published little on individual dialogues. In these lectures Strauss treats many of the great Platonic and Straussian themes: the difference between the Socratic political science or art and the Sophistic political science or art of Protagoras; the character and teachability of virtue, its relation to knowledge, and the relations among the virtues, courage, justice, moderation, and wisdom; the good and the pleasant; frankness and concealment; the role of myth; and the relation between freedom of thought and freedom of speech.

In these lectures, Strauss examines Protagoras and the sophists, providing a detailed discussion of Protagoras as it relates to Plato’s other dialogues and the work of modern thinkers. This book should be of special interest to students both of Plato and of Strauss.

Contributor Bio
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 also published by the University of Chicago Press. Robert C. Bartlett is the Behrakis Professor of Hellenic Political Studies at Boston College. He is the author or editor of many books, including The Idea of Enlightenment and Sophistry and Political Philosophy, and he is cotranslator of Aristotle’s “Nicomachean Ethics.”
Perjury and Pardon, Volume I
Jacques Derrida, David Wills, Ginette Michaud, Nicholas Cotton

Summary
An inquiry into the problematic of perjury, or lying, and forgiveness from one of the most influential philosophers of the twentieth century.

“One only ever asks forgiveness for what is unforgivable.” From this contradiction begins Perjury and Pardon, a two-year series of seminars given by Jacques Derrida at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris in the late 1990s. In these sessions, Derrida focuses on the philosophical, ethical, juridical, and political stakes of the concept of responsibility. His primary goal is to develop what he calls a “problematic of lying” by studying diverse forms of betrayal: infidelity, denial, false testimony, perjury, unkept promises, desecration, sacrilege, and blasphemy.

Although forgiveness is a notion inherited from multiple traditions, the process of forgiveness eludes those traditions, disturbing the categories of knowledge, sense, history, and law that attempt to circumscribe it. Derrida insists on the unconditionality of forgiveness and shows how its complex temporality destabilizes all ideas of presence and even of subjecthood. For Derrida, forgiveness cannot be reduced to repentance, punishment, retribution, or salvation, and it is inseparable from, and haunted by, the notion of perjury. Through close readings of Kant, Kierkegaard, Shakespeare, Plato, Jankélévitch, Baudelaire, and Kafka, as well as biblical texts, Derrida explores diverse notions of the “evil” or malignancy of lying while developing a complex account of forgiveness across different traditions.

Contributor Bio
Jacques Derrida (1930-2004) was director of studies at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris, and professor of humanities at the University of California, Irvine. Several of his books have been published in their English translation by the University of Chicago Press.

Ginette Michaud is professor in the Département des littératures de langue française at the Université de Montréal.
Complacency – Classics and Its Displacement in Higher Education
Classics and Its Displacement in Higher Education
John T. Hamilton

Summary
A critical reflection on complacency and its role in the decline of classics in the academy.

In response to philosopher Simon Blackburn’s portrayal of complacency as a vice that impairs university study at its core, John T. Hamilton examines the history of complacency in classics and its implications for our contemporary moment.

The subjects, philosophies, and literatures of ancient Greece and Rome were once treated as the foundation of learning, with everything else devolving from them. Hamilton investigates what this model of superiority, derived from the golden age of the classical tradition, shares with the current hegemony of mathematics and the natural sciences. He considers how the qualitative methods of classics relate to the quantitative positivism of big data, statistical reasoning, and presumably neutral abstraction, which often dismiss humanist subjectivity, legitimize self-sufficiency, and promote a fresh brand of academic complacency. In acknowledging the reduced status of classics in higher education today, he questions how scholarly striation and stagnation continue to bolster personal, ethical, and political complacency in our present era.

Contributor Bio
John T. Hamilton is the William R. Kenan Professor of German and Comparative Literature at Harvard University. He is the author of Soliciting Darkness; Music, Madness, and the Unworking of Language; Security; and Philology of the Flesh, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Democratic Swarms – Ancient Comedy and the Politics of the People
Ancient Comedy and the Politics of the People
Page duBois

Summary
Considers how ancient Greek comedy offers a model for present-day politics.

With Democratic Swarms, Page duBois revisits the role of Greek comedy in ancient politics, considering how it has been overlooked as a political medium by modern theorists and critics. Moving beyond the popular readings of ancient Greece through the lens of tragedy, she calls for a revitalized look at Greek comedy. Rather than revisiting the sufferings of Oedipus and his family or tragedy’s relationship to questions of sovereignty, this book calls for comedy—its laughter, its free speech, its wild swarming animal choruses, and its rebellious women—to inform another model of democracy.

Ancient comedy has been underplayed in the study of Greek drama. Yet, with the irrepressible energy of the comic swarm, it provides a unique perspective on everyday life, gender and sexuality, and the utopian politics of the classical period of Athenian democracy. Using the concepts of swarm intelligence and nomadic theory, duBois augments tragic thought with the resistant, utopian, libidinous, and often joyous communal legacy of comedy, and she connects the lively anti-authoritarianism of the ancient comic chorus with the social justice movements of today.

Contributor Bio
Page duBois is Distinguished Professor of classics, comparative literature, and cultural studies at the University of California, San Diego. She is the author of several books, including Sappho is Burning, Slaves and Other Objects, Out of Athens: The New Ancient Greeks, and most recently, A Million and One Gods: The Persistence of Polytheism.
The Superhumanities – Historical Precedents, Moral Objections, New Realities
Historical Precedents, Moral Objections, New Realities
Jeffrey J. Kripal

Summary

A bold challenge to rethink the humanities as intimately connected to the superhuman and to “decolonize reality itself.”

What would happen if we reimagined the humanities as the superhumanities? If we acknowledged and celebrated the undercurrent of the fantastic within our humanistic disciplines, entirely new cultural worlds and meanings would become possible. That is Jeffrey J. Kripal’s vision for the future—to revive the suppressed dimension of the superhumanities, which consists of rare but real altered states of knowledge that have driven the creative processes of many of our most revered authors, artists, and activists. In Kripal’s telling, the history of the humanities is filled with precognitive dreams, evolving superhumans, and doubled selves. The basic idea of the superhuman, for Kripal, is at the core of who and what the human species has tried to become over millennia and around the planet.

After diagnosing the basic malaise of the humanities—that the truth must be depressing—Kripal shows how it can all be done differently. He argues that we have to decolonize reality itself if we are going to take human diversity seriously. Toward this pluralist end, he engages psychoanalytic, Black critical, feminist, postcolonial, queer, and ecocritical theory. He works through objections to the superhumanities while also recognizing the new realities represented by the contemporary sciences. In doing so, he tries to move beyond naysaying practices of critique toward a future that can embrace those critiques within a more holistic view—a view that recognizes the human being as both a social-political animal as well as an evolved cosmic species that understands and experiences itself as something super.

Contributor Bio

Jeffrey J. Kripal holds the J. Newton Rayzor Chair in Philosophy and Religious Thought at Rice University. He is the author of several books, including, most recently, The Flip: Who You Really Are and Why It Matters.
Sincerely Held – American Secularism and Its Believers
American Secularism and Its Believers
Charles McCrary

Summary
A novel account of the relationship between sincerity, religious freedom, and the secular in the United States.

“Sincerely held religious belief” is now a common phrase in discussions of American religious freedom, from opinions handed down by the US Supreme Court to local controversies. The “sincerity test” of religious belief has become a cornerstone of US jurisprudence, framing what counts as legitimate grounds for First Amendment claims in the eyes of the law. In Sincerely Held, Charles McCrary provides an original account of how sincerely held religious belief became the primary standard for determining what legally counts as authentic religion.

McCrary skillfully traces the interlocking histories of American sincerity, religion, and secularism starting in the mid-nineteenth century. He analyzes a diverse archive, including Herman Melville’s novel The Confidence-Man, vice-suppressing police, Spiritualist women accused of being fortune-tellers, eclectic conscientious objectors, secularization theorists, Black revolutionaries, and anti-LGBTQ litigants. Across this history, McCrary reveals how sincerity and sincerely held religious belief developed as technologies of secular governance, determining what does and doesn’t entitle a person to receive protections from the state.

This fresh analysis of secularism in the United States invites further reflection on the role of sincerity in public life and religious studies scholarship, asking why sincerity has come to matter so much in a supposedly “post-truth” era.

Contributor Bio
Charles McCrary is a postdoctoral scholar at the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict at Arizona State University.
Awkward Rituals – Sensations of Governance in Protestant America

Sensations of Governance in Protestant America

Dana W. Logan

Summary

A fresh account of early American religious history that argues for a new understanding of ritual.

In the years between the American Revolution and the Civil War, there was an awkward persistence of sovereign rituals, vestiges of a monarchical past that were not easy to shed. In Awkward Rituals, Dana Logan focuses our attention on these performances, revealing the ways in which governance in the early republic was characterized by white Protestants reenacting the hierarchical authority of a seemingly rejected king. With her unique focus on embodied action, rather than the more common focus on discourse or law, Logan makes an original contribution to debates about the relative completeness of America’s Revolution.

Awkward Rituals theorizes an under-examined form of action: rituals that do not feel natural even if they sometimes feel good. This account challenges common notions of ritual as a force that binds society and synthesizes the self. Ranging from Freemason initiations to evangelical societies to missionaries posing as sailors, Logan shows how white Protestants promoted a class-based society while simultaneously trumpeting egalitarianism. She thus redescribes ritual as a box to check, a chore to complete, an embarrassing display of theatrical verve. In Awkward Rituals, Logan emphasizes how ritual distinctively captures what does not change through revolution.

Contributor Bio

Dana W. Logan is assistant professor of religious studies at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.
Unbridled – Studying Religion in Performance
Studying Religion in Performance
William Robert

Summary
A study of religion through the lens of Peter Shaffer’s play Equus.

In Unbridled, William Robert uses Equus, Peter Shaffer’s enigmatic play about a boy passionately devoted to horses, to think differently about religion. For several years, Robert has used Equus to introduce students to the study of religion, provoking them to conceive of religion in unfamiliar, even uncomfortable ways. In Unbridled, he is inviting readers to do the same.

A play like Equus tangles together text, performance, practice, embodiment, and reception. Studying a play involves us in playing different roles, as ourselves and others, and those roles, as well as the imaginative work they require, are critical to the study of religion. By approaching Equus with the reader, turning the play around and upside-down, Unbridled transforms standard approaches to the study of religion, engaging with themes including ritual, sacrifice, worship, power, desire, violence, and sexuality, as well as thinkers including Judith Butler, Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Jonathan Z. Smith. As Unbridled shows, the way themes and theories play out in Equus challenges us to reimagine the study of religion through open questions, contrasting perspectives, and alternative modes of interpretation and appreciation.

Contributor Bio
William Robert is associate professor of religion and director of LGBTQ studies at Syracuse University. He is the author of Revivals: Of Antigone and Trials: Of Antigone and Jesus.
Renunciation and Longing – The Life of a Twentieth-Century Himalayan Buddhist Saint
The Life of a Twentieth-Century Himalayan Buddhist Saint
Annabella Pitkin

Summary
Through the eventful life of a Himalayan Buddhist teacher, Khunu Lama, this study reimagines cultural continuity beyond the binary of traditional and modern.

In the early twentieth century, Khunu Lama journeyed across Tibet and India, meeting Buddhist masters while sometimes living, so his students say, on cold porridge and water. Yet this elusive wandering renunciant became a revered teacher of the Fourteenth Dalai Lama. At Khunu Lama’s death in 1977, he was mourned by Himalayan nuns, Tibetan lamas, and American meditators alike. The many surviving stories about him reveal significant dimensions of Tibetan Buddhism, shedding new light on questions of religious affect and memory that reimagines cultural continuity beyond the binary of traditional and modern.

In Renunciation and Longing, Annabella Pitkin explores devotion, renunciation, and the teacher-student lineage relationship as resources for understanding Tibetan Buddhist approaches to modernity. By examining narrative accounts of the life of a remarkable twentieth-century Himalayan Buddhist and focusing on his remembered identity as a renunciant bodhisattva, Pitkin illuminates Tibetan and Himalayan practices of memory, affective connection, and mourning. Refuting long-standing caricatures of Tibetan Buddhist communities as unable to be modern because of their religious commitments, Pitkin shows instead how twentieth- and twenty-first-century Tibetan and Himalayan Buddhist narrators have used themes of renunciation, devotion, and lineage as touchstones for negotiating loss and vitalizing continuity.

Contributor Bio
Annabella Pitkin is assistant professor of Buddhism and East Asian religions at Lehigh University.
Summary

A penetrating analysis from one of the defining voices of contemporary economics.

In *Beyond Positivism, Behaviorism, and Neo-Institutionalism in Economics*, Deirdre Nansen McCloskey zeroes in on the authoritarian cast of recent economics, arguing for a re-focusing on the liberated human. The behaviorist positivism fashionable in the field since the 1930s treats people from the outside. It yielded in Williamson and North a manipulative neo-institutionalism. McCloskey argues that institutions as causes are mainly temporary and intermediate, not ultimate. They are human-made, depending on words, myth, ethics, ideology, history, identity, professionalism, gossip, movies, what your mother taught you. Humans create conversations as they go, in the economy as in the rest of life.

In engaging and erudite prose, McCloskey exhibits in detail the scientific failures of neo-institutionalism. She proposes a “humanomics,” an economics with the humans left in. Humanomics keeps theory, quantification, experiment, mathematics, econometrics, though insisting on more true rigor than is usual. It adds what can be learned about the economy from history, philosophy, literature, and all the sciences of humans. McCloskey reaffirms the durability of “market-tested innovation” against the imagined imperfections to be corrected by a perfect government. With her trademark zeal and incisive wit, she rebuilds the foundations of economics.

Contributor Bio

Deirdre Nansen McCloskey is distinguished professor emerita of economics and of history, and professor emerita of English and of communication, at the University of Illinois at Chicago.
Foundations of Ecology II – Classic Papers with Commentaries

Classic Papers with Commentaries
Thomas E. Miller, Joseph Travis

Summary

A sweeping overview of key advances in the field of ecology over the latter half of the twentieth century.

For three decades, Foundations of Ecology, edited by Leslie A. Real and James H. Brown, has served as an essential primer for graduate students and practicing ecologists, giving them access to the classic papers that laid the foundations of modern ecology alongside commentaries by noted ecologists. Ecology has continued to evolve, and ecologists Thomas E. Miller and Joseph Travis offer here a freshly edited guide for a new generation of researchers. The period of 1970 to 1995 was a time of tremendous change in all areas of this discipline—from an increased rigor for experimental design and analysis and the reevaluation of paradigms to new models for understanding, to theoretical advances. Foundations of Ecology II includes facsimiles of forty-six papers from this period alongside expert commentaries that discuss a total of fifty-three key studies, addressing topics of diversity, predation, complexity, competition, coexistence, extinction, productivity, resources, distribution, and abundance. The result is more than a catalog of historic firsts; this book offers diverse perspectives on the foundational papers that led to today’s ecological work.

Contributor Bio

Thomas E. Miller is professor of ecology at Florida State University. He has authored of over one hundred papers published in peer-reviewed outlets, with his work appearing in American Naturalist, Ecology, and Global Ecology and Biogeography. Joseph Travis is the Robert Lawton Distinguished Professor of Biology at Florida State University and the former editor of American Naturalist. He is coeditor of Evolution: The First Four Billion Years.
Leveraged – The New Economics of Debt and Financial Fragility
The New Economics of Debt and Financial Fragility
Moritz Schularick

Summary
An authoritative guide to the new economics of our crisis-filled century.

The 2008 financial crisis was a seismic event that laid bare how financial institutions’ instabilities can have devastating effects on societies and economies. COVID-19 brought similar financial devastation at the beginning of 2020 and once more massive interventions by central banks were needed to heed off the collapse of the financial system. All of which begs the question: why is our financial system so fragile and vulnerable that it needs government support so often?

For a generation of economists who have risen to prominence since 2008, these events have defined not only how they view financial instability, but financial markets more broadly. Leveraged brings together these voices to take stock of what we have learned about the costs and causes of financial fragility and to offer a new canonical framework for understanding it. Their message: the origins of financial instability in modern economies run deeper than the technical debates around banking regulation, countercyclical capital buffers, or living wills for financial institutions. Leveraged offers a fundamentally new picture of how financial institutions and societies coexist, for better or worse.

The essays here mark a new starting point for research in financial economics. As we muddle through the effects of a second financial crisis in this young century, Leveraged provides a road map and a research agenda for the future.

Contributor Bio
Moritz Schularick is professor of economics at Sciences Po in Paris and at the University of Bonn, Germany. He is a fellow of the Institute for New Economic Thinking and has held appointments at New York University and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
Big Data for Twenty–First–Century Economic Statistics
Katharine G. Abraham, Ron S. Jarmin, Brian C. Moyer, Matthew D. Shapiro

Summary
The papers in this volume analyze the deployment of Big Data to solve both existing and novel challenges in economic measurement.

The existing infrastructure for the production of key economic statistics relies heavily on data collected through sample surveys and periodic censuses, together with administrative records generated in connection with tax administration. The increasing difficulty of obtaining survey and census responses threatens the viability of existing data collection approaches. The growing availability of new sources of Big Data—such as scanner data on purchases, credit card transaction records, payroll information, and prices of various goods scraped from the websites of online sellers—has changed the data landscape. These new sources of data hold the promise of allowing the statistical agencies to produce more accurate, more disaggregated, and more timely economic data to meet the needs of policymakers and other data users. This volume documents progress made toward that goal and the challenges to be overcome to realize the full potential of Big Data in the production of economic statistics. It describes the deployment of Big Data to solve both existing and novel challenges in economic measurement, and it will be of interest to statistical agency staff, academic researchers, and serious users of economic statistics.

Contributor Bio
Katharine G. Abraham is professor of economics and survey methodology at the University of Maryland and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Ron S. Jarmin is deputy director and chief operating officer of the United States Census Bureau.
Matthew D. Shapiro is the Lawrence R. Klein Collegiate Professor of Economics and director and research professor of the Survey Research Center, both at the University of Michigan, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Innovation and Public Policy
Austan Goolsbee, Benjamin F. Jones

Summary
Using the latest empirical and conceptual research for readers in economics, business, and policy, this volume surveys the key components of innovation policy and the social returns to innovation investment.

In advanced economies like the United States, innovation has long been recognized as a central force for increasing economic prosperity and human welfare. Today, the US government promotes innovation through various mechanisms, including tax credits for private-sector research, grant support for basic and applied research, and institutions like the Small Business Innovation Research Program of the National Science Foundation. Drawing on the latest empirical and conceptual research, Innovation and Public Policy surveys the key components of innovation policy and the social returns to innovation investment. It examines mechanisms that can advance the pace of invention and innovative activity, including expanding the research workforce through schooling and immigration policy and funding basic research. It also considers scientific grant systems for funding basic research, including those at institutions like the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, and investigates the role of entrepreneurship policy and of other institutions that promote an environment conducive to scientific breakthroughs.

Contributor Bio
Austan Goolsbee is the Robert P. Gwinn Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Benjamin F. Jones is the Gordon and Llura Gund Family Professor of Entrepreneurship and a professor of strategy at Northwestern University and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
A Political Economy of Justice
Danielle Allen, Yochai Benkler, Leah Downey, Rebecca Henderson, Josh Simons

Summary
Defining a just economy in a tenuous social-political time.

If we can agree that our current social-political moment is tenuous and unsustainable—and indeed, that may be the only thing we can agree on right now—then how do markets, governments, and people interact in this next era of the world? A Political Economy of Justice considers the strained state of our political economy in terms of where it can go from here. The contributors to this timely and essential volume look squarely at how normative and positive questions about political economy interact with each other—and from that beginning, how to chart a way forward to a just economy.

A Political Economy of Justice collects fourteen essays from prominent scholars across the social sciences, each writing in one of three lanes: the measures of a just political economy; the role of firms; and the roles of institutions and governments. The result is a wholly original and urgent new benchmark for the next stage of our democracy.

Contributor Bio
Danielle Allen is the James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University, where she is also the principal investigator for the Democratic Knowledge Project. She was a recipient of a MacArthur fellowship in 2001 and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2009. In 2020, she won the Kluge Prize for Achievement in the Study of Humanity, administered by the Library of Congress, that recognizes work in disciplines not covered by the Nobel Prizes. She is the author or coeditor of many books, including Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality.

Yochai Benkler is the Berkman Professor of Entrepreneurial Legal Studies at Harvard Law School and faculty co-director of the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University.

Leah Downey is a PhD candidate in government at Harvard University and a visiting academic at the Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute.

Rebecca Henderson is the John and Natty McArthur University Professor at Harvard University, a research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a fellow of both the British Academy and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Josh Simons is a postdoctoral fellow in technology and democracy at the Edmond J. Safra Centre for Ethics at Harvard University.
The Role of Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Economic Growth
Michael J Andrews, Aaron Chatterji, Josh Lerner, Scott Stern

Summary
This volume presents studies from experts in twelve industries, providing insights into the future role of innovation and entrepreneurship in driving economic growth across sectors.

We live in an era in which innovation and entrepreneurship seem ubiquitous, particularly in regions like Silicon Valley, Boston, and the Research Triangle Park. But many metrics of economic growth, such as productivity growth and business dynamism, have been at best modest in recent years. The resolution of this apparent paradox is dramatic heterogeneity across sectors, with some industries seeing robust innovation and entrepreneurship and others seeing stagnation. By construction, the impact of innovation and entrepreneurship on overall economic performance is the cumulative impact of their effects on individual sectors. Understanding the potential for growth in the aggregate economy depends, therefore, on understanding the sector-by-sector potential for growth. This insight motivates the twelve studies of different sectors that are presented in this volume. Each study identifies specific productivity improvements enabled by innovation and entrepreneurship, for example as a result of new production technologies, increased competition, or new organizational forms. These twelve studies, along with three synthetic chapters, provide new insights on the sectoral patterns and concentration of the contributions of innovation and entrepreneurship to economic growth.

Contributor Bio
Michael J. Andrews is assistant professor of economics at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Aaron K. Chatterji is the Mark Burgess and Lisa Benson-Burgess Distinguished Professor at Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business, professor at the Sanford School of Public Policy, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Josh Lerner is chair of the Entrepreneurial Management Unit and the Jacob H. Schiff Professor of Investment Banking at Harvard Business School. He is a research associate and codirector of the Productivity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Scott Stern is the David Sarnoff Professor of Management and chair of the Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management Group at MIT Sloan School of Management. He is a research associate and director of the Innovation Policy Working Group at the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Minoritarian Liberalism – A Travesti Life in a Brazilian Favela

A Travesti Life in a Brazilian Favela
Moisés Lino e Silva

Summary

A mesmerizing ethnography of the largest favela in Rio, where residents articulate their own politics of freedom against the backdrop of multiple forms of oppression.

Normative liberalism has promoted the freedom of privileged subjects, those entitled to rights—usually white, adult, heteronormative, and bourgeois—at the expense of marginalized groups, such as Black people, children, LGBTQ people, and slum dwellers. In this visceral ethnography of Rocinha, the largest favela in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Moisés Lino e Silva explores what happens when liberalism is challenged by people whose lives are impaired by normative understandings of liberty. He calls such marginalized visions of freedom “minoritarian liberalism,” a concept that stands in for overlapping, alternative modes of freedom—be they queer, favela, or peasant.

Lino e Silva introduces readers to a broad collective of favela residents, most intimately accompanying Natasha Kellem, a charismatic self-declared travesti (a term used in Latin America to indicate a specific form of female gender construction opposite to the sex assigned at birth). While many of those the author meets consider themselves “queer,” others are treated as “abnormal” simply because they live in favelas. Through these interconnected experiences, Lino e Silva not only pushes at the boundaries of anthropological inquiry, but also offers ethnographic evidence of non-normative routes to freedom for those seeking liberties against the backdrop of capitalist exploitation, transphobia, racism, and other patterns of domination.

Contributor Bio

Moisés Lino e Silva is tenured faculty in the department of anthropology at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) in Brazil.
**Partial Stories – Maternal Death from Six Angles**  
*Maternal Death from Six Angles*  
Claire L. Wendland

**Summary**  
A close look at stories of maternal death in Malawi that considers their implications in the broader arena of medical knowledge.

By the early twenty-first century, about one woman in twelve could expect to die of a pregnancy or childbirth complication in Malawi. Specific deaths became object lessons. Explanatory stories circulated through hospitals and villages, proliferating among a range of practitioners: nurse-midwives, traditional birth attendants, doctors, epidemiologists, herbalists. Was biology to blame? Economic underdevelopment? Immoral behavior? Tradition? Were the dead themselves at fault?

In *Partial Stories*, Claire L. Wendland considers these explanations for maternal death, showing how they reflect competing visions of the past and shared concerns about social change. Drawing on extended fieldwork, Wendland reveals how efforts to legitimate a single story as the authoritative version can render care more dangerous than it might otherwise be. Historical, biological, technological, ethical, statistical, and political perspectives on death usually circulate in different expert communities and different bodies of literature. Here, Wendland considers them together, illuminating dilemmas of maternity care in contexts of acute change, chronic scarcity, and endemic inequity within Malawi and beyond.

**Contributor Bio**  
Claire L. Wendland is professor in the Departments of Anthropology and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
A Thousand Steps to Parliament – Constructing Electable Women in Mongolia

Constructing Electable Women in Mongolia
Manduhai Buyandelger

Summary

A Thousand Steps to Parliament traces how the complicated, contradictory paths to political representation that women in Mongolia must walk mirror those the world over.

Mongolia has often been deemed an “island of democracy,” commended for its rapid adoption of free democratic elections in the wake of totalitarian socialism. The democratizing era, however, brought alongside it a phenomenon that Manduhai Buyandelger terms “electionization”—a restructuring of elections from time-grounded events into a continuous, neoliberal force that governs everyday life beyond the electoral period. In A Thousand Steps to Parliament, she shows how campaigns in Mongolia have come to substitute for the functions of governing, from social welfare to the private sector. Such long-term, high-investment campaigns depend on an accumulation of wealth and power beyond the reach of most women candidates. Given their limited financial means and outsider status, successful women candidates instead use strategies of self-polishing to cultivate charisma and a reputation for being oyunlag, or intellectful. This carefully and intentionally crafted identity can be called the “electable self”: treating their bodies and minds as pliable and renewable, women candidates draw from the same practices of neoliberalism that have unsustainably commercialized elections. A Thousand Steps to Parliament traces how the complicated, contradictory paths to representation that women in Mongolia must walk mirror those the world over, revealing an urgent need to grapple with the encroaching effects of neoliberalism in democracies globally.

Contributor Bio

Manduhai Buyandelger is professor of anthropology at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is the author of Tragic Spirits: Shamanism, Gender, and Memory in Contemporary Mongolia, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Emergency – Reading the Popol Vuh in a Time of Crisis

Reading the Popol Vuh in a Time of Crisis

Edgar Garcia

Summary

Nine short essays exploring the K’iche’ Maya story of creation, the Popol Vuh.

Written during the lockdown in Chicago in the depths of the COVID-19 pandemic, these essays consider the Popol Vuh as a work that was also written during a time of feverish social, political, and epidemiological crisis as Spanish missionaries and colonial military deepened their conquest of indigenous peoples and cultures in Mesoamerica. What separates the Popol Vuh from many other creation texts is the disposition of the gods engaged in creation. Whereas the book of Genesis is declarative in telling the story of the world’s creation, the Popol Vuh is interrogative and analytical: the gods, for example, question whether people actually need to be created, given the many perfect animals they have already placed on earth.

Emergency uses the historical emergency of the Popol Vuh to frame the ongoing emergencies of colonialism that have surfaced all too clearly in the global health crisis of COVID-19. In doing so, these essays reveal how the authors of the Popol Vuh—while implicated in deep social crisis—nonetheless insisted on transforming emergency into scenes of social, political, and intellectual emergence, translating crisis into creativity and world creation.

Contributor Bio

Edgar Garcia is the Neubauer Family Associate Professor in the Department of English at the University of Chicago. He is the author of Skins of Columbus: A Dream Ethnography and Signs of the Americas: A Poetics of Pictography, Hieroglyphs, and Khipu, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Apropos of Something – A History of Irrelevance and Relevance

A History of Irrelevance and Relevance
Elisa Tamarkin

Summary
A history of the idea of “relevance” since the nineteenth century in art, criticism, philosophy, logic, and social thought.

Before 1800 nothing was irrelevant. So argues Elisa Tamarkin’s sweeping meditation on a key shift in consciousness: the arrival of “relevance” as the means to grasp how something that was once disregarded, ignored, or lost becomes important and interesting. When so much makes claims to our attention every day, how do we decide what is most valuable right now?

Relevance, Tamarkin shows, was an Anglo-American concept, derived from a word meaning to raise or lift up again, and also to give relief. It engaged major intellectual figures, including Ralph Waldo Emerson and the pragmatists—William James, Alain Locke, John Dewey, and F. C. S. Schiller—as well as a range of philosophers, phenomenologists, linguists, and sociologists. Relevance is a struggle for recognition, especially in the worlds of literature, art, and criticism. Poems and paintings in the nineteenth century could now be seen as pragmatic works that make relevance and make interest—that reveal versions of events that feel apropos of our lives the moment we turn to them.

Vividly illustrated with paintings by Winslow Homer and others, Apropos of Something is a searching philosophical and poetic study of relevance—a concept calling for shifts in both attention and perceptions of importance with enormous social stakes. It remains an invitation for the humanities and for all of us who feel tasked every day with finding the point.

Contributor Bio
Elisa Tamarkin is professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of Anglophilia: Deference, Devotion, and Antebellum America, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Sound Writing – Experimental Modernism and the Poetics of Articulation

Experimental Modernism and the Poetics of Articulation
Tobias Wilke

Summary

Considers the avant-garde rethinking of poetic language in terms of physical speech production.

Avant-garde writers and artists of the twentieth century radically reconceived poetic language, appropriating scientific theories and techniques as they turned their attention to the physical process of spoken language. This modernist “sound writing” focused on the bodily production of speech, which it rendered in poetic, legible, graphic form.

Modernist sound writing aims to capture the acoustic phenomenon of vocal articulation by graphic means. Tobias Wilke considers sound writing from its inception in nineteenth-century disciplines like physiology and experimental phonetics, following its role in the aesthetic practices of the interwar avant-garde and through to its reemergence in the postwar period. These projects work with the possibility of crossing over from the audible to the visible, from speech to notation, from body to trace. Employing various techniques and concepts, this search for new possibilities played a central role in the transformation of poetry into a site of radical linguistic experimentation. Considering the works of writers and artists—including Raoul Hausmann, Kurt Schwitters, Viktor Shklovsky, Hugo Ball, Charles Olson, and Marshall McLuhan—Wilke offers a fresh look at the history of the twentieth-century avant-garde.

Contributor Bio

Tobias Wilke is a Heisenberg Researcher at the Leibniz-Center for Literary and Cultural Research in Berlin. He is the author and editor of several books in German.
Untying Things Together – Philosophy, Literature, and a Life in Theory

Philosophy, Literature, and a Life in Theory
Eric L. Santner

Summary

*Untying Things Together* helps to clarify the stakes of the last fifty years of literary and cultural theory by proposing the idea of a sexuality of theory.

In 1905, Freud published his *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality*, the book that established the core psychoanalytic thesis that sexuality is central to formations of the unconscious. With this book, Eric L. Santner inverts Freud’s title to take up the *sexuality of theory*—or, more exactly, the modes of enjoyment to be found in the kinds of critical thinking that, since the 1960s, have laid claim to that ancient word, “theory.” Santner unfolds his argument by tracking his own relationship with this tradition and the ways his intellectual and spiritual development has been informed by it.

*Untying Things Together* is both an intellectual history of major theoretical paradigms and a call for their reexamination and renewal. Revisiting many of the topics he has addressed in previous work, Santner proposes a new way of conceptualizing the *eros* of thinking, attuned to how our minds and bodies individually and collectively incorporate or “encyst” on a void at the heart of things. Rather than proposing a “return to theory,” Santner’s book simply employs theory as a way of further “(un)tying together” the resources of philosophy, art and literature, theology, psychoanalysis, political thought, and more.

**Contributor Bio**

**Eric L. Santner** is the Philip and Ida Romberg Distinguished Service Professor in Modern Germanic Studies at the University of Chicago. He is the author of several books and coauthor of *Sovereignty, Inc.: Three Inquiries in Politics and Enjoyment*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
American Mediterraneans – A Study in Geography, History, and Race

A Study in Geography, History, and Race
Susan Gillman

Summary

The story of the “American Mediterranean,” both an idea and a shorthand popularized by geographers, historians, novelists, and travel writers from the early nineteenth century to the 1970s.

The naturalist Alexander von Humboldt, visiting the Gulf-Caribbean in the early nineteenth century, called it America’s Mediterranean. Almost a century later, Southern California was hailed as “Our Mediterranean, Our Italy!” Although “American Mediterranean” is not a household phrase in the United States today, it once circulated widely in French, Spanish, and English as a term of art and folk idiom. In this book, Susan Gillman asks what cultural work is done by this kind of unsystematic, open-ended comparative thinking.

American Mediterraneans tracks two centuries of this geohistorical concept, from Humboldt in the early 1800s, to writers of the 1890s reflecting on the Pacific world of the California coast, to writers of the 1930s and 40s speculating on the political past and future of the Caribbean. Following the term through its travels across disciplines and borders, American Mediterraneans reveals a little-known racialized history, one that paradoxically appealed to a range of race-neutral ideas and ideals.

Contributor Bio

Susan Gillman is distinguished professor of literature and American studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She is the author of Blood Talk: American Race Melodrama and the Culture of the Occult, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
What Proust Heard – Novels and the Ethnography of Talk

Novels and the Ethnography of Talk

Michael Lucey

Summary

Michael Lucey offers a linguistic anthropological analysis of Proust’s *In Search of Lost Time*.

What happens when we talk? This deceptively simple question is central to Marcel Proust’s monumental novel *In Search of Lost Time*. Both Proust’s narrator and the novel that houses him devote considerable energy to investigating not just what people are saying or doing when they talk, but also what happens socioculturally through their use of language. Proust, in other words, is interested in what linguistic anthropologists call language-in-use.

Michael Lucey elucidates Proust’s approach to language-in-use in a number of ways: principally in relation to linguistic anthropology, but also in relation to speech act theory, and to Pierre Bourdieu’s sociology. The book also includes an interlude after each of its chapters that contextualizes Proust’s social-scientific practice of novel writing in relation to that of a number of other novelists, earlier and later, and from several different traditions, including Honoré de Balzac, George Eliot, Virginia Woolf, Nathalie Sarraute, and Rachel Cusk. Lucey is thus able to show how, in the hands of quite different novelists, various aspects of the novel form become instruments of linguistic anthropological analysis. The result introduces a different way of understanding language to literary and cultural critics and explores the consequences of this new understanding for the practice of literary criticism more generally.

Contributor Bio

**Michael Lucey** is the Sydney and Margaret Ancker Professor of Comparative Literature and French at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of many books, including *Someone: The Pragmatics of Misfit Sexualities, from Colette to Hervé Guibert*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
**Culture and Language at Crossed Purposes – The Unsettled Records of American Settlement**

The Unsettled Records of American Settlement
Jerome McGann

**Summary**

*Culture and Language at Crossed Purposes* unpacks the interpretive problems of colonial treaty-making and uses them to illuminate canonical works from the period.

Classic American literature, Jerome McGann argues, is haunted by the betrayal of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Indian treaties—"a stunned memory preserved in the negative spaces of the treaty records." A noted scholar of the "textual conditions" of literature, McGann investigates canonical works from the colonial period, principally John Winthrop’s 1630 sermon aboard the *Arbella*, key writings of William Bradford and Anne Bradstreet, Cotton Mather’s *Magnalia*, Franklin’s celebrated treaty folios and his *Autobiography*, and Jefferson’s *Notes on the State of Virginia*. These are highly practical, purpose-driven works—the record of Enlightenment dreams put to the severe test of dangerous conditions. McGann suggests that the treaty-makers never doubted the unsettled character of what they were prosecuting, and a similar conflicted ethos pervades these works. Like the treaty records, they deliberately test themselves against stringent measures of truth and accomplishment and show a distinctive consciousness of their limits and failures. McGann’s book is ultimately a reminder of the public importance of truth and memory—the vocational commitments of humanist scholars and educators.

**Contributor Bio**

Jerome McGann is Emeritus University Professor at the University of Virginia and visiting research professor at the University of California, Berkeley. He is a director of the online editorial project "Voice, Text Image. Jaime de Angulo's *Old Time Stories."
Joy of the Worm – Suicide and Pleasure in Early Modern English Literature

Suicide and Pleasure in Early Modern English Literature
Drew Daniel

Summary
Consulting an extensive archive of early modern literature, *Joy of the Worm* asserts that voluntary death in literature is not always a matter of tragedy.

In this study, Drew Daniel identifies a surprisingly common aesthetic attitude that he calls “joy of the worm,” after Cleopatra’s embrace of the deadly asp in Shakespeare’s play—a pattern where voluntary death is imagined as an occasion for humor, mirth, ecstatic pleasure, even joy and celebration.

Daniel draws both a historical and a conceptual distinction between “self-killing” and “suicide.” Standard intellectual histories of suicide in the early modern period have understandably emphasized attitudes of abhorrence, scorn, and severity toward voluntary death. Daniel reads an archive of literary scenes and passages, dating from 1534 to 1713, that complicate this picture. In their own distinct responses to the surrounding attitude of censure, writers including Shakespeare, Donne, Milton, and Addison imagine death not as sin or sickness, but instead as a heroic gift, sexual release, elemental return, amorous fusion, or political self-rescue. “Joy of the worm” emerges here as an aesthetic mode that shades into schadenfreude, sadistic cruelty, and deliberate “trolling,” but can also underwrite powerful feelings of belonging, devotion, and love.

Contributor Bio
Drew Daniel is associate professor of English at Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of *Twenty Jazz Funk Greats* and *The Melancholy Assemblage: Affect and Epistemology of the English Renaissance.*
Saint Cecilia in the Renaissance – The Emergence of a Musical Icon

John A. Rice

Summary

This study uncovers how Saint Cecilia came to be closely associated with music and musicians.

Until the fifteenth century, Saint Cecilia was not connected with music. She was perceived as one of many virgin martyrs, with no obvious musical skills or interests. During the next two centuries, however, she inspired many musical works written in her honor and a vast number of paintings that depicted her singing or playing an instrument.

In this book, John A. Rice argues that Cecilia’s association with music came about in several stages, involving Christian liturgy, visual arts, and music. It was fostered by interactions between artists, musicians, and their patrons and the transfer of visual and musical traditions from northern Europe to Italy. Saint Cecilia in the Renaissance explores the cult of the saint in Medieval times and through the sixteenth century when musicians’ guilds in the Low Countries and France first chose Cecilia as their patron. The book then turns to music and the explosion of polyphonic vocal works written in Cecilia’s honor by some of the most celebrated composers in Europe. Finally, the book examines the wealth of visual representations of Cecilia especially during the Italian Renaissance, among which Raphael’s 1515 painting, The Ecstasy of Saint Cecilia, is but the most famous example. Thoroughly researched and beautifully illustrated in color, Saint Cecilia in the Renaissance is the definitive portrait of Saint Cecilia as a figure of musical and artistic inspiration.

Contributor Bio

John A. Rice is a writer and teacher who has devoted much of his career to the exploration of music in eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Europe. He is the author of several books, including Antonio Salieri and Viennese Opera, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
The Temple of Fame and Friendship – Portraits, Music, and History in the C. P. E. Bach Circle

Portraits, Music, and History in the C. P. E. Bach Circle

Annette Richards

Summary

This book examines the renowned portrait collection assembled by C. P. E. Bach, J. S. Bach’s second son.

One of the most celebrated and prolific German composers of the eighteenth century, C. P. E. Bach spent decades assembling a portrait collection that extended to some four hundred items—from oil paintings to engraved prints. The collection was dispersed after Bach’s death in 1788, but Annette Richards has painstakingly reconstructed it. The portraits once again provide a vivid panorama of music history and culture, reanimating the sensibility and humor of the time in which they were made. Far more than merely a multitude of faces, Richards argues, the collection was a major part of the composer’s work that sought to establish music as an object of aesthetic, philosophical, and historical study.

Richards makes the collection come alive, showing readers what it was like to tour the portrait gallery and experience music in a room whose walls were packed with art. She uses the collection to analyze the “portraitive” aspect of Bach’s music, engaging with the influential theories of Swiss physiognomist Johann Caspar Lavater. She also explores the collection as a mode of cultivating and preserving friendship, connecting this to the culture of remembrance that resonates in Bach’s domestic music. Richards shows how the new music historiography of the late eighteenth century, rich in anecdote, memoir, and verbal portrait, was deeply indebted to portrait collecting and its negotiation between presence and detachment, fact and feeling.

Contributor Bio

Annette Richards is Given Foundation Professor in the Humanities and University Organist at Cornell University, where she is also professor of music and director of the Cornell-Westfield Center for Historical Keyboard Studies. She is the author of The Free Fantasia and the Musical Picturesque, the editor of C. P. E Bach Studies, co-editor, with Mark Franko, of Acting on the Past, and the founding editor of Keyboard Perspectives.
Musical Migration and Imperial New York – Early Cold War Scenes

Early Cold War Scenes
Brigid Cohen

Summary

Through archival work and storytelling, Musical Migration and Imperial New York revises many inherited narratives about experimental music and art in postwar New York.

From the urban street level of music clubs and arts institutions to the world-making routes of global migration and exchange, this book redraws the map of experimental art to reveal the imperial dynamics and citizenship struggles that continue to shape music in the United States.

Beginning with the material conditions of power that structured the cityscape of New York in the early Cold War years, Brigid Cohen looks at a wide range of artistic practices (concert music, electronic music, jazz, performance art) and actors (Edgard Varèse, Charles Mingus, Yoko Ono, and Fluxus founder George Maciunas) as they experimented with new modes of creativity. Cohen links them with other migrant creators vital to the city’s postwar culture boom, creators whose stories have seldom been told (Halim El-Dabh, Michiko Toyama, Vladimir Ussachevsky). She also gives sustained and serious treatment to the work of Yoko Ono, something long overdue in music scholarship. Musical Migration and Imperial New York is indispensable reading, offering a new understanding of global avant-gardes and American experimental music as well as the contrasting feelings of belonging and exclusion on which they were built.

Contributor Bio

Brigid Cohen is associate professor of music at New York University. Her first book, Stefan Wolpe and the Avant-Garde Diaspora, won the Lewis Lockwood Prize of the American Musicological Society.
**Women and Musical Salons in the Enlightenment**

Rebecca Cypess

**Summary**

A study of musical salons in Europe and North America between 1760 and 1800 and the salon hostesses who shaped their musical worlds.

In eighteenth-century Europe and America, musical salons—and the women who hosted and made music in them—played a crucial role in shaping their cultural environments. Musical salons served as a testing ground for new styles, genres, and aesthetic ideals, and they acted as a mediating force, bringing together professional musicians and their audiences of patrons, listeners, and performers. For the *salonnière*, the musical salon offered a space between the public and private spheres that allowed her to exercise cultural agency.

In this book, musicologist and historical keyboardist Rebecca Cypess offers a broad overview of musical salons between 1760 and 1800, placing the figure of the *salonnière* at its center. Cypess then presents a series of in-depth case studies that meet the *salonnière* on her own terms. Women such as Anne-Louise Brillon de Jouy in Paris, Marianna Martines in Vienna, Sara Levy in Berlin, Angelica Kauffman in Rome, and Elizabeth Graeme in Philadelphia come to life in multidimensional ways. Crucially, Cypess uses performance as a tool for research, and her interpretations draw on her experience with the instruments and performance practices used in eighteenth-century salons. In this accessible, interdisciplinary book, Cypess explores women’s agency and authorship, reason and sentiment, and the roles of performing, collecting, listening, and conversing in the formation of eighteenth-century musical life.

**Contributor Bio**

**Rebecca Cypess** is associate dean for academic affairs and associate professor of music at the Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University. She is the author of *Curious and Modern Inventions: Instrumental Music as Discovery in Galileo's Italy*, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Sonic Mobilities – Producing Worlds in Southern China
Producing Worlds in Southern China
Adam Kielman

Summary
A fascinating look at how the popular musical culture of Guangzhou expresses the city’s unique cosmopolitanism.

Guangzhou is a large Chinese city like many others. With a booming economy and abundant job opportunities, it has become a magnet for rural citizens seeking better job prospects as well as global corporations hoping to gain a foothold in one of the world’s largest economies. This openness and energy have led to a thriving popular music scene that is every bit the equal of Beijing’s. But the musical culture of Guangzhou expresses the city’s unique cosmopolitanism. A port city that once played a key role in China’s maritime Silk Road, Guangzhou has long been an international hub. Now, new migrants to the city are incorporating diverse Chinese folk traditions into the musical tapestry.

In Sonic Mobilities, ethnomusicologist Adam Kielman takes a deep dive into Guangzhou’s music scene through two bands, Wanju Chuanzhang (Toy Captain) and Mabang (Caravan), that express ties to their rural homelands and small-town roots while forging new cosmopolitan musical connections. These bands make music that captures the intersection of the global and local that has come to define Guangzhou, for example by writing songs with a popular Jamaican reggae beat and lyrics in their distinct regional dialects mostly incomprehensible to their audiences. These bands create a sound both instantly recognizable and totally foreign, international and hyper-local. This juxtaposition, Kielman argues, is an apt expression of the demographic, geographic, and political shifts underway in Guangzhou and across the country. Bridging ethnomusicology, popular music studies, cultural geography, and media studies, Kielman examines the cultural dimensions of shifts in conceptualizations of self, space, publics, and state in a rapidly transforming the People’s Republic of China.

Contributor Bio
Adam Kielman is assistant professor of music at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.
The Haydn Economy – Music, Aesthetics, and Commerce in the Late Eighteenth Century

Music, Aesthetics, and Commerce in the Late Eighteenth Century
Nicholas Mathew

Summary

Analyzing the final three decades of Haydn’s career, this book uses the composer as a prism through which to examine urgent questions across the humanities.

With this ambitious book, musicologist Nicholas Mathew uses the remarkable career of Joseph Haydn to consider a host of critical issues: how we tell the history of the Enlightenment and Romanticism; the relation of late-eighteenth-century culture to nascent capitalism and European colonialism; and how the modern market and modern aesthetic values were—and remain—inextricably entwined.

The Haydn Economy weaves a vibrant material history of Haydn’s late career, extending from the sphere of the ancient Esterházy court to his frenetic years as an entrepreneur plying between London and Vienna, to his final decade as a venerable musical celebrity, where he witnessed the transformation of his legacy by a new generation of students and acolytes, Beethoven foremost among them. Ultimately, Mathew claims, Haydn’s historical trajectory compels us to ask what we might usefully retain from the cultural and political practices of European modernity—whether we can extract and preserve its moral promise from its moral failures. And it demands that we confront the deep economic histories that continue to shape our beliefs about music, sound, and material culture.

Contributor Bio

Nicholas Mathew is professor of music and Richard and Rhoda Goldman Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of Political Beethoven. He is the series editor, with his colleague James Davies, of the New Material Histories of Music series at the University of Chicago Press.
The Voice of the Rural – Music, Poetry, and Masculinity among Migrant Moroccan Men in Umbria

Music, Poetry, and Masculinity among Migrant Moroccan Men in Umbria
Alessandra Ciucci

Summary

A moving portrait of the contemporary experiences of migrant Moroccan men.

Umbria is known to most Americans for its picturesque rolling hills and medieval villages, but to the many migrant Moroccan men who travel there, Umbria is better known for the tobacco fields, construction sites, small industries, and the outdoor weekly markets where they work. Marginalized and far from their homes, these men turn to Moroccan traditions of music and poetry that evoke the countryside they have left—l’arubiya, or the rural. In this book, Alessandra Ciucci takes us inside the lives of Moroccan workers, unpacking the way they share a particular musical style of the rural to create a sense of home and belonging in a foreign and inhospitable nation. Along the way, she uncovers how this culture of belonging is not just the product of the struggles of migration, but also tied to the reclamation of a noble and virtuous masculine identity that is inaccessible to Moroccan migrants in Italy.

The Voice of the Rural allows us to understand the contemporary experiences of migrant Moroccan men by examining their imagined relationship to the rural through sound, shedding new light on the urgent issues of migration and belonging.

Contributor Bio

Alessandra Ciucci is assistant professor of music at Columbia University.
Beethoven`s French Piano – A Tale of Ambition and Frustration
A Tale of Ambition and Frustration
Tom Beghin

Summary
Using a replica of Beethoven’s Erard piano, scholar and performer Tom Beghin launches a striking reinterpretation of a key period of Beethoven’s work.

In 1803 Beethoven acquired a French piano from the Erard Frères workshop in Paris. The composer was “so enchanted with it,” one visitor reported, “that he regards all the pianos made here as rubbish by comparison.” While Beethoven loved its sound, the touch of the French keyboard was much heavier than that of the Viennese pianos he had been used to. Hoping to overcome this drawback, he commissioned a local technician to undertake a series of revisions, with ultimately disappointing results. Beethoven set aside the Erard piano for good in 1810.

Beethoven’s French Piano returns the reader to this period of Beethoven’s enthusiasm for all things French. What traces of the Erard’s presence can be found in piano sonatas like his “Waldstein” and “Appassionata”? To answer this question, Tom Beghin worked with a team of historians and musicians to commission the making of an accurate replica of the Erard piano. As both a scholar and a recording artist, Beghin is uniquely positioned to guide us through this key period of Beethoven’s work. Whether buried in archives, investigating the output of the French pianists who so fascinated Beethoven, or seated at the keyboard of his Erard, Beghin thinks and feels his way into the mind of the composer, bringing startling new insights into some of the best-known piano compositions of all time.

Contributor Bio
Tom Beghin is senior researcher at the Orpheus Institute in Ghent, Belgium. He is the author of The Virtual Haydn: Paradox of a Twenty-First-Century Keyboardist and co-editor, with Sander Goldberg, of Haydn and the Performance of Rhetoric. His discography includes the complete keyboard works of Haydn and many piano works by Beethoven.
Data Analysis in Qualitative Research – Theorizing with Abductive Analysis
Theorizing with Abductive Analysis
Stefan Timmermans, Iddo Tavory

Summary
From two experts in the field comes an accessible, how-to guide that will help researchers think more productively about the relation between theory and data at every stage of their work.

In Data Analysis in Qualitative Research, Iddo Tavory and Stefan Timmermans provide a how-to guide filled with tricks of the trade for researchers who hope to take excellent qualitative data and transform it into powerful scholarship. In their previous book, Abductive Analysis: Theorizing Qualitative Research, Timmermans and Tavory offered a toolkit for innovative theorizing in the social sciences. In this companion, they go one step further to show how to uncover the surprising revelations that lie waiting in qualitative data—in sociology and beyond.

In this book, they lay out a series of tools designed to help both novice and expert scholars see and understand their data in surprising ways. Timmermans and Tavory show researchers how to “stack the deck” of qualitative research in favor of locating surprising findings that may lead to theoretical breakthroughs, whether by engaging with theory, discussing research strategies, or walking the reader through the process of coding data. From beginning to end of a research project, Data Analysis in Qualitative Research helps social scientists pinpoint the most promising paths to take in their approach.

Contributor Bio
Stefan Timmermans is professor of sociology at the University of California at Los Angeles. He is the author of Postmortem, Saving Babies, and coauthor Abductive Analysis, all published by the University of Chicago Press.

Iddo Tavory is associate professor of sociology at New York University. He is the author of Summoned and coauthor Abductive Analysis, both also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Tangled Goods – The Practical Life of Pro Bono Advertising

Iddo Tavory, Sonia Prelat, Shelly Ronen

Summary

A novel investigation of pro bono marketing and the relationship between goods, exploring the complex moral dimensions of philanthropic advertising.

The advertising industry may seem like one of the most craven manifestations of capitalism, turning consumption into a virtue. In *Tangled Goods*, authors Iddo Tavory, Sonia Prelat, and Shelly Ronen consider an important dimension of the advertising industry that appears to depart from the industry’s consumerist foundations: pro bono ad campaigns. Why is an industry known for biting cynicism and cutthroat competition also an industry in which people dedicate time and effort to “doing good”?

Interviewing over seventy advertising professionals and managers, the authors trace the complicated meanings of the good in these pro bono projects. Doing something altruistic, they show, often helps employees feel more at ease working for big pharma or corporate banks. Often these projects afford them greater creative leeway than they normally have, as well as the potential for greater recognition. While the authors uncover different motivations behind pro bono work, they are more interested in considering how various notions of the good shift, with different motivations and benefits rising to the surface at different moments. This book sheds new light on how goodness and prestige interact with personal and altruistic motivations to produce value for individuals and institutions and produces a novel theory of the relationship among goods: one of the most fraught questions in sociological theory.

Contributor Bio

Iddo Tavory is associate professor of sociology at New York University. He is the author of *Summoned* and coauthor *Abductive Analysis*, both also published by the University of Chicago Press.

Sonia Prelat is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at New York University.

Shelly Ronen is visiting assistant professor of sociology at Haverford College.
Dangerous Fun – The Social Lives of Big Wave Surfers
The Social Lives of Big Wave Surfers
Ugo Corte

Summary
A thrilling ethnography of big wave surfing in Hawaii that explores the sociology of fun.

Straight from the beaches of Hawaii comes an exciting new ethnography of a community of big-wave surfers. Oahu’s Waimea Bay attracts the world’s best big wave surfers—men and women who come to test their physical strength, courage, style, knowledge of the water, and love of the ocean. Sociologist Ugo Corte sees their fun as the outcome of social interaction within a community. Both as participant and observer, he examines how mentors, novices, and peers interact to create episodes of collective fun in a dangerous setting; how they push one another’s limits, nourish a lifestyle, advance the sport and, in some cases, make a living based on their passion for the sport.

In Dangerous Fun, Corte traces how surfers earn and maintain a reputation within the field, and how, as innovations are introduced, and as they progress, establish themselves and age, they modify their strategies for maximizing performance and limiting chances of failure.

Corte argues that fun is a social phenomenon, a pathway to solidarity rooted in the delight in actualizing the self within a social world. It is a form of group cohesion achieved through shared participation in risky interactions with uncertain outcomes. Ultimately, Corte provides an understanding of collective effervescence, emotional energy, and the interaction rituals leading to fateful moments—moments of decision that, once made, transform one’s self-concept irrevocably.

Contributor Bio
Ugo Corte is associate professor in the Department of Media and Social Sciences at the University of Stavanger in Norway.
Misconceiving Merit – Paradoxes of Excellence and Devotion in Academic Science and Engineering
Paradoxes of Excellence and Devotion in Academic Science and Engineering
Mary Blair-Loy, Erin A. Cech

Summary
An incisive study showing how cultural ideas of merit in academic science produce unfair and unequal outcomes.

In *Misconceiving Merit*, sociologists Mary Blair-Loy and Erin A. Cech uncover the cultural foundations of a paradox. On one hand, academic science, engineering, and math revere meritocracy, a system that recognizes and rewards those with the greatest talent and dedication. At the same time, women and some racial and sexual minorities remain underrepresented and often feel unwelcome and devalued in STEM. How can academic science, which so highly values meritocracy and objectivity, produce these unequal outcomes?

Blair-Loy and Cech studied more than five hundred STEM professors at a top research university to reveal how unequal and unfair outcomes can emerge alongside commitments to objectivity and excellence. The authors find that academic STEM harbors dominant cultural beliefs that not only perpetuate the mistreatment of scientists from underrepresented groups but hinder innovation. Underrepresented groups are often seen as less fully embodying merit compared to equally productive white and Asian heterosexual men, and the negative consequences of this misjudgment persist regardless of professors’ actual academic productivity. *Misconceiving Merit* is filled with insights for higher education administrators working toward greater equity as well as for scientists and engineers striving to change entrenched patterns of inequality in STEM.

Contributor Bio
Mary Blair-Loy is professor of sociology and codirector of the Center for Research on Gender in STEMM at the University of California San Diego. She is the author of *Competing Devotions: Career and Family among Women Executives*.
Erin A. Cech is associate professor of sociology and mechanical engineering (by courtesy) at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *The Trouble with Passion: How Searching for Fulfillment at Work Fosters Inequality*. 
Outside Literary Studies – Black Criticism and the University
Black Criticism and the University
Andy Hines

Summary
A timely reconsideration of the history of the profession, Outside Literary Studies investigates how midcentury Black writers built a critical practice tuned to the struggle against racism and colonialism.

This striking contribution to Black literary studies examines the practices of Black writers in the mid-twentieth century to revise our understanding of the institutionalization of literary studies in America. Andy Hines uncovers a vibrant history of interpretive resistance to university-based New Criticism by Black writers of the American left. These include well-known figures such as Langston Hughes and Lorraine Hansberry as well as still underappreciated writers like Melvin B. Tolson and Doxey Wilkerson. In their critical practice, these and other Black writers levied their critique from “outside” venues: behind the closed doors of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, in the classroom at a communist labor school under FBI surveillance, and in a host of journals. From these vantages, Black writers not only called out the racist assumptions of the New Criticism, but also defined Black literary and interpretive practices to support communist and other radical world-making efforts in the mid-twentieth century. Hines’s book thus offers a number of urgent contributions to literary studies: it spotlights a canon of Black literary texts that belong to an important era of anti-racist struggle, and it fills in the pre-history of the rise of Black studies and of ongoing Black dissent against the neoliberal university.

Contributor Bio
Andy Hines is associate director of the Aydelotte Foundation at Swarthmore College.
Osiris, Volume 37
Translating Medicine across Premodern Worlds
Tara Alberts, Sietske Fransen, Elaine Leong

Summary
Highlights the importance of translation for the global exchange of medical theories, practices, and materials in the premodern period.

This volume of Osiris turns the analytical lens of translation onto medical knowledge and practices across the premodern world. Understandings of the human body, and of diseases and their cures, were influenced by a range of religious, cultural, environmental, and intellectual factors. As a result, complex systems of translation emerged as people crossed linguistic and territorial boundaries to share not only theories and concepts, but also materials, such as drugs, amulets, and surgical tools. The studies here reveal how instances of translation helped to shape and, in some cases, reimagine these ideas and objects to fit within local frameworks of medical belief.

Translating Medicine across Premodern Worlds features case studies located in geographically and temporally diverse contexts, including ninth-century Baghdad, sixteenth-century Seville, seventeenth-century Cartagena, and nineteenth-century Bengal. Throughout, the contributors explore common themes and divergent experiences associated with a variety of historical endeavors to “translate” knowledge about health and the body across languages, practices, and media. By deconstructing traditional narratives and de-emphasizing well-worn dichotomies, this volume ultimately offers a fresh and innovative approach to histories of knowledge.

Contributor Bio
Tara Alberts is a senior lecturer in early modern history at the University of York and the author of Conflict and Conversion: Catholicism in Southeast Asia, 1500–1700. Sietske Fransen is a research group leader at the Bibliotheca Hertziana–Max Planck Institute for Art History and coeditor of Translating Early Modern Science. Elaine Leong is a lecturer in history at University College London and the author of Recipes and Everyday Knowledge: Medicine, Science, and the Household in Early Modern England, also published by the University of Chicago Press.
Environmental and Energy Policy and the Economy
Volume 3
Matthew J. Kotchen, Tatyana Deryugina, James H. Stock

Summary
This volume presents six new papers on environmental and energy economics and policy in the United States. Rebecca Davis, J. Scott Holladay, and Charles Sims analyze recent trends in and forecasts of coal-fired power plant retirements with and without new climate policy. Severin Borenstein and James Bushnell examine the efficiency of pricing for electricity, natural gas, and gasoline. James Archsmith, Erich Muehlegger, and David Rapson provide a prospective analysis of future pathways for electric vehicle adoption. Kenneth Gillingham considers the consequences of such pathways for the design of fuel vehicle economy standards. Frank Wolak investigates the long-term resource adequacy in wholesale electricity markets with significant intermittent renewables. Finally, Barbara Annicchiarico, Stefano Carattini, Carolyn Fischer, and Garth Heutel review the state of research on the interactions between business cycles and environmental policy.

Contributor Bio
Matthew Kotchen is Professor of Economics at Yale University and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
James H. Stock is the Harold Hitchings Burbank Professor of Political Economy at Harvard University, faculty member of the Harvard Kennedy School, and a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy and the Economy
Volume 1
Josh Lerner, Scott Stern

Summary
Entrepreneurship and innovation are widely recognized as key drivers of long-term economic growth, yet the development of rigorous economics research evaluating the causes and consequences of entrepreneurship and innovation is more recent. Building on the twenty-year legacy of the *NBER Innovation Policy and the Economy* series, *Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy and the Economy* will examine those causes and consequences and their effects on policy. This new series aims to broaden the historical focus to reflect more directly the significant growth in both academic and policy interest over the past twenty years in entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship policy. Entrepreneurship and innovation are likely to be affected by traditional policy categories such as overall federal research spending, but also by tax policy, immigration policy, regulations in capital, labor, and product markets, and the quality and scope of education. There is increasing recognition that the impact of innovation and entrepreneurship on the economy and long-term growth is multidimensional, and understanding the linkages between these areas requires both an economic framework and systematic measurement.

Contributor Bio
Josh Lerner is chair of the Entrepreneurial Management Unit and the Jacob H. Schiff Professor of Investment Banking at Harvard Business School. He is a research associate and codirector of the Productivity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Scott Stern is the David Sarnoff Professor of Management and chair of the Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management Group at MIT Sloan School of Management. He is a research associate and director of the Innovation Policy Working Group at the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Tax Policy and the Economy, Volume 36
Robert A. Moffitt

Summary
This volume presents five new studies on current topics in taxation and government spending.
Natasha Sarin, Lawrence Summers, Owen Zidar, and Eric Zwick study how investors respond to taxes on capital gains, whether their incentives to invest are affected by those taxes, and whether that responsiveness has changed over time. Ethan Rouen, Suresh Nallareddy, and Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato revisit the question of whether cuts to corporate taxes increase income inequality, bringing new data and new statistical techniques to generate fresh findings. Alan Auerbach and William Gale investigate whether the advantages and disadvantages of different types of taxation are affected when interest rates stay low for long periods, as has been the case in the U.S. for many years. Nora Gordon and Sarah Reber study the distributional impact of emergency subsidies to schools made by the federal government during the recent COVID pandemic and whether those subsidies were sufficient to cover the increased school costs induced by the pandemic. Jacob Goldin, Elaine Maag, and Katherine Michelmore investigate the fiscal cost of an expansion of the U.S. child tax credit, which has been discussed extensively in policy circles recently. They take into account not only the direct expenditure on the allowance but how cost is affected by the existence of work incentives and by possible beneficial effects on childrens’ adult earnings.

Contributor Bio
Robert A. Moffitt is the Krieger-Eisenhower Professor of Economics at Johns Hopkins University with a joint appointment at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. He is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
NBER Macroeconomics Annual 2021
Volume 36
Martin Eichenbaum, Erik Hurst

Summary
The *NBER Macroeconomics Annual* provides a forum for leading economists to participate in important debates in macroeconomics and to report on major developments in macroeconomic analysis and policy.

Contributor Bio
Martin Eichenbaum is the Charles Moskos Professor of Economics and codirector of the Center for International Macroeconomics at Northwestern University. Erik Hurst is the Frank P. and Marianne R. Diassi Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.
The Bonds of Inequality – Debt and the Making of the American City

Destin Jenkins

Summary

Indebtedness, like inequality, has become a ubiquitous condition in the United States. Yet few have probed American cities’ dependence on municipal debt or how the terms of municipal finance structure racial privileges, entrench spatial neglect, elide democratic input, and distribute wealth and power.

In this passionate and deeply researched book, Destin Jenkins shows in vivid detail how, beyond the borrowing decisions of American cities and beneath their quotidian infrastructure, there lurks a world of politics and finance that is rarely seen, let alone understood. Focusing on San Francisco, The Bonds of Inequality offers a singular view of the postwar city, one where the dynamics that drove its creation encompassed not only local politicians but also banks, credit rating firms, insurance companies, and the national municipal bond market. Moving between the local and the national, The Bonds of Inequality uncovers how racial inequalities in San Francisco were intrinsically tied to municipal finance arrangements and how these arrangements were central in determining the distribution of resources in the city. By homing in on financing and its imperatives, Jenkins boldly rewrites the history of modern American cities, revealing the hidden strings that bind debt and power, race and inequity, democracy and capitalism.

Contributor Bio

Destin Jenkins is assistant professor of history at Stanford University.
The Making of Measure and the Promise of Sameness
Emanuele Lugli

Summary
An interdisciplinary history of standardized measurements.

Measurement is all around us—from the circumference of a pizza to the square footage of an apartment, from the length of a newborn baby to the number of miles between neighboring towns. Whether inches or miles, centimeters or kilometers, measures of distance stand at the very foundation of everything we do, so much so that we take them for granted. Yet, this has not always been the case.

This book reaches back to medieval Italy to speak of a time when measurements were displayed in the open, showing how such a deceptively simple innovation triggered a chain of cultural transformations whose consequences are visible today on a global scale. Drawing from literary works and frescoes, architectural surveys, and legal compilations, Emanuele Lugli offers a history of material practices widely overlooked by historians. He argues that the public display of measurements in Italy’s newly formed city republics not only laid the foundation for now centuries-old practices of making, but also helped to legitimize local governments and shore up church power, buttressing fantasies of exactitude and certainty that linger to this day.

This ambitious, truly interdisciplinary book explains how measurements, rather than being mere descriptors of the real, themselves work as powerful molds of ideas, affecting our notions of what we consider similar, accurate, and truthful.

Contributor Bio
Emanuele Lugli is assistant professor of art history at Stanford University.
Materials of the Mind – Phrenology, Race, and the
Global History of Science, 1815–1920
Phrenology, Race, and the Global History of Science, 1815-1920
James Poskett

Summary
This is not only the first global history of nineteenth-century science but the first global history of phrenology.

Phrenology was the most popular mental science of the Victorian age. From American senators to Indian social reformers, this new mental science found supporters around the globe. Materials of the Mind tells the story of how phrenology changed the world—and how the world changed phrenology.

This is a story of skulls from the Arctic, plaster casts from Haiti, books from Bengal, and letters from the Pacific. Drawing on far-flung museum and archival collections, and addressing sources in six different languages, Materials of the Mind is an impressively innovative account of science in the nineteenth century as part of global history. It shows how the circulation of material culture underpinned the emergence of a new materialist philosophy of the mind, while also demonstrating how a global approach to history can help us reassess issues such as race, technology, and politics today.

Contributor Bio
James Poskett is associate professor in the history of science and technology at the University of Warwick.
Seeing Silence
Mark C. Taylor

Summary
Mark C. Taylor explores the many variations of silence by considering the work of leading visual artists, philosophers, theologians, writers, and composers.

“To hear silence is to find stillness in the midst of the restlessness that makes creative life possible and the inescapability of death acceptable.” So writes Mark C. Taylor in his latest book, a philosophy of silence for our nervous, chattering age. How do we find silence—and more importantly, how do we understand it—amid the incessant buzz of the networks that enmesh us? Have we forgotten how to listen to each other, to recognize the virtues of modesty and reticence, and to appreciate the resonance of silence? Are we less prepared than ever for the ultimate silence that awaits us all?

Taylor wants us to pause long enough to hear what is not said and to attend to what remains unsayable. In his account, our way to hearing silence is, paradoxically, to see it. He explores the many variations of silence by considering the work of leading modern and postmodern visual artists, including Barnett Newman, Ad Reinhardt, James Turrell, and Anish Kapoor. Developing the insights of philosophers, theologians, writers, and composers, Taylor weaves a rich narrative modeled on the Stations of the Cross. His chapter titles suggest our positions toward silence: Without. Before. From. Beyond. Against. Within. Between. Toward. Around. With. In. Recasting Hegel’s phenomenology of spirit and Kierkegaard’s stages on life’s way, Taylor translates the traditional Via Dolorosa into a Nietzschean Via Jubilosa that affirms light in the midst of darkness.

Seeing Silence is a thoughtful meditation that invites readers to linger long enough to see silence, and, in this way, perhaps to hear once again the wordless Word that once was named “God.”

Contributor Bio
Mark C. Taylor is professor of religion at Columbia University and the Cluett Professor of Humanities emeritus at Williams College. He is the founding editor of the Religion and Postmodernism series published by the University of Chicago Press and is the author of over thirty books, including Speed Limits: Where Time Went and Why We Have So Little Left and Abiding Grace: Time, Modernity, Death.
The Nature of the Future – Agriculture, Science, and Capitalism in the Antebellum North

Agriculture, Science, and Capitalism in the Antebellum North
Emily Pawley

Summary

The Nature of the Future plumbs the innovative, far-ranging, and sometimes downright strange agricultural schemes of nineteenth-century farms in the northern US.

The nostalgic mist surrounding farms can make it hard to write their history, encrusting them with stereotypical rural virtues and unrealistically separating them from markets, capitalism, and urban influences. The Nature of the Future dispels this mist, focusing on a place and period of enormous agricultural vitality—antebellum New York State—to examine the largest, most diverse, and most active scientific community in nineteenth-century America. Emily Pawley shows how “improving” farmers practiced a science where conflicting visions of the future landscape appeared and evaporated in quick succession. Drawing from US history, environmental history, and the history of science, and extensively mining a wealth of antebellum agricultural publications, The Nature of the Future reveals how improvers transformed American landscapes and American ideas of expertise, success, and exploitation from the ground up.

Contributor Bio

Emily Pawley is Walter E. Beach '56 Chair in Sustainability Studies and associate professor of history at Dickinson College.
The Naked Truth – Viennese Modernism and the Body
Viennese Modernism and the Body
Alys X. George

Summary
Uncovers the interplay of the physical and the aesthetic that shaped Viennese modernism and offers a new interpretation of this moment in the history of the West.

Viennese modernism is often described in terms of a fin-de-siècle fascination with the psyche. But this stereotype of the movement as essentially cerebral overlooks a rich cultural history of the body. The Naked Truth, an interdisciplinary tour de force, addresses this lacuna, fundamentally recasting the visual, literary, and performative cultures of Viennese modernism through an innovative focus on the corporeal.

Alys X. George explores the modernist focus on the flesh by turning our attention to the second Vienna medical school, which revolutionized the field of anatomy in the 1800s. As she traces the results of this materialist influence across a broad range of cultural forms—exhibitions, literature, portraiture, dance, film, and more—George brings into dialogue a diverse group of historical protagonists, from canonical figures such as Egon Schiele, Arthur Schnitzler, Joseph Roth, and Hugo von Hofmannsthal to long-overlooked ones, including author and doctor Marie Pappenheim, journalist Else Feldmann, and dancers Grete Wiesenthal, Gertrud Bodenwieser, and Hilde Holger. She deftly blends analyses of popular and “high” culture, laying to rest the notion that Viennese modernism was an exclusively male movement. The Naked Truth uncovers the complex interplay of the physical and the aesthetic that shaped modernism and offers a striking new interpretation of this fascinating moment in the history of the West.

Contributor Bio
Alys X. George is an award-winning researcher and educator, specializing in modern Austrian and German culture and cultural history. She lives in New York City and Vienna, and has taught at New York University, the University of Notre Dame, and Stanford University.
Contesting Nietzsche
Christa Davis Acampora

Summary
A brilliant exploration of a significant and understudied aspect of Nietzsche’s philosophy.

In this groundbreaking work, Christa Davis Acampora offers a profound rethinking of Friedrich Nietzsche’s crucial notion of the *agon*. Analyzing an impressive array of primary and secondary sources and synthesizing decades of Nietzsche scholarship, she shows how the agon, or contest, organized core areas of Nietzsche’s philosophy, providing a new appreciation of the subtleties of his notorious views about power. By focusing so intensely on this particular guiding interest, she offers an exciting, original vantage from which to view this iconic thinker: *Contesting Nietzsche*.

Though existence—viewed through the lens of Nietzsche’s agon—is fraught with struggle, Acampora illuminates what Nietzsche recognized as the agon’s generative benefits. It imbues the human experience with significance, meaning, and value. Analyzing Nietzsche’s elaborations of agonism—his remarks on types of contests, qualities of contestants, and the conditions in which either may thrive or deteriorate—she demonstrates how much the agon shaped his philosophical projects and critical assessments of others. The agon led him from one set of concerns to the next, from aesthetics to metaphysics to ethics to psychology, via Homer, Socrates, Saint Paul, and Wagner. In showing how one obsession catalyzed so many diverse interests, *Contesting Nietzsche* sheds fundamentally new light on some of this philosopher’s most difficult and paradoxical ideas.

Contributor Bio
Christa Davis Acampora is professor of philosophy and deputy provost for academic affairs at Emory University.
Bulls Markets – Chicago`s Basketball Business and the New Inequality

Chicago's Basketball Business and the New Inequality
Sean Dinces

Summary

An unvarnished look at the economic and political choices that reshaped contemporary Chicago—arguably for the worse.

The 1990s were a glorious time for the Chicago Bulls, an age of historic championships and all-time basketball greats like Scottie Pippen and Michael Jordan. It seemed only fitting that city, county, and state officials would assist the team owners in constructing a sparkling new venue to house this incredible team that was identified worldwide with Chicago. That arena, the United Center, is the focus of Bulls Markets, an unvarnished look at the economic and political choices that forever reshaped one of America's largest cities—arguably for the worse.

Sean Dinces shows how the construction of the United Center reveals the fundamental problems with neoliberal urban development. The pitch for building the arena was fueled by promises of private funding and equitable revitalization in a long-blighted neighborhood. However, the effort was funded in large part by municipal tax breaks that few ordinary Chicagoans knew about, and that wound up exacerbating the rising problems of gentrification and wealth stratification. In this portrait of the construction of the United Center and the urban life that developed around it, Dinces starkly depicts a pattern of inequity that has become emblematic of contemporary American cities: governments and sports franchises collude to provide amenities for the wealthy at the expense of poorer citizens, diminishing their experiences as fans and—far worse—creating an urban environment that is regulated and surveilled for the comfort and protection of that same moneymed elite.

Contributor Bio

Sean Dinces is assistant professor of history at Long Beach City College.
Capital in the Nineteenth Century
Robert E. Gallman, Paul W. Rhode, Claudia Goldin

Summary
Gives permanence and context to Gallman’s influential economic research on growth theory.

When we think about history, we often think about people, events, ideas, and revolutions, but what about the numbers? What do the data tell us about what was, what is, and how things changed over time? Economist Robert E. Gallman (1926–98) gathered extensive data on US capital stock and created a legacy that has, until now, been difficult for researchers to access and appraise in its entirety.

Gallman measured American capital stock from a range of perspectives, viewing it as the accumulation of income saved and invested, and as an input into the production process. He used the level and change in the capital stock as proxy measures for long-run economic performance. Analyzing data in this way from the end of the US colonial period to the turn of the twentieth century, Gallman placed our knowledge of the long nineteenth century—the period during which the United States began to experience per capita income growth and became a global economic leader—on a strong empirical foundation. Gallman’s research was painstaking and his analysis meticulous, but he did not publish the material backing to his findings in his lifetime. Here Paul W. Rhode completes this project, giving permanence to a great economist’s insights and craftsmanship. Gallman’s data speak to the role of capital in the economy, which lies at the heart of many of the most pressing issues today.

Contributor Bio
Claudia Goldin is the Henry Lee Professor of Economics at Harvard University and director of the Development of the American Economy Program and research associate at the NBER. She is the coeditor of three previous NBER volumes including, most recently, The Defining Moment: The Great Depression and the American Economy in the Twentieth Century.
**Summary**

From ancient philosophy to *Tristram Shandy* and Buster Keaton movies, this book tells the engaging history of accident as an idea.

An accidental glance at a newspaper notice causes Rousseau to collapse under the force of a vision. A car accidentally hits Giacometti, and he experiences an epiphany. Darwin introduces accident to the basic process of life, and Freud looks to accident as the expression of unconscious desire. Accident, Ross Hamilton claims, is the force that makes us modern. Tracing the story of accident from Aristotle to Buster Keaton and beyond, Hamilton’s daring book revives the tradition of the grand history of ideas.

*Accident* tells an original history of Western thought from the perspective of Aristotle’s remarkably durable categories of accident and substance. Throughout antiquity and the Middle Ages, Aristotle’s distinction underwrote an insistence on order and subordination of the inessential. In a groundbreaking innovation, Hamilton argues that after the Reformation, the concept of accident began to change places with that of substance: accident became a life-transforming event and effectively a person’s essence. For moderns, it is the accidental, seemingly trivial moments of consciousness that, like Wordsworth’s “spots of time,” create constellations of meaning in our lives. Touching on a broad array of images and texts—Augustine, Dante, the frescoes of Raphael, Descartes, Jane Austen, the work of the surrealists, and twentieth-century cinema—Hamilton provides a new way to map the mutations of personal identity and subjectivity.

**Contributor Bio**

Ross Hamilton is associate professor of English at Barnard College, Columbia University.
The Atheist`s Bible – The Most Dangerous Book That Never Existed

The Most Dangerous Book That Never Existed
Georges Minois, Lys Ann Weiss

Summary

A comprehensive biography of the Treatise of the Three Impostors, a controversial nonexistent medieval book.

Like a lot of good stories, this one begins with a rumor: in 1239, Pope Gregory IX accused Frederick II, the Holy Roman Emperor, of heresy. Without disclosing evidence of any kind, Gregory announced that Frederick had written a supremely blasphemous book—De tribus impostoribus, or the Treatise of the Three Impostors—in which Frederick denounced Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad as impostors. Of course, Frederick denied the charge, and over the following centuries the story played out across Europe, with libertines, freethinkers, and other “strong minds” seeking a copy of the scandalous text. The fascination persisted until finally, in the eighteenth century, someone brought the purported work into actual existence—in not one but two versions, Latin and French.

Although historians have debated the origins and influences of this nonexistent book, there has not been a comprehensive biography of the Treatise of the Three Impostors. In The Atheist’s Bible, the eminent historian Georges Minois tracks the course of the book from its origins in 1239 to its most salient episodes in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, introducing readers to the colorful individuals obsessed with possessing the legendary work—and the equally obsessive passion of those who wanted to punish people who sought it. Minois’s compelling account sheds much-needed light on the power of atheism, the threat of blasphemy, and the persistence of free thought during a time when the outspoken risked being burned at the stake.

Contributor Bio

Georges Minois is the author of History of Old Age: From Antiquity to the Renaissance and History of Suicide: Voluntary Death in Western Culture, the former published by the University of Chicago Press.

Lys Ann Weiss is an independent scholar in medieval studies who works in book publishing as an editor, indexer, and translator.
The Indies of the Setting Sun – How Early Modern Spain Mapped the Far East as the Transpacific West
How Early Modern Spain Mapped the Far East as the Transpacific West
Ricardo Padrón

Summary
Padrón reveals the evolution of Spain’s imagining of the New World as a space in continuity with Asia.

Narratives of Europe’s westward expansion often tell of how the Americas came to be known as a distinct landmass, separate from Asia and uniquely positioned as new ground ripe for transatlantic colonialism. But this geographic vision of the Americas was not shared by all Europeans. While some imperialists imagined North and Central America as undiscovered land, the Spanish pushed to define the New World as part of a larger and eminently flexible geography that they called las Indias, and that by right, belonged to the Crown of Castile and León. Las Indias included all of the New World as well as East and Southeast Asia, although Spain’s understanding of the relationship between the two areas changed as the realities of the Pacific Rim came into sharper focus. At first, the Spanish insisted that North and Central America were an extension of the continent of Asia. Eventually, they came to understand East and Southeast Asia as a transpacific extension of their empire in America called las Indias del poniente, or the Indies of the Setting Sun.

The Indies of the Setting Sun charts the Spanish vision of a transpacific imperial expanse, beginning with Balboa’s discovery of the South Sea and ending almost a hundred years later with Spain’s final push for control of the Pacific. Padrón traces a series of attempts—both cartographic and discursive—to map the space from Mexico to Malacca, revealing the geopolitical imaginations at play in the quest for control of the New World and Asia.

Contributor Bio
Ricardo Padrón is professor of Spanish at the University of Virginia.
The Complete Tragedies, Volume 1 – Medea, The Phoenician Women, Phaedra, The Trojan Women, Octavia

Medea, The Phoenician Women, Phaedra, The Trojan Women, Octavia
Lucius Annaeus Seneca, Shadi Bartsch, Susanna Braund, Alex Dressler, Elaine Fantham

Summary
The first of two volumes collecting the complete tragedies of Seneca.

Edited by world-renowned classicists Elizabeth Asmis, Shadi Bartsch, and Martha C. Nussbaum, the Complete Works of Lucius Annaeus Seneca series offers authoritative, modern English translations of the writings of the Stoic philosopher and playwright (4 BCE–65 CE). The two volumes of The Complete Tragedies present all of his dramas, expertly rendered by preeminent scholars and translators.

This first volume contains Medea, The Phoenician Women, Phaedra, The Trojan Women, and Octavia, the last of which was written in emulation of Senecan tragedies and serves as a unique example of political tragedy. The second volume includes Oedipus, Hercules Mad, Hercules on Oeta, Thyestes, and Agamemnon. High standards of accuracy, clarity, and style are maintained throughout the translations, which render Seneca into verse with as close a correspondence, line for line, to the original as possible, and with special attention paid to meter and overall flow. In addition, each tragedy is prefaced by an original translator’s introduction offering reflections on the work’s context and meaning. Notes are provided for the reader unfamiliar with the culture and history of classical antiquity. Accordingly, The Complete Tragedies will be of use to a general audience and professionals alike, from the Latinless student to scholars and instructors of comparative literature, classics, philosophy, drama, and more.

Contributor Bio
Lucius Annaeus Seneca (4BCE-65CE) was a Roman Stoic philosopher, dramatist, and advisor to the Emperor Nero.
The Complete Tragedies, Volume 2 – Oedipus, Hercules Mad, Hercules on Oeta, Thyestes, Agamemnon

Oedipus, Hercules Mad, Hercules on Oeta, Thyestes, Agamemnon

Lucius Annaeus Seneca, Shadi Bartsch, Susanna Braund, David Konstan

Summary

The second of two volumes collecting the complete tragedies of Seneca.

Edited by world-renowned classicists Elizabeth Asmis, Shadi Bartsch, and Martha C. Nussbaum, the Complete Works of Lucius Annaeus Seneca offers authoritative, modern English translations of the writings of the Stoic philosopher and playwright (4 BCE–65 CE). The two volumes of The Complete Tragedies presents all of his dramas, expertly rendered by preeminent scholars and translators.

The first volume contains Medea, The Phoenician Women, Phaedra, The Trojan Women, and Octavia, the last of which was written in emulation of Senecan tragedies and serves as a unique example of political tragedy. This second volume includes Oedipus, Hercules Mad, Hercules on Oeta, Thyestes, and Agamemnon. High standards of accuracy, clarity, and style are maintained throughout the translations, which render Seneca into verse with as close a correspondence, line for line, to the original as possible, and with special attention paid to meter and overall flow. In addition, each tragedy is prefaced by an original translator's introduction offering reflections on the work’s context and meaning. Notes are provided for the reader unfamiliar with the culture and history of classical antiquity. Accordingly, The Complete Tragedies will be of use to a general audience and professionals alike, from the Latinless student to scholars and instructors of comparative literature, classics, philosophy, drama, and more.

Contributor Bio

Lucius Annaeus Seneca (4 BCE–65 CE) was a Roman Stoic philosopher, dramatist, and advisor to the Emperor Nero.
**Sketchbooks, 1946 – 1949**
Max Frisch, Simon Pare

**Summary**

A new translation of one of the earliest volumes of Max Frisch’s innovative notebooks.

Throughout his life, the great Swiss playwright and novelist Max Frisch (1911–1991) kept a series of diaries, or sketchbooks, as they came to be known in English. First published in English translation in the 1970s, these sketchbooks played a major role in establishing Frisch as, according to the *New York Times*, “the most innovative, varied and hard-to-categorize of all major contemporary authors.” His diaries, said the *Times*, “read like novels and his best novels are written like diaries.”

Now Seagull Books presents the first unabridged English translation of *Sketchbooks, 1946–1949* in a new translation by Simon Pare. This edition reinstates material omitted from the 1977 edition, including a screenplay for an unmade film. In this first volume, which covers the years 1946 to 1949, Frisch chronicles the intellectual and material situation in postwar Europe from the vantage point of a citizen of a neutral, German-speaking country. His notes on travels to the scarred cities of Germany, to Austria, France, Italy, Prague, Wroclaw, and Warsaw paint a complex and stimulating picture of a continent emerging from the rubble as new fault lines are drawn between East and West. As Frisch completes his final architectural projects and garners early success as a writer, he reflects on theater, language, and writing, and he sketches the outlines of plays, including *The Fire Raisers* and *Count Öderland*.

Whatever experience he chronicles in the sketchbook—whether it’s a Bastille Day party, an Italian fish market, or a tightrope display amid the ruins of Frankfurt or an afternoon by Lake Zurich with Bertolt Brecht, to take just a few examples—he keen dramatist’s eye immerses the reader in the setting while also probing the deeper significance and motivations underlying the scene. This new translation will serve to draw out the immediacy and contemporary quality of Frisch’s observations from the shadow of his status as a classic author, bringing his work to life for a new audience.

**Contributor Bio**

Simon Pare is a translator from French and German living near Zurich.
Gone But Not Forgotten – My Favourite Flops and Other Projects that Came to Nothing
My Favourite Flops and Other Projects that Came to Nothing
Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Mike Mitchell

Summary
One of Germany’s greatest living writers offers up an analysis (and samples) of his failed projects.

“My dear fellow artists, whether writers, actors, painters, film-makers, singers, sculptors, or composers, why are you so reluctant to talk about your minor or major failures?” With that question, Hans Magnus Enzensberger—the most senior among Germany’s great writers—begins his amusing ruminations on his favorite projects that never saw the light of day. There is enlightenment in every embarrassing episode, he argues, and while artists tend to forget their successes quickly, the memory of a project that came to nothing stays in the mind for years, if not decades. Triumphs hold no lessons for us, but fiascos can extend our understanding, giving insight into the conditions of production, conventions, and practices of the industries concerned, and helping novices to assess the snares and minefields in the industry of their choice. What’s more, Enzensberger argues, flops have a therapeutic effect: They can cure, or at least alleviate, the vocational illnesses of authors, be it the loss of control or megalomania. In Gone but Not Forgotten, Enzensberger looks back at his uncompleted experiments not just in the world of books but also in cinema, theater, opera, and journal publishing, and shares with us a “store of ideas” teeming with sketches of still-possible projects. He also reflects on the likely reasons for these big and small defeats. Interspersed among his ruminations are excerpts from those experiments, giving readers a taste of what we missed. Together, the pieces in this volume build a remarkable picture of a versatile genius’s range of work over more than half a century and makes us reflect on the very nature of success and failure by which we measure our lives.

Contributor Bio
Hans Magnus Enzensberger, often considered Germany’s most important living poet, is also the editor of the book series Die Andere Bibliothek and the founder of the monthly TransAtlantik. Seagull Books has published many of his books, including, most recently, Tumult, Panopticon, and Anarchy’s Brief Summer.

Mike Mitchell has translated Peter Handke and Max Frisch, among others.
**Summary**

Giorgio Agamben tackles our crisis-ridden world in a series of powerful philosophical essays.

"Which house is burning?" asks Giorgio Agamben. "The country where you live, or Europe, or the whole world? Perhaps the houses, the cities have already burnt down—who knows how long ago?—in a single immense blaze that we pretended not to see." In this collection of four luminous, lyrical essays, Agamben brings his characteristic combination of philosophical acuity and poetic intensity to bear on a world in crisis. Whether surveying the burning house of our culture in the title essay, the architecture of pure exteriority in "Door and Threshold," the language of prophecy in "Lessons in the Darkness," or the word of the witness in "Testimony and Truth," Agamben’s insights throw a revealing light on questions both timeless and topical. Written in dark times over the past year, and rich with the urgency of our moment, the essays in this volume also seek to show how what appears to be an impasse can, with care and attention, become the door leading to a way out.

**Contributor Bio**

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.
**Squandered Advice**  
Ilse Aichinger, Steph Morris

**Summary**

The first English translation of a major work of postwar German poetry.

Austrian writer Ilse Aichinger (1921–2016) was a member of the Gruppe 47 writers’ group, which sought to renew German-language literature after World War II. From a wide-ranging literary career that encompassed all genres, *Squandered Advice* was Aichinger’s sole poetry collection. The book gathers poems written over several decades, yet Aichinger’s poetic voice remains remarkably consistent, frequently addressing us or a third party, often in the imperative, with many poems written in the form of a question. Even though they use free verse throughout, the poems are still tightly structured, often around sounds or repetition, using spare language. Phrases are often fragmentary, torn off and juxtaposed as if in a collage. Isolated and haunting, the images are at times everyday, at other times surreal, suggesting dreams or memories. The tone ranges from reassuring and gentle to disjointed and disturbing, but the volume was carefully composed by the author into an integral whole, not chronological but following its own poetic logic. This new translation makes Aichinger’s critically acclaimed book, which has inspired poets the German-speaking world for decades, available to English-language readers for the first time.

**Contributor Bio**

Ilse Aichinger (1921-2016) was an acclaimed Austrian writer of fiction, poetry, prose and radio drama, and a member of the Gruppe 47 writers’ group. Her collection of short stories, *Bad Words*, is available from Seagull Books.  
Steph Morris is a poet, translator and artist living in London after many years in Berlin. He has translated novelists such as Martin Suter, Anne Weber, Feridun Zaimoglu and Brigitte Reimann, among others.
Twilight of Torment – Melancholy

Melancholy
Léonora Miano, Gila Walker

Summary

A haunting, multivocal novel full of stories of the lives of women of African descent.

Four women speak. They speak to the same man, who is not there. He is the son of the first, the great-yet-impossible love of the second, the platonic companion of the third, the older brother of the last. Speaking to him in his absence, it is to themselves that these women turn, examining their own stories to make sense of their journey, from twilight to twilight, through a mysterious stormy night in the middle of the dry season.

Together, the voices in Twilight of Torment: Melancholy, the first volume of a two-volume novel, perform a powerful and sometimes discordant jazz-inspired chorus about issues such as femininity, sexuality, self-love, and the intrusion of history into the intimate lives of people of African descent. Blackness confronts African-ness, love is sometimes discovered in the arms of another woman, the African renaissance tries to establish itself on the rubble of self-esteem damaged by history. Each of these women, with her own language and rhythm, ultimately represents a specific aspect of the tormented history of Africans in today’s world, and at the end of the night, they will each arrive at a dawn of hope.

Contributor Bio

Léonora Miano was born in 1973 in Doula, Cameroon. She is author of nearly twenty works of fiction and non-fiction. Her writing has won numerous literary awards, including the Prix Femina in 2013 for Season of the Shadow, published by Seagull Books in 2018.

Gila Walker is the translator of more than a hundred books and articles from French, including texts by Jacques Derrida, Tzvetan Todorov, Maurice Maeterlinck, and Shmuel Trigano.
The Turban and the Hat
Sonallah Ibrahim, Bruce Fudge

Summary
A novel of the invasion and occupation of Egypt by Napoleonic France as seen through the eyes of a young Egyptian.

The Napoleonic-era French invasion and occupation of Egypt is often seen as the Arab world’s first encounter with the military and technological prowess of the West—and it came as a terrible shock. *The Turban and the Hat* tells the story of those three tumultuous years from the perspective of a young Egyptian living in late-eighteenth-century Cairo. Knowing some French, he works as a translator for the occupiers. He meets their scientists and artists, has an affair with Bonaparte’s mistress, and accompanies the disastrous campaign to take Syria, where he witnesses the ravages of the plague and the horrific barbarism of war. He is astonished by the invaders’ lies and propaganda, but he finds that much of what he thought he knew about his fellow Egyptians was also an illusion. Convincing in its history but rich in themes that resonate today, *The Turban and the Hat* is a story of resistance, but also of collaboration, cooperation, and corruption. Sonallah Ibrahim, one of Egypt’s foremost novelists, gives us a marvelous account of the Western occupation of an Arab land, one that will resonate with contemporary readers. His portrayal of this tragic—and at times comic—“clash of civilizations” is never didactic, even as it reminds us that so many lessons of history go unlearned.

Contributor Bio

Bruce Fudge is professor of Arabic at the University of Geneva. He is also the translator of *A Hundred and One Nights* (2016).
Firefly
Jabbour Douaihy, Paula Haydar, Nadine Sinno

Summary
A powerful novel of a young man living between Muslim and Christian worlds amid the Lebanese Civil War.

Firefly paints a searing portrait of the city of Beirut at the outbreak of the Lebanese Civil War in the early 1970s, as seen through the eyes of its simple, yet perplexing, protagonist, Nizam al-Alami. On Nizam’s national ID card, no religion is listed. Muslim by birth, he is Christian by baptism. As a young boy, he found his way into an orchard while playing, and its owners, Touma and Rakheema, instantly fell for him and agreed to raise him as their own, as a Christian, without much resistance from his Muslim parents.

When he is grown, Nizam makes his way to Beirut to study law. Unable to bear the confines of the classroom, he abandons college to explore the city as he pleases. His apartment soon becomes a meeting place for his communist comrades, and he falls in love with Janan, the tormented artist whose dark paintings prophesy the city’s bloody future. When Beirut explodes, and the city is divided into a Christian East and a Muslim West, Nizam’s apartment turns into a hideout for armed militiamen, and Burj Square is emptied of everything except the Martyrs’ Statue that bears witness to the city’s most difficult moments. Nizam, too, bears witness, as he sees the corpses of the civil war’s victims pile up.

Jabbour Douaihy takes us through Nizam’s adventures and struggles as he faces stigmatization, homelessness, and violence in a society that considers him an outsider. Like the light-producing, charismatic fireflies that captured his imagination and eluded him as a child, Nizam is the glimmer of hope epitomized by those who reject binary identities in favor of the in-between. But how long, Douaihy asks, can this glimmer of hope truly last?

Contributor Bio
Jabbour Douaihy (1949-2020) was a professor of French Literature at the Lebanese University. His novels June Rain, Firefly, and King of India were shortlisted for the International Prize for Arabic Fiction.
Paula Haydar is assistant professor of Arabic in the Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at the University of Arkansas. She has translated twelve contemporary Arabic novels, including several by Jabbour Douaihy.
Nadine Sinno is associate professor of Arabic at Virginia Tech. Her publications include a translation of Nazik Saba Yared’s Canceled Memories and a co-translation of Rashid al-Daif’s Who’s Afraid of Meryl Streep?
Hawa Hawa – and Other Stories
Nabarun Bhattacharya, Shubha Prasad Sanyal

Summary
A collection of inventive and surprising short stories from one of India’s most prominent countercultural writers.

In this wildly inventive collection of Nabarun Bhattacharya’s stories, we meet characters such as a trigger-happy cop in an authoritarian police state, a man who holds on to a piece of rope from a deadly noose, a retired revolutionary thrilled by delusions of grandeur, and people working for a corporation that arranges lavish suicides for a price. Ranging from scathing satires of society to surreal investigations of violence and love, these stories are also a window onto the political and social climate in Bengal, tracing both pan-Indian developments like the 1975 Emergency and local ones like militant-leftist Naxalism and the decades-long Communist reign in the state. Expertly translated from the Bengali, Hawa Hawa and Other Stories is a journey through the mind of one of the most daring countercultural writers of India, one with particular resonance in these chaotic times.

Contributor Bio
Nabarun Bhattacharya (1948-2014) was born into a family of writers, filmmakers, artists and academics. A journalist from 1973 to 1991, he gave up that career in order to become a full-time writer. His best-known works include the novel Herbert (1992).

Subha Prasad Sanyal is the winner of the Harvill-Secker Young Translator’s Prize (2018). He is pursuing a degree in English from Jadavpur University, Calcutta.
Monsters Like Us
Ulrike Almut Sandig, Karen Leeder

Summary
A novel of two young friends growing up on divergent paths in the last days of Communist East Germany.

What is it like to be young and broken in a country that is at the brink of collapse? This is what acclaimed poet and sound artist Ulrike Almut Sandig shows us in her debut novel, through the story of old friends Ruth and Viktor in the last days of Communist East Germany. The two central characters are inseparable since kindergarten, but they are forced to go their different ways to escape their difficult childhood: Ruth into music and the life of a professional musician; Viktor into violence and a neo-Nazi gang. Monsters Like Us is a story of families, a story of abuse, a story about the search for redemption and the ways it takes shape over generations. More than anything, it is about the stories we tell ourselves about who we are, and who we want to be. Bold, brutal, and lyrical, this is a coming-of-age novel that charts the hidden violence of the world we live in today.

Contributor Bio
Born in former East Germany in 1979, Ulrike Almut Sandig has written two books of short stories, and four volumes of poetry as well as a novel. In 2021 she was invited to give the prestigious Thomas-Kling Poetics Lectures. Karen Leeder is a writer, critic and prize-winning translator of contemporary German literature including work by Durs Grünbein, Volker Braun, Michael Krüger, Evelyn Schlag and Raoul Schrott.
Flowers for Otello – On the Crimes That Came Out of Jena

On the Crimes That Came Out of Jena
Esther Dischereit, Iain Galbraith, Preti Taneja

Summary

A powerful performance text that illuminates incidents of anti-immigrant violence in contemporary Germany.

Between 1998 and 2007 a series of killings in Germany, disdainfully styled “doner murders” by the media, were attributed by German police to internecine rivalries among immigrants. The victims included eight citizens of Turkish origin, a Greek citizen, and a German policewoman. Not until 2011 did the German public learn not only that the police had ignored signs pointing to the real perpetrators, a neo-Nazi group called the National Socialist Underground, but also that important files, possibly containing evidence implicating state agencies, had disappeared from the archives of Federal Police and intelligence organizations.

Esther Dischereit, one of the preeminent German-Jewish voices of the post-Holocaust generation, takes that failure of the state to protect its citizens from racist violence as the core of her performance text Flowers for Otello: On the Crimes That Came Out of Jena. Seeking an appropriate language with which to meet the bereaved, she also finds a way to raise the blanket of silence that is used by those who would prefer that we forget. Combining witness testimony, myth, and incidents from a history of violence against minorities, Flowers for Otello, in Iain Galbraith’s translation, refuses chaos, instead revealing the chilling, patterned order of tragedy, while bringing a great writer’s humanism to the fore.

Contributor Bio

Esther Dischereit has published fiction, poetry and essays, and is a prolific writer for radio and the stage. In 2009 she was awarded Austria's prestigious Erich Fried Prize. Iain Galbraith’s volume of poetry The True Height of the Ear was published by Arc in 2018. He has won numerous prizes for his translations, including the Stephen Spender Prize, the Popescu Prize for European Poetry Translation and the Schlegel-Tieck Prize. Preti Taneja teaches writing in prisons and in universities in the UK, and she has worked with youth charities and in conflict and post-conflict zones on minority and cultural rights.
**Story of a Stammer**
Gábor Vida, Jozefina Komporaly

**Summary**

*A novel of growing up a Hungarian in Romania under Communism.*

In the novel *Story of a Stammer*, Gábor Vida asks a fundamental question: Where does stammering come from? In the process of answering this question, he discovers that an entire historical period and an entire world has been stammering, too. Through Vida’s eyes, we see that stammering comprises all the lies accumulated over time and over generations, because nobody had ever articulated what they felt or thought, nor done what they really wanted. Nobody, Vida shows, had ever told the truth.

Describing life in the 1970s and ‘80s under Romanian Communist dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu’s authoritarian regime, Vida writes with disarming honesty, breaking taboos and chronicling the ways in which tyranny and exploitation seep into family relationships. The novel charts the first two decades of a young Hungarian man’s life in Romania, telling a story of coming to terms with a stammer, loneliness, and an unstimulating environment where religion, alcoholism, and suicide are the most common escape strategies. A Bildungsroman, a novel about Transylvania, a chronicle of minority life, a sociological analysis of cultural identity, and ultimately a deeply personal account of a historical era, *Story of a Stammer* is a major contribution to contemporary Hungarian literature—an unfailingly serious yet humorously delightful witness to a turbulent period in recent history.

**Contributor Bio**

**Gábor Vida** (born 1968) is a Hungarian writer from Romania, currently editor-in-chief of the prestigious literary magazine *Látó*. Vida is the recipient of several important literary awards, including the Arany János Award (2005), the Artisjus Award (2008), the Déry Tibor Prize (2017), the Merítés Award (2018). In 2021, *Story of a Stammer* was voted the best Hungarian novel of the decade 2010-2019.

**Jozefina Komporaly** is a London-based academic and translator from Romanian and Hungarian into English. Her recent translations for Seagull Books include *Mr K Released* by Matéi Visniec (shortlisted for the 2021 EBRD Literature Prize) and *The Glance of the Medusa* by László F. Földényi.
**The Birth of Emma K.**
Zsolt Láng, Owen Good, Ottilie Mulzet

**Summary**

*An inventive collection of stories by one of the most prominent and acclaimed writers in Hungary today.*

*The Birth of Emma K.*, a collection of twelve short stories rich with magic, introduces English-language readers to one of the most vibrant and original voices in contemporary Hungarian literature. Zsolt Láng’s new collection opens with God sitting on a bench looking over Budapest; later, a Hungarian man who has stumbled into a Romanian music theory class suddenly finds he is able to speak expertly about Hungarian composer Béla Bartok—and in perfect Romanian; and even later, against all odds, the embryo of Emma fights for her future life from within the womb. Drifting between melancholic and witty, in sentences that are winding, subtle, and colloquial, Láng’s stories are deeply rooted in Transylvanian culture and history. Reminiscent of the best writings of Irish modernist masters such as Samuel Beckett and Flann O’Brien, *The Birth of Emma K.* presents an unforgettable collage of human nature.

**Contributor Bio**

**Zsolt Láng** is a Hungarian author, essayist, playwright, and editor from Transylvania, Romania. He has published five short-story collections and five novels and one work of criticism. His most recent novel *Bolyai* won the 2020 Libri Literary Prize, one of Hungary’s most prestigious literary awards.

**Owen Good** is a Northern Irish translator of Hungarian poetry and prose.

**Ottilie Mulzet** was awarded the National Book Award for Translated Literature for her translation of László Krasznahorkai’s *Baron Wenckheim’s Homecoming* in 2019.
Glory Hole
Kim Hyun, Suhyun J. Ahn, Archana Madhavan

Summary
A ground-breaking new collection of queer poetry from a leading contemporary Korean poet.

Kim Hyun’s Glory Hole is the first Korean queer poetry collection. Featuring gay teens, elders, cats, caterpillars, robots, and other unexpected characters, Kim’s fifty-one eccentric poems trace themes of love, sexual desire, abandonment, destitution, and death. In recounting the splendid yet tragic journeys of his speakers, Kim defies meaningful sense-making. His poems are a mishmash of dystopian sci-fi and pornography, storytelling and poetry, fictive references, and real figures. They are not embellished with elegant imagery; in fact, they are antithetical to it, opting instead for incoherent tense, unidiomatic expressions, and never-ending puns. After all, like LGBTQ+ people in many cultures, Korean queers live in this site of violence. Bewilderment, deliberately, is Kim Hyun’s form. Glory Hole invites readers into a very queer world.

Contributor Bio
South Korean author Kim Hyun has published four volumes of poems and six essay collections, and he has co-authored several queer novels and anthologies. Suhyun J. Ahn is a PhD candidate studying East Asian philosophy and politics. By day, Archana Madhavan is a technical writer helping people to make data-driven decisions. By night, she is a fitful writer and a budding translator of Korean literature and comics.
André Gorz – A Life

A Life
Willy Gianinazzi, Chris Turner

Summary

The first and exhaustive biography of twentieth-century leftist philosopher André Gorz.

Recognized as one of the most lucid and innovative critics of contemporary capitalism, André Gorz (1923–2007) was known for asking fundamental questions regarding the meaning of life and work. This first biography of a unique figure operating at the confluence of literature, philosophy, and journalism revisits half a century of intellectual and political life.

Born Gerhart Hirsch in Vienna, he studied in Switzerland before opting to live and work in France. A self-taught existentialist thinker, he was constantly revising his view of the world, unafraid to break new theoretical ground in doing so. Influenced by Marx, Husserl, Sartre, and Illich, he had very close affinities with the new thinking on the Left that was coming out of Italy in the 1960s and 70s. He was also one of the first thinkers to shape political ecology and to advocate de-growth. The intellectual on the editorial board of Sartre’s journal Les Temps Modernes, Gorz was also a mainstream journalist. He wrote in L’Express under the sobriquet Michel Bosquet before joining others in the creation of Le Nouvel Observateur.

Through Gorz’s life journey, we meet not only Sartre and de Beauvoir, but also Herbert Marcuse, Fidel Castro, Daniel Cohn-Bendit, Ivan Illich, Félix Guattari, Antonio Negri, and many others. Beyond his poignant autobiographical narratives, The Traitor and Letter to D, which attest to his deep humanity, Gorz remains a precious guide for all who believe that another world is still possible.

Contributor Bio

Willy Gianinazzi is a Swiss-born French historian who specializes in the study of revolutionary syndicalism and other radical movements. He lives in Paris, where he was for many years Publications Secretary at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales.

Chris Turner is a translator and writer living in Birmingham, UK.
The Rain`s Falling Up
Luca Rastello, Cristina Viti

Summary
A beautifully crafted novel set in the late 1960s and 1970s Italy, a tempestuous period that shaped the lives of generations to come in many countries.

What was it really like to be a teenager growing up in Italy in the 1970s, during a time it has become all too easy to file away under “years of lead,” as the fathers’ betrayed ideals came face to face with the sons’ and daughters’ rebellions? What was happening in schools, in assemblies, social centers, and occupied factories as the postwar “economic miracle” was being dismantled from within? What moved the foremost French intellectuals of the time to sign an appeal against the repression of the student and workers’ movement in Italy? What did the bullets and heroin bring to a halt, and where did they come from? How does it feel when strategies of terror and police brutality become as ordinary as a TV dinner and as eerie as the plots of the science fiction novels you are plagiarizing to impress a girl? How are metropolitan geographies alchemized in the muscles of a young body crossing the shady lines between ages and sexes?

Luca Rastello raises these and other questions in an astonishing novel that splices chunks of plot and historical reconstruction into the free flow of memory and dream. Rain’s Falling Up tracks the trajectory of a generation while refusing to romanticize its protagonists or resolve the tensions that powered its volatile energy.

Contributor Bio
Luca Rastello (1961-2015) was a groundbreaking Italian writer and reporter. He was the author of two novels and a collection of short stories. Cristina Viti is a poet and translator working with Italian, English, and French.
Jewish Portraits, Indian Frames – Women`s Narratives from a Diaspora of Hope (New edition)
Women`s Narratives from a Diaspora of Hope
Jael Silliman

Summary
Reveals the forgotten history of Baghdadi Jews` journey into India through the stories of four generations of Jewish women.

An invaluable cultural document shaped from personal experience, Jewish Portraits, Indian Frames explores the fascinating social and cultural history of Baghdadi Jewish women in Calcutta, India. Through the lives of her foremothers over four generations, Jael Silliman discovers how they “dwelled in travelling” despite being widely dispersed across Asia, which created a moving geography of Baghdadi Jewish culture. She shows us how they negotiated multiple identities, including that of emergent Indian nationalism, and how they perceived and shaped their Jewishness and gender in response to changing cultural and political contexts. She also traces the trajectory of a Jewish presence in one of the most hospitable cities of the diaspora.

These rich family portraits convey a sense of the singular roles women played in building and sustaining a complex diaspora in what Silliman calls “Jewish Asia” over the past 150 years. Her sketches of the everyday lives of her foremothers—including the food they ate and the clothes they wore—bring to life a community and a culture, even as they disclose the unexpected and subtle complexities of the colonial encounter as experienced by Jewish women.

Now back in print and featuring a new preface by the author, Jewish Portraits, Indian Frames will be a vital resource for those interested in Jewish histories as well as women`s studies and will prove to be a fascinating narrative for a general readership as well.

Contributor Bio
Jael Silliman, born into the Baghdadi Jewish community of Calcutta, was educated in the United States. She has written extensively on gender and economic development, and on women`s movements in the developing world. Her recent publications include the novel The Teak Almirah and two collaborative works with photographer Mala Mukherjee, Where Gods Reside: Sacred Places of Kolkata and ADDA! The College Street Coffee House.
**Alice in Sussex – Mahler after Lewis Carroll & H. C. Artmann**

Nicolas Mahler, Alexander Booth

**Summary**

A twist on the classic tale of *Alice in Wonderland* told through Nicolas Mahler’s distinctive graphic novel style.

Alice is back in Wonderland. Here she meets the White Rabbit, who leads her down into his rabbit hole in search of an illustrated edition of H. C. Artmann’s *Frankenstein in Sussex*. Over the course of the novel, Alice repeatedly runs into the Rabbit, who quotes freely from other literary works by the likes of Herman Melville and E. M. Cioran.

Unlike in Lewis Carroll’s classic, Alice is not traveling the Wonderland we know. Rather, in Nicolas Mahler’s whimsical graphic novel retelling, she is in a house deep beneath the ground. On subsequent floors, she encounters the famous creations of Lewis Carroll: the Hookah-Smoking Caterpillar, the Cheshire Cat, the Mock Turtle, and many others. One after the other, these creatures address the terrors of childhood and youth. It is only when Alice reaches the ground floor of the house that we arrive at the inevitable climax: face to face with Frankenstein’s Monster.

**Contributor Bio**

Nicolas Mahler is a comic artist and illustrator based in Vienna, Italy. Alexander Booth is a writer and translator.
**Summary**

A twist on the Irish literary classic *Ulysses*, told through Nicolas Mahler’s distinctive graphic novel style.

Dublin, 16 June 1904: through a day in the life of the advertising agent Leopold Bloom and the sensations of the ordinary, James Joyce created a maximal book from a minimum of matter. *Ulysses*, the most important novel of modernity, is a defining book of the twentieth century. Joyce’s creation—also spectacularly innovative in form—inspired Nicolas Mahler to attempt a literary retelling that is not a mere illustration or adaption of the novel but an independent and equally as inventive work. Using comics, Mahler transforms the various literary techniques of the original. He assembles his images with humorous and philosophical verve, quoting and rambling along in the spirit of Joyce.

With this graphic interpretation of the modern classic, which also constitutes a homage to the golden era of the newspaper comic strip, *Ulysses* can be newly discovered in a delightfully unexpected form.

**Contributor Bio**

Nicolas Mahler is a comic artist and illustrator based in Vienna, Italy.

Alexander Booth is a writer and translator.
In Search of Lost Time – Mahler after Proust
Mahler after Proust
Nicolas Mahler, Alexander Booth

Summary
A twist on the French literary classic In Search of Lost Time, told through Nicolas Mahler’s distinctive graphic novel style.

Marcel Proust’s In Search of Lost Time is one of the most important works of French literature—if not the most important. Reading it can be life-changing. Nicolas Mahler’s comic is not a retelling of this classic, nor a shortened version of Proust’s monumental work. Rather, it is a surprisingly funny graphic novel, comically disrespectful of the celebrated work yet completely permeated by Proustian spirit. Complemented by his clear and sparse illustrations, Mahler’s minimal nature of text use is easy on the eye, even for those uninitiated into graphic novels. For long-time fans of graphic novels, it a perfect entry into a beloved literary classic.

A compact picture stream through time and space, Mahler’s In Search of Lost Time is a brilliantly complex house of mirrors replete with Proustian motives and perceptions.

Contributor Bio
Nicolas Mahler is a comic artist and illustrator based in Vienna, Italy. Alexander Booth is a writer and translator.
Blumenberg
Sibylle Lewitscharoff, Wieland Hoban

Summary
Now in paperback, from one of the most dazzling authors of contemporary German literature comes this delightful tale of a philosopher and his encounter with a supernatural lion.

One night, German philosopher Hans Blumenberg returns to his study to find a shocking sight—a lion lying on the floor as if it’s the most natural thing in the world. The lion stretches comfortably on the Turkmen rug, eyes resting on Blumenberg. The philosopher with some effort retains his composure, even when the next day during his lecture the lion makes another appearance, ambling slowly down the center aisle. Blumenberg glances around; the seats are full, but none of his students seem to see the lion. What is going on here?

Blumenberg is the captivating and witty fictional tale of this likable philosopher and the handful of students who come under the spell of the supernatural lion—including skinny Gerhard Optatus Baur, a promising young Blumenbergian, and the delicate, haughty Isa, who falls head over heels in love with the wrong man. Written by Sibylle Lewitscharoff, whom Die Welt called the “most dazzling stylist of contemporary German literature,” Blumenberg will delight English readers.

Contributor Bio
Sibylle Lewitscharoff is a writer who lives in Berlin. She is the author of Apostoloff, also published by Seagull Books. Wieland Hoban writes regularly for Muzik and Ästhetik and Fragmen, and the book series New Music & Aesthetics in the 21st Century. He has translated several works from German, including those by Theodor W. Adorno and Alexander Kluge.
The God Behind the Window
Michael Krüger, Karen Leeder

Summary
Now in paperback, a comic and moving collection of stories of grumpy old men who start to find unexpected connections with the world.

The thirteen stories of Michael Krüger’s The God behind the Window capture the poignancy and cynicism of late life through tales of misanthropic old men full of the mixture of wisdom and melancholy that so often accompanies old age. In Krüger’s stories, world-weary characters seek—and only temporarily find—solace in nature and culture, rendering their search for a better life simultaneously comedic and heart wrenching. From a solitary hiker in the Swiss Alps to the book’s eponymous shut-in, these aging malcontents are continually surprised by the unexpected interventions of a world that has come to seem predictable. Krüger captures this stage in life masterfully, contrasting the deeply personal emotions of affection, melancholy, and longing with an indifferent world. The resulting stories are lyrical, philosophical, and tender despite their cynicism.

Contributor Bio
Michael Krüger was the director of the Hanser Verlag from 1995 until his retirement in 2013. He has published many volumes of prose and poetry. Karen Leeder is a writer, critic and prize-winning translator of contemporary German literature including work by Durs Grünbein, Volker Braun, Michael Krüger, Evelyn Schlag and Raoul Schrott.
The Nameless Day
Friedrich Ani, Alexander Booth

Summary
Now in paperback, the thrilling, psychological tale of a twenty-year-old cold case and the detective committed to solving it.

After years on the job, police detective Jakob Franck has retired. Finally, the dead—with all their mysteries—will no longer have any claim on him.

Or so he thinks. On a cold autumn afternoon, a case he thought he’d long put behind him returns to his life—and turns it upside down. The Nameless Day tells the story of that twenty-year-old case, which began with Franck carrying the news of the suicide of a seventeen-year-old girl to her mother, and holding her for seven hours as, in her grief, she said not a single word. Now her father has appeared, swearing to Franck that his daughter was murdered. Can Franck follow the cold trail of evidence two decades later to see whether he’s telling the truth? Could he live with himself if he didn’t?

A psychological crime novel certain to thrill fans of Henning Mankell and Jo Nesbo, The Nameless Day is a masterpiece, a tightly plotted story of contemporary alienation, loss, and violence.

Contributor Bio
Friedrich Ani is an award-winning German writer of novels, poetry, young adult fiction, radio plays and screenplays. He lives in Munich.
Alexander Booth is a writer and translator.
A Slap in the Face
Abbas Khider, Simon Pare

Summary
Now in paperback, the touching, timely story of an Iraqi refugee in Germany.

In our era of mass migration, much of it driven by war and its aftermath, A Slap in the Face could not be more timely. It tells the story of Karim, an Iraqi refugee living in Germany whose right to asylum has been revoked in the wake of Saddam Hussein's defeat. But Hussein wasn’t the only reason Karim left, and as Abbas Khider unfolds his story, we learn both the secret struggles he faced in his homeland and the battles with prejudice, distrust, poverty, and bureaucracy he has to endure in his attempts to make a new life in Germany. As he erupts in frustration at his caseworker, and finally forces her to listen to his story, we get an account of a contemporary life upended by politics and violence, told with a warmth and humor that, while surprising us, does nothing to lessen the outrages Karim describes.

Contributor Bio
Abbas Khider was a political prisoner in Saddam Hussein's Iraq before fleeing to Germany. Seagull Books published his debut novel, The Village Indian, in 2013. Simon Pare is a translator from French and German who lives in Paris.
The Last Country
Svenja Leiber, Nika Knight

Summary
Winner of the 2015 Arno Reinfrank Literaturpreis

Now in paperback, the epic tale of a violinist who must navigate the fractious world of early twentieth-century Germany.

“Ruven Preuk stands apart from the village, on an August day in 1911, and listens.” Thus begins an epic bildungsroman about the life of Ruven Preuk, son of the wainwright, child of a sleepy village in Germany’s north, where life is both simple and harsh.

Ruven, though, is neither. He has the ability to see sounds, leading him to discover an uncanny gift for the violin. When he meets a talented teacher in the Jewish quarter, Ruven falls under the spell of a prodigious future. But as the twentieth century looms, Ruven’s pursuit of his craft takes a turn. In The Last Country, Svenja Leiber spins a tale that moves from the mansions of a disappearing aristocracy to a communist rebellion, from a joyous village wedding to a Nazi official’s threats, from the First World War to the Second. As the world Ruven knows disappears, the gifted musician must grapple with an important question: to what end has he devoted himself to his art?

Contributor Bio
Svenja Leiber is an award-winning German writer. She is the author of a collection of short stories, Hunting Hours, and the novel Schipino. She lives with her husband and two children in Berlin.
Nika Knight is a translator and writer living in southern Maine.
Blue Jewellery
Katharina Winkler, Laura Wagner

Summary
Now in paperback, Katharina Winkler’s heartbreaking saga of a tenacious woman trapped in an abusive marriage.

‘Blue jewellery’ is private property. Not to be seen. Not to be talked about. It is worn like a bracelet around the wrists, on ribs, legs, arms. Blue jewellery is another name for the marks left on women’s bodies, inflicted by the men around them.

This novel tells the story of Filiz and Yunus. When Filiz meets Yunus, he is young and beautiful, and Filiz is proud that he wants her. Against her father’s wishes, they marry when she is thirteen. Yunus is her entire universe, all encompassing, all powerful. Soon after the wedding, Filiz’s dream of living in the West with her husband, of escaping their small village in Anatolia for freedom and autonomy, comes crashing down around her. Yunus, only a few years older than his bride, turns their marriage into a prison of dependency and violence. Trapped in her mother-in-law’s house, Filiz is subjected to physical and mental abuse, forced to veil herself and treated as a house slave. When she becomes pregnant, Filiz seems to have reached her breaking point. But she endures. When Yunus moves his young family first to Istanbul and then to Austria, the life he had once promised her seems to be within reach. But there is no escaping the spiral of violence and love, which, to Filiz, have become inseparable.

Katharina Winkler’s powerful story of a marriage dominated by violence gives voice to a tenacious young woman whose will to survive is never broken.

Contributor Bio
Katharina Winkler lives and works in Berlin. Blue Jewellery is her debut novel. Laura Wagner is a freelance translator living in Berlin.
All the Land
Jo Lendle, Katy Derbyshire

Summary
Now in paperback, a biography of the German scientist who came up with the idea of continental drift, telling of how he ended up journeying to Greenland in the winter of 1930—and died there.

How, in 1930, did Alfred Wegener, the son of minister from Berlin, find himself in the most isolated spot on earth, attempting to survive an unthinkably cold winter in the middle of Greenland? In All the Land, Jo Lendle sets out to chronicle Wegener’s extraordinary journey from his childhood in Germany to the most unforgiving corner of the planet.

As Lendle shows, Wegener’s life was anything but ordinary. Surrounded by children at the orphanage his parents ran, Wegener was driven by his scientific spirit in search not only of answers to big questions, but of solitude. Though Wegener’s life ended in tragedy during his long winter in Greenland, he left us with a scientific legacy: the theory of continental drift, mocked by his peers and only recognized decades after his death. Lendle gives us the story of this great adventurer, of the experiences that shaped him, resulting in a tale that is both thrilling and tender.

Contributor Bio
Jo Lendle is a German author and head of Hanser Verlag, Munich.
Katy Derbyshire is a translator and coeditor of no man’s land, an online literary magazine of contemporary German writing in English.
The Hour Between Dog and Wolf
Silke Scheuermann, Lucy Renner Jones

Summary
Now in paperback, Silke Scheuermann's portrayal of intimacy and estrangement between sisters as they navigate rivalries, addiction, and shared love interests.

A young woman who has been living abroad returns to her hometown of Frankfurt am Main in Germany. Her sister Ines—a beautiful, impetuous painter—who still lives there, soon appears and promptly asks for financial help. But the returning sister knew this was coming—it is how their relationship has always worked. And this time, she’s determined that that will change.

But our plans don’t always hold up to the surprises presented by life—and when the sister finds herself about to drift into an affair with Ines’s lover, the two women grow unexpectedly closer. The Hour Between Dog and Wolf is a tale of disorientation in a modern, fundamentally rootless society that has become increasingly erratic and self-absorbed—it is a powerful exploration of the difficulties of intimacy and addiction.

Contributor Bio
Silke Scheuermann is a writer who lives in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Lucy Jones is a cofounder of Transfiction GbR and a translator of works from German.
**An Instinctive Feeling of Innocence**
Dana Grigorcea, Alta L. Price

**Summary**
*Now in paperback, a haunting story of trauma, memory, and healing in post-Cold War Romania.*

Victoria has just recently moved from Zurich back to her hometown of Bucharest when the bank where she works is robbed. Put on leave so that she can process the trauma of the robbery, Victoria strolls around town. Each street triggers sudden visions as memories from her childhood under the Ceausescu regime begin to mix with the radically changed city and the strange world in which she now finds herself. As the walls of reality begin to crumble, Victoria and her former self cross paths with the bank robber and a rich cast of characters, weaving a vivid portrait of Romania and one woman’s self-discovery.

In her stunning second novel, Swiss-Romanian writer Dana Grigorcea paints a series of extraordinarily colourful pictures. With humor and wit, she describes a world full of myriad surprises where new and old cultures weave together—a world bursting with character and spirit.

**Contributor Bio**
**Dana Grigorcea** is a Swiss-Romanian essayist, novelist, and children’s book author. Her debut novel, *Baba Rada*, won the Swiss Literary Pearl.

**Alta L. Price** runs a publishing consultancy specialized in literature and nonfiction texts on art, architecture, design, and culture. A recipient of the Gutekunst Prize and cocurator of this year’s Festival Neue Literatur in New York, she translates from Italian and German into English and is a member of Cedilla & Co.
Love Writ Large
Navid Kermani, Alexander Booth

Summary
Now in paperback, a story of teenage love in Cold War-era Germany.

For a fifteen-year-old, falling in love can eclipse everything else in the world, and make a few short weeks feel like a lifetime of experience. In Love Writ Large, Navid Kermani captures those intense feelings, from the emotional explosion of a first kiss to the staggering loss of a first breakup. As his teenage protagonist is wrapped up in these all-consuming feelings, however, Germany is in the crosshairs of the Cold War—and even the personal dramas of a small-town grammar school are shadowed by the threat of the nuclear arms race. Kermani’s novel manages to capture these social tensions without sacrificing any of the all-consuming passion of a first love and, in a unique touch, sets the boy’s struggles within the larger frame of the stories and lives of numerous Arabic and Persian mystics. His becomes a timeless a tale that reflects on the multiple ways love, loss, and risk weigh on our everyday lives.

Contributor Bio
Navid Kermani is an award-winning writer living in Cologne. Alexander Booth is a writer and translator.
Fury
Elfriede Jelinek, Gitta Honegger, Milind Brahme

Summary
A new play from Nobel Prize winner Elfriede Jelinek that deals with the 2015 terror attack on the satirical French magazine Charlie Hebdo’s offices in Paris.

In Greek mythology, it is Hera who blinds the hero Heracles, so that, in a fit of fury, he kills his own family. In the twenty-first century, the gods have another name. So did the three young men who stormed a magazine’s editorial office and a Jewish supermarket in Paris in January 2015 and murdered twelve people. The blind fury, however, remained and more virulent than ever, not least because the weapons were so much more effective.

In this raging text, arguably one of her darkest, Nobel Prize winner Elfriede Jelinek investigates topical political events in the context of enduring history and myths. Fury expresses itself not only multi-voiced and from the changing perspective of Islamist terrorists (and their special hatred of Jews), in the shape of furious German citizens, individual narcissistic humiliation, or brutal distribution battles around the globe. Rather, fury also appears as the motor that has driven people with a devastating force for centuries.

With her characteristic linguistic power, Jelinek articulates her own disconcertedness in the face of these crimes. In passing, she returns repeatedly to the contradiction between religious laws against representation and the deluge of images online, where movies of assassination, severed heads, and other atrocities are exhibited for millions to see. Fury is a compact grand epic that starts in primal times and attempts to describe the indescribable, relating the inexplicable in our times.

Contributor Bio
Elfriede Jelinek is an Austrian playwright and novelist who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2004. Her best-known novels are Lust and The Children of the Dead.
Gitta Honegger has translated a number of Jelinek’s novels into English and is the author of the cultural biography Thomas Bernhard: The Making of an Austrian.
Milind Brahme is an associate professor of German language and comparative literature at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras.
The Art of Diremption
On the Powerlessness of Art
Leonhard Emmerling, Parnal Chirmuley

Summary
An engaging exploration of the meaning and power of art that looks at popular theories through the ages.

One of the most astonishing aspects of the discourse on contemporary art is the firm and unwavering belief that art has the power to transform society for the better. There seems to be a consensus around the idea that art, especially visual art, is greatly suited to addressing all manner of social, political, economic, ecological, and other imbalances. Celebrated as a powerful remedy for social grievances, art finds its justification in the service it seems to provide to society.

But as art historian Leonhard Emmerling contends in this timely volume, this presumptuous heroism shows willful blindness towards art’s subjugation to contradictions inherent in social relations. He argues that the narrative of the power of art has its specific history. In trying to reconstruct this history in Art of Diremption, he discovers instead art’s fundamental powerlessness as the foundation for art’s political relevance. Art is weak, argues Emmerling. It, therefore, requires an ethics of weakness, which rejects the discourse of impact and power to enable a politics of art containing the permanence of reflection, the unreliability of thought, and the emergence of form as the event of the new. With a meticulously studied and well-argued case about the “powerlessness of art,” Art of Diremption will be an important contribution to the field of art, aesthetics, and philosophy.

Contributor Bio
Leonhard Emmerling is an art historian who has worked as a curator and writer in Germany, New Zealand, and India. He currently serves as the director of the Goethe-Institut Chicago.

Parnal Chirmuley is associate professor at the Centre of German Studies, School of Language Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi.
Loving at a Distance
Petra Hardt, Laura Wagner

Summary
A poignant memoir about cultural differences told by an international rights veteran in the book publishing industry.

Traveling from the Silicon Valley through the college towns of Berkeley and Stanford, Loving at a Distance is a touching memoir that describes a European bibliophile’s experiences in the high-tech sectors of California. Living on two different continents is always a big challenge for a family. In a pandemic, however, that challenge becomes almost insurmountable.

An aging German grandmother, Petra Hardt finds that her regular journeys across the Atlantic to visit her children and grandchildren in California aren’t really helping her understand the Californian way of life and work. With self-irony and laconism, she details the connections and confusions between generations, exploring how different lifestyles and attitudes have affected her relationships. Her relatable experience of trying to bond with loved ones across distance is one shared by millions of other families around the world.

The personal impressions and observations are complemented by flashbacks to the author’s career in the international book trade. Why were the business trips to Beijing, Beirut, and Kolkata so easy to manage, while living in California is so hard? Showing us the world through Hardt’s grandmotherly eyes, Loving at a Distance is a tender and lively memoir about different ways of living and working in the age of globalism.

Contributor Bio
Petra Hardt worked in the rights and foreign rights departments of various publishing houses for forty years. She lives in Berlin and Mannheim, and this is her debut book. Laura Wagner is a freelance translator living in Berlin.
Tramp
Or the Art of Living a Wild and Poetic Life
Tomas Espedal, James Anderson

Summary
A lyrical travelogue charting Tomas Espedal’s journeys to and ruminations around the world, from his native Norway to Istanbul and beyond.

"Why travel?" asks Tomas Espedal in Tramp, "Why not just stay at home, in your room, in your house, in the place you like better than any other, your own place. The familiar house, the requisite rooms in which we have gathered the things we need, a good bed, a desk, a whole pile of books. The windows giving on to the sea and the garden with its apple trees and holly hedge, a beautiful garden, growing wild."

The first step in any trip or journey is always a footstep—the brave or curious act of putting one foot in front of the other and stepping out of the house onto the sidewalk below. Here, Espedal contemplates what this ambulatory mode of travel has meant for great artists and thinkers, including Rousseau, Kant, Hazlitt, Thoreau, Rimbaud, Whitman, Giacometti, and Robert Louis Stevenson. In the process, he confronts his own inability to write from a fixed abode and his refusal to banish the temptation to become permanently itinerant.

Lyrical and rebellious, immediate and sensuous, Tramp conveys Espedal’s own need to explore on foot—in places as diverse as Wales and Turkey—and offers us the excitement and adventure of being a companion on his fascinating and intriguing travels.

Contributor Bio
Tomas Espedal is the author of several novels and prose collections, including Bergeners, Against Art, Against Nature, both published by Seagull Books.

James Anderson’s literary translations from the Norwegian include several books by Tomas Espedal and Thorvald Steen.
The Idea of World – Public Intellect and Use of Life
Public Intellect and Use of Life
Paolo Virno, Lorenzo Chiesa

Summary
A philosophical exploration of what capitalistic societies truly mean for the individual.

A short vade mecum for unrepentant materialism, The Idea of World collects three essays by Italian philosopher Paulo Virno that are intricately wrapped around one another. The first essay, “Mundanity,” tries to clarify what the term “world,” as referred to as the perceptual and historical context of our existence, means—both with and against Kant and Wittgenstein. How should we understand expressions such as “worldly people,” “the course of the world,” or “getting by in this world”? The second, “Virtuosity and Revolution,” is a minor political treatise. Virno puts forward a set of concepts capable of confronting the magnetic storm that has knocked out the compasses that every reflection on the public sphere has relied on since the seventeenth century. The third, “The Use of Life”, is the shorthand delineation of a research program on the notion of use. What exactly are we doing when we use a hammer, a time span, or an ironic sentence? And, above all, what does the use of the self—of one’s own life, which lies at the basis of all uses—amount to in human existence?

Presenting his ideas in three distinct vignettes, Virno examines how the philosophy of language, anthropology, and political theory are inextricably linked.

Contributor Bio
Paolo Virno teaches philosophy of language at the University of Rome. His most recent works available in English include Convention and Materialism, An Essay on Negation, and When the World Becomes Flesh.
Lorenzo Chiesa is lecturer in philosophy at Newcastle University and professor at the European Graduate School.
The Unknown Theatre of Jerzy Grotowski – Performances in the Theatre of 13 Rows, 1959–1964
Performances in the Theatre of 13 Rows, 1959–1964
Dariusz Kosinski, Wanda Swiatkowska, Marek Kazmierski

Summary

Examines the previously unresearched formative years of Polish director Jerzy Grotowski’s career.

Polish director Jerzy Grotowski (1933–1999) was an international leader in experimental theater who became famous in the late 1960s for his revolutionary approach to audience involvement. This volume is devoted to Grotowski’s early work—the performances he directed in the Theatre of 13 Rows (later Laboratory Theatre of 13 Rows) between 1959 and 1964 when the theater was working in the provincial town Opole in south-western Poland. Having decided to work in his own independent theater, Grotowski moved to Opole in September 1956 and developed his ideas with young, inexperienced actors, creating important performances that foreshadowed his renowned masterpieces of the late 1960s.

In The Unknown Theatre of Jerzy Grotowski, Dariusz Kosiński and Wanda Świątkowska reconstruct, analyze, and interpret each of the nine performances directed by Grotowski over this period: from Orpheus based on Jean Cocteau (1959) to Hamlet Study based on Stanisław Wyspiański (1964). Previously mentioned mainly in the context of the development of Grotowski’s method, these performances dealt with important social, political, and philosophical problems of postwar and post-Holocaust Poland. Grotowski also used these performances to experiment with the forces and problems that he later tried to be discreet about, such as sexuality.

Revealing unnoticed and forgotten aspects of Grotowski’s theater, this landmark book presents new materials and perspectives that give fresh life to the study of a genius of twentieth-century theater.

Contributor Bio

Marek Kazmierski is a writer, editor, and translator.
Dariusz Kosiński is professor at the Institute of Polish Language and Culture Abroad of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland.
Wanda Świątkowska is assistant professor of theatre and drama of the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland.
The Dust of the Caravan
A Memoir
Anis Kidwai, Ayesha Kidwai

Summary
First translation of this memoir of Anis Kidwai, detailing her political life as a Muslim woman dealing with the aftermath of Partition.

*Dust of the Caravan* is a selection of writings by Anis Kidwai sketching the personal and political journey of a Muslim woman through the first eight decades of the twentieth century. A rich tapestry of tales lies in Kidwai’s often humorous and always incisive telling of the travels that took her from an upbringing in rural Awadh into the maelstrom of Partition.

Simultaneously a social history of life in rural Awadh in the early twentieth century and the birth of the national movement in the region *Dust of the Caravan* is an account of the traditions of mutual respect and understanding between different faiths in a shared culture and the rupture of those very traditions during Partition. It is also the story of a woman’s journey from the home into the world and from “family values” towards autonomous beliefs, friendships, and activism. In addition to its value as a literary work, *Dust of the Caravan* is an important resource in the fields of history, sociology, and gender studies.

Contributor Bio
*Anis Kidwai* (1906-1982) was an Indian women’s rights activist, politician and writer. *Ayesha Kidwai* is an Indian theoretical linguist and professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. She translated her grandmother Anis Kidwai’s Urdu memoir, *Azadi Ki Chhaon Mein (In Freedom’s Shade)* into English.
The Inheritance of Words
Writings from Arunachal Pradesh
Mamang Dai

Summary
The first anthology of writings from a variety of debut and established writers in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, India.

A first of its kind, Inheritance of Words brings together the writings of women from Arunachal Pradesh in Northeast India. Home to many different tribes and scores of languages and dialects, and once known as a “frontier” state, Arunachal Pradesh began to see major changes after it opened up to tourism and after the Indian State introduced Hindi as its official language. In this volume, Mamang Dai, one of Arunachal’s best-known writers, brings together new and established voices on a wide variety of subjects: identity, home, belonging, language, Shamanism, folk culture, orality, and more. Many of these stories have been handed down orally through festivals, epic narratives, and the performance of rituals by Shamans and rhapsodists who are revered as guardians of collective and tribal memory. This book captures those vivid, enduring oral stories here in the words of young poets and writers, as well as artists and illustrators, as they trace their heritage, listen to stories, and render them in new forms of expression.

Contributor Bio
Mamang Dai is a poet and novelist. A former journalist, she has worked with World Wildlife Fund in the Eastern Himalaya Biodiversity Hotspots program. She lives in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.
Inherited Memories – The Third Generation Remembers
Partition in Bengal

Third Generation Perspectives on Partition in the East

Zubaan

Summary

A collection of moving firsthand accounts of the Partition of India and Pakistan in August 1947.

In 2015, the Goethe-Instituts in Kolkata (India) and Dhaka (Bangladesh) began a collaborative project entitled ‘Inherited Memories’. The project began with a key question that grew out of discussions on memory and history: was there such a thing as a ‘culture of remembrance’ in India, something akin to the Erinnerungskultur in Germany? The question was asked specifically in relation to the Partition of India in 1947: why was it that such a major historical event found little reflection in public memory? Soon, other questions came up: why was it, for example, that whatever memorializing existed was largely in the West, in Punjab, and the Bengal region, which had lived through two partitions and a war that could be likened to a third partition, was given such little attention? At the time these discussions began, many, perhaps most, of the survivors of the 1947 Partition were no longer alive and their memories therefore lost to us. It is often said that memory jumps a generation, so a decision was taken to talk across borders with the children and grandchildren of Partition refugees in the Bengal region, to look at how memory is passed down, what is retained or lost, and how it is owned and shared by subsequent generations.

This book, which comprises interviews from both Bangladesh and West Bengal, is the result of these discussions. Guided by a committed and engaged group of writers from both countries, the book explores, through the stories of ancestors the memories people carried with them, the things they never forgot, the yearnings that did not go away, the journeys that remained unfinished, and those that were accomplished. Through these, it examines how history simultaneously looks so similar and so different from either side.

Contributor Bio

Zubaan is an independent feminist publishing house based in New Delhi.
Intimate City
Manjima Bhattacharjya

Summary
A profile of the history of sex work and the sexual economy in Mumbai, India's cultural and financial capital.

In Intimate City, Manjima Bhattacharjya examines how globalization and technology have changed where and how sexual commerce is transacted. She maps offline and online geographies of sex work and unearths new perspectives: from changing red-light areas to the world of escort services; from the experiences of massage boys to men in search of casual encounters cruising the internet highways. Through these fascinating narratives, Bhattacharjya analyzes how the internet has reconfigured intimacies in the digital age. In doing so, she offers a new lens to look at long-held feminist understandings of sex work, choice, consent, and agency against the backdrop of the “maximum city” of Mumbai.

Contributor Bio
Manjima Bhattacharjya is a feminist researcher, writer, and activist based in Mumbai. She is the author of Mannequin: Working Women in India's Glamour Industry, also published by Zubaan Books.
Name Place Animal Thing
Daribha Lyndem

Summary
A debut novella that explores identity and childhood in a politically charged city.

In her debut novella, Daribha Lyndem gently lifts the curtain on the coming of age of a young Khasi woman and the politically charged city of Shillong in which she lives. Like the beloved school game from which it takes its name, the story meanders through ages, lives, and places. The interconnected stories build on each other to cover the breadth of childhood and move into the precarious awareness of adulthood. The book’s child narrator grows up navigating issues of race, social class, and gender in the city, using innocent eyes to see the world afresh.

A shining debut, Name Place Animal Thing is an elegant examination of the porous boundaries between the adult world and that of a child. It has been shortlisted for the JCB Prize for Literature 2021, one of India’s most valuable literature prizes.

Contributor Bio
Daribha Lyndem is a writer and civil servant from Shillong, India. She currently works with the Indian Revenue Service and is a Deputy Commissioner of Customs. She lives with two cats and a husband in Mumbai. Name Place Animal Thing is her first book.
The Second Half – Forty Women Reveal Life After Fifty

Forty Women Reveal Life After Fifty
Ellen Warner, Erica Jong

Summary
A frank, honest, and insightful look into the lives of women over fifty.

The Second Half explores, in photographic portraits and interviews, how the second half of life is experienced by women from many different cultures. From a French actress to a British novelist, from an Algerian nomad to a Saudi Arabian doctor, and an American politician, Ellen Warner traveled all over the world to interview women about their lives. She asked them what they learned in the first half that was helpful in the second, and what advice they would give to younger women. Their revealing and inspiring stories are enlightening for all readers, and are illustrated by Warner’s stunning portraits which tell their own story.

Contributor Bio
Ellen Warner began her career as a photojournalist in 1969. Her photographs have been published in numerous newspapers and magazines and exhibited extensively. Over the years, she has developed a specialty of author portraits and has worked for most publishing houses in New York and London. She has also written travel articles, which have been published in the New York Times and Travel and Leisure in the U.S.A., and in The Traveller in the U.K.
War and American Life – Reflections on Those Who Serve and Sacrifice
Reflections on Those Who Serve and Sacrifice
James Wright

Summary
An engaging collection of essays focusing on American veterans.

*War and American Life* is a book of essays and reflections by celebrated historian and former marine James Wright, who has been active as an advocate, teacher, and scholar. Featuring both previously published pieces and new essays, the book considers veterans in America and the ways in which our society needs better to understand who they are and what they have done on the nation’s behalf—and the responsibilities that follow this recognition.

Contributor Bio

**James E. Wright** is president emeritus of Dartmouth College. He is the author, most recently, of *Those Who Have Borne the Battle: A History of America’s Wars and Those Who Fought Them* and *Enduring Vietnam: An American Generation and Its War.*
The Simple Beauty of the Unexpected – A Natural Philosopher's Quest for Trout and the Meaning of Everything
A Natural Philosopher’s Quest for Trout and the Meaning of Everything
Marcelo Gleiser

Summary
A personal and engaging tribute to nature from a world-famous theoretical physicist.

Marcelo Gleiser has had a passion for science and fishing since he was a boy growing up on the beaches of Rio de Janeiro. As a world-famous theoretical physicist with hundreds of scientific articles and several books of popular science to his credit, he felt it was time to once again connect with nature in less theoretical ways. After seeing a fly-fishing class on the Dartmouth College green, he decided to learn to fly-fish, a hobby, he says, that teaches humility. In The Simple Beauty of the Unexpected, Gleiser travels the world to scientific conferences, fishing wherever he goes. At each stop, he ponders the myriad ways physics informs the act of fishing; how, in its turn, fishing serves as a lens into nature’s inner workings; and how science engages with questions of meaning and spirituality, inspiring a sense of mystery and awe of the not yet known. Personal and engaging, The Simple Beauty of the Unexpected is a scientist’s tribute to nature, an affirmation of humanity’s deep connection with and debt to Earth, and an exploration of the meaning of existence, from atom to trout to cosmos.

This softcover edition features a new essay by Gleiser on how we need a profound change of worldview if we are to have a vibrant future for our species in this fragile environment. He describes how this book was an incubator for his current thinking.

Contributor Bio
Marcelo Gleiser, winner of the Templeton Prize, is the Appleton Professor of Natural Philosophy and professor of physics and astronomy at Dartmouth College. He is a fellow of the American Physical Society and a recipient of the Presidential Faculty Fellows Award from the White House and National Science Foundation. He is the author of several books of popular science, including A Tear at the Edge of Creation, The Dancing Universe, and The Island of Knowledge. Gleiser is cofounder of and a regular contributor to the NPR science blog 13.7 Cosmos and Culture.
When Freedom Speaks – The Boundaries and the Boundlessness of Our First Amendment Right

The Boundaries and the Boundlessness of Our First Amendment Right

Lynn Greenky

Summary

This book makes first amendment issues immediate and contemporary.

*When Freedom Speaks* chronicles the stories behind our First Amendment right to speak our minds. Lynn Levine Greenky’s background as a lawyer, rhetorician, and teacher gives her a unique perspective on the protection we have from laws that abridge our right to the freedom of speech. Rhetoricians focus on language and how it influences perception and moves people to action. Powerfully employing that rhetorical approach, this book explores concepts related to free speech as moral narratives that proscribe the boundaries of our constitutionally protected right. Using the characters and drama embedded in legal cases that elucidate First Amendment principles, *When Freedom Speaks* makes the concepts easier to understand and clearly applicable to our lives. With a wide range of examples and accessible language, this book is the perfect overview of the First Amendment.

Contributor Bio

Lynn Levine Greenky began her professional career as lawyer. She is Associate Teaching Professor at Syracuse University in the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies. She teaches a beloved undergraduate course about the First Amendment.
Dirshuni – Contemporary Women's Midrash
Contemporary Women’s Midrash
Tamar Biala, Tamar Kadari

Summary
A unique compilation of contemporary women’s midrashim.

Dirshuni: Contemporary Women’s Midrash, is the first-ever English edition of a historic collection of midrashim composed by Israeli women, which has been long-anticipated by multiple American audiences, including synagogues, rabbinical seminaries, adult learning programs, Jewish educators, and scholars of gender and religion. Using the classical forms developed by the ancient rabbis, the contributors express their religious and moral thought and experience through innovative interpretations of scripture. The women writers, from all denominations and beyond, of all political stripes and ethnic backgrounds, contribute their Torah to fill the missing half of the sacred Jewish bookshelf. This book reflects dramatic changes in the agency of women in the world of religious writings. The volume features a comprehensive introduction to Midrash for the uninitiated reader by the distinguished scholar Tamar Kadari and extensive annotation and commentary by Tamar Biala.

Contributor Bio

Tamar Kadari received a B.A. in Hebrew Literature and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Midrash at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She teaches Midrash at Bar Ilan University and at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies.
Bringing Down the Temple House — Engendering Tractate Yoma

Engendering Tractate Yoma

Marjorie Lehman

Summary

A feminist project that privileges the Babylonian Talmudic tractate as culturally significant.

While the use of feminist analysis as a methodological lens is not new to the study of Talmudic literature or to the study of individual tractates, this book demonstrates that such an intervention with the Babylonian Talmud reveals new perspectives on the rabbis’ relationship with the temple and its priesthood. More specifically, through the relationships most commonly associated with home, such as those of husband-wife, father-son, mother-son, and brother-brother, the rabbis destabilize the temple bayit (or temple house). Moving beyond the view that the temple was replaced by the rabbinic home, and that rabbinic rites reappropriate temple practices, a feminist approach highlights the inextricable link between kinship, gender, and the body, calling attention to the ways the rabbis deconstruct the priesthood so as to reconstruct themselves.

Contributor Bio

Marjorie Lehman is professor of Talmud and rabbinics at the Jewish Theological Seminary. She is the author of The En Yaaqov: Jacob ibn Habib’s Search for Faith in the Talmudic Corpus, which was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award-Nahum Sarna Memorial Award in the scholarship category. Recently she coedited two books, both of which were finalists for the National Jewish Book Award: Mothers in the Jewish Cultural Imagination and Learning to Read Talmud.
Dynamic Repetition – History and Messianism in Modern Jewish Thought

History and Messianism in Modern Jewish Thought
Gilad Sharvit

Summary

A fine example of the best scholarship that lies at the intersection of philosophy, religion, and history.

*Dynamic Repetition* proposes a new understanding of modern Jewish theories of messianism across the disciplines of history, theology, and philosophy. The book explores how ideals of repetition, return, and the cyclical occasioned a new messianic impulse across an important swath of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century German Jewish thought. To grasp the complexities of Jewish messianism in modernity, the book focuses on diverse notions of “dynamic repetition” in the works of Franz Rosenzweig, Walter Benjamin, Franz Kafka, and Sigmund Freud, and their interrelations with basic trajectories of twentieth-century philosophy and critical thought.

Contributor Bio

Gilad Sharvit is assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Towson University. Sharvit is the author of *Therapeutics and Salvation: Freud and Schelling on Freedom* and coeditor and contributing author of *Freud and Monotheism: The Violent Origins of Religion and Canonization and Alterity: Heresy in Jewish History, Thought, and Literature.*
Inside Jewish Day Schools – Leadership, Learning, and Community

Summary

A perfect guide to those wishing to understand the contemporary Jewish day school.

This book takes readers inside Jewish day schools to observe what happens day to day, as well as what the schools mean to their students, families, and communities. Many different types of Jewish day schools exist, and the variations are not well understood, nor is much information available about how day schools function. Inside Jewish Day Schools proves a vital guide to understanding both these distinctions and the everyday operations of these contemporary schools.

Contributor Bio

Alex Pomson is principal and managing director of Rosov Consulting Israel. Pomson is internationally regarded for his research in areas that include the life course of Jewish families, teachers' lives and work, and Israel education. He is coauthor of Jewish Family: Identity and Self-Formation at Home as well as coeditor of Jewish Day Schools, Jewish Communities: A Reconsideration and the International Handbook of Jewish Education.

Jack Wertheimer is the Joseph and Martha Mendelson Professor of American Jewish History at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Wertheimer is the author or editor of more than a dozen books, including The New Jewish Leaders: Reshaping the American Jewish Landscape, also published by Brandeis University Press.
Making Shabbat – Celebrating and Learning at American Jewish Summer Camps

Celebrating and Learning at American Jewish Summer Camps
Joseph Reimer

Summary
An accessible and engaging treatment of the experience of Jewish summer camps.

This book tells the story of how Jewish camps have emerged as creators of positive spiritual experiences for Jewish youth in North America. When Jewish camps began at the dawn of the twentieth century, their leaders had little interest in creating Jewish spiritual experiences for their campers. Yet over the course of the past century, Jewish camps have gradually moved into providing primal Jewish experiences that diverse campers can enjoy, parents appreciate, and alumni fondly recall. Making Shabbat Real explores how Shabbat at camp became the focal point for these primal Jewish experiences, providing an interesting perspective on changing approaches to Jewish education and identity in North America.

Contributor Bio
Joseph Reimer is associate professor of Jewish education at Brandeis University. He is the author of Succeeding at Jewish Education and coauthor of Promoting Moral Growth: From Piaget to Kohlberg.
Kevin Beasley – A View of a Landscape

A View of a Landscape
Karsten Lund, Solveig Øvstebø

Summary
A monograph and double LP offering an expansive and collaborative look at the practice of artist Kevin Beasley.

The most ambitious publication devoted to American artist Kevin Beasley’s work to date, *A view of a landscape* consists of a monograph and a double LP record, designed and conceived by the artist as equal, integrated elements. *A view of a landscape* is a wide-ranging presentation of Beasley’s work in sculpture, sound, and performance. It illuminates how his practice is grounded in his family’s land in Virginia, a place that he considers here in connection to larger American histories. Along with texts by nine writers, this substantial book features an array of images that present Beasley’s work and related material from his research collection of images. The double LP gathers newly recorded tracks by musicians and artists from Beasley’s close creative circles, produced in partnership with London-based record label Hyperdub. Each musician’s tracks are uniquely their own, but they all sample recordings that Beasley made, some of them on his family land, reflecting an ongoing spirit of collaboration.

The book includes essays by Andy Battaglia, Kevin Beasley, Daphne A. Brooks, Adrienne Edwards, Leon Finley, Mark Godfrey, Thomas Lax, Ralph Lemon, Tionna Nekkia McClodden, and Fred Moten, and an introduction by Karsten Lund and Solveig Øvstebø.

Contributor Bio

**Karsten Lund** is curator at the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago.  
**Solveig Øvstebø** was executive director and chief curator of the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago from 2013-2020.
Jill Magid – Tender: Balance

Summary

Considers two parts of a project by artist Jill Magid that centers around flows of currency.

Conceived as a story in multiple chapters, this book focuses on two parts of a larger project by artist Jill Magid in which she explores the circulation of pennies against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through Tender, a public artwork in New York City produced by Creative Time, and Tender: Balance, an exhibition at the Renaissance Society in Chicago, Magid both observes intimate financial and social transactions and delves into economic systems that are harder to see, intervening in the flows of currency in subtle, poetic ways.

Along with visuals from these two parts of the project, the book offers insights into Magid’s extensive research process and three new essays that provide greater social and art historical context for her work. In their contribution, Claire Bishop and Nikki Columbus consider how Magid’s process makes wide-ranging connections to create a constellation of ideas. Jamilah King addresses the ongoing shift toward a cashless economy and who is left behind, and Aden Kumler explores histories of modifying currency. The book culminates in a conversation between the artist and curators Justine Ludwig and Karsten Lund, in which they reflect on the project’s conceptual touchstones and on events contemporary to the work.

Contributor Bio

Jill Magid is an American artist, writer, and filmmaker.

Karsten Lund is curator at the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago.
Matthew Metzger
Matthew Metzger, Karsten Lund

Summary
Catalog for an exhibition of Matthew Metzger’s paintings at the Renaissance Society.

Published on the occasion of Matthew Metzger’s exhibition Heirloom at the Renaissance Society, this is the first book dedicated to the artist’s paintings, which echo and explore various kinds of abstraction. Anchored by the new paintings Metzger made for this exhibition—a set of works conceived as an installation for the Renaissance Society’s space that also serve as the subject of an essay by curator Karsten Lund—the book also features four other series of paintings by the artist, each of which further charts his evolving aesthetic and conceptual strategies.

For this publication, Metzger has also invited six writers—including Kris Cohen, Fumi Okiji, Hamza Walker, Jan Verwoert, and Anna Zett—to reflect on how abstraction functions more broadly, whether as a psychological tendency, a social phenomenon, or a technological side effect, among many other possibilities.

Contributor Bio
Karsten Lund is curator at the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago.
Remaking the Exceptional
Tracing Torture, Justice, and Reparations
Amber Ginsburg, Aaron Hughes

Summary
Accompanying an exhibition curated by artists Ginsburg and Hughes, this book brings together artwork and writing by torture survivors, artists, and scholars.

Since 2009, Chicago-based artists Amber Ginsburg and Aaron Hughes have collaborated on the “Tea Project,” an ongoing series of tea ceremony performances and installations inspired by the elaborate etchings made on Styrofoam teacups by detainees at Guantanamo Bay. Produced to accompany the 2022 exhibition curated by Ginsburg and Hughes at DePaul Art Museum, Remaking the Exceptional: Tracing Torture, Justice, and Reparations brings together artworks by former and current detainees from Chicago and abroad, new works by contemporary artists and collectives, and texts by leading scholars working at the intersection of aesthetics and politics.

Contributor Bio
Amber Ginsburg is an artist and a lecturer at the University of Chicago in the Department of Visual Arts.
Aaron Hughes is an artist, curator, organizer, teacher, anti-war activist living in Chicago.
Stockyard Institute
25 Years of Art and Radical Pedagogy

Summary
Catalog accompanying retrospective exhibition of Chicago-based social practice artist Jim Duignan.

Stockyard Institute: 25 Years of Art and Radical Pedagogy presents the first comprehensive survey of the pioneering socially engaged practice of Chicago-based artist Jim Duignan and his ongoing Stockyard Institute project. Beginning in the Back of the Yards neighborhood in 1995, Duignan founded a shape-shifting arts education platform that calls for the active participation of local youth and community members to address the social and civic problems faced by Chicago’s most vulnerable and underserved populations.

Produced to accompany the retrospective exhibition of Stockyard Institute at DePaul Art Museum in 2021, this fully illustrated catalog provides important documentation and historical context for one of the most significant social practice projects in the world of contemporary art. With an introduction by curator Julie Rodrigues Widholm, this publication includes contributions by Jennifer Gray, Rachel L.S. Harper, Jorge Lucero, Allison Peters Quinn, David Maruzzella, and Nato Thompson.

Contributor Bio
Julie Rodrigues Widholm is the director of UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA). Prior to BAMPFA, Rodrigues Widholm was director and chief curator at DePaul Art Museum and a curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago.
Queer Nature – A Poetry Anthology
A Poetry Anthology
Michael Walsh

Summary
An anthology of queer nature poetry spanning three centuries.

This anthology amplifies and centers LGBTQIA+ voices and perspectives in a collection of contemporary nature poetry. Showcasing over two hundred queer writers from the nineteenth to the twenty-first century, Queer Nature offers a new context for and expands upon the canon of nature poetry while also offering new lenses through which to view queerness and the natural world.

In the introduction, editor Michael Walsh writes that the anthology is “concerned with poems that speak to and about nature as the term is applied in everyday language to queer and trans bodies and identities . . . Queer Nature remains interested in elements, flora, fauna, habitats, homes, and natural forces—literary aspects of the work that allow queer and trans people to speak within their specific cultural and literary histories of the abnormal, the animal, the elemental, and the unnatural.” The anthology features poets including Elizabeth Bishop, Richard Blanco, Kay Ryan, Jericho Brown, Allen Ginsberg, Natalie Diaz, and June Jordan, as well as emerging voices such as Jari Bradley, Alicia Mountain, Eric Tran, and Jim Whiteside.

Contributor Bio
Michael Walsh is the author of poetry books including The Dirt Riddles and Creep Love, as well as two chapbooks: Adam Walking the Garden and Sleepwalks. His poems and stories have appeared in journals such as The Journal, Chattahoochee Review, Alaska Quarterly Review, Cimarron Review, Crab Orchard Review, Great River Review, North Dakota Quarterly, and Prairie Schooner. He lives in Minneapolis and works as a curriculum administrator at the University of Minnesota.
Myth of Pterygium
Diego Gerard Morrison

Summary
The story of a failed poet struggling with vision loss, personal crises, and what it means to be an arms dealer in a quasi-dystopian Mexico City.

This debut novel is set in a vaguely dystopian, yet also realistic, Mexico City—endless traffic jams, relentless clouds of pollution, economic hardships, and the ever-present threat of drug cartels. The unnamed narrator of the novel, at times referred to as Arthur—in part because of the growing similarity of his life with Arthur Rimbaud’s—struggles with the dissonance of leading an artistic life while providing for his family. A failed, penniless poet with a child on the way, he is forced to take a job in his family’s weapons dealing enterprise, which he soon discovers is connected to the corrupt Mexican armed forces and drug cartels, who are responsible for the increasing death toll in the country. All the while, the narrator struggles with a growing condition in his right eye, a pterygium, that is slowly taking over his vision, blurring the events of his life, including his wife’s complicated pregnancy, extortions by the drug cartels, and his own relationship to his writing. As the narrator gradually finds his life spiraling out of control, the novel moves quickly to a startling conclusion.

Myth of Pterygium is the winner of the 2021 Autumn House Rising Writer Prize in Fiction, selected by Maryse Meijer.

Contributor Bio
Diego Gerard Morrison is a writer, editor, and translator. He is the cofounder and fiction editor of diSONARE, an editorial project based in Mexico City. His fiction, nonfiction, and other writings appear or are forthcoming in the Brooklyn Rail, River Rail, Terremoto, Saint Ann’s Review, Roanoke Review, The Acentos Review, Boiler House Press, Precog Magazine, and SHIFTER, among others. He lives and works in Mexico City.
Out of Order
Alexis Sears

Summary
A debut collection featuring formally diverse poems that address topics from misogyny and mental health to race and identity.

Alexis Sears’s debut collection, Out of Order, is a collage of unapologetic intimacy, risk-taking vulnerability, and unwavering candor. A biracial millennial woman, Sears navigates the challenges of growing out of girlhood and into womanhood with its potential dangers, interrogating the male gaze, beauty standards, and confidence and identity. Pop culture references run through the collection, with rock icons David Bowie and Prince and poets like Kenneth Koch offering windows into desire and adaptation. In these poems, Sears works through heavy topics, such as loneliness, mental illness, chronic pain, the legacies of race and racism, and the aftermath of a father’s suicide. As she writes, “I’m learning something every ravishing day / and none of it is easy.”

This young poet demonstrates an uncommon mastery of craft, writing in forms including the sonnet redoublé, sestina, canzone, and villanelle. With all her linguistic skills, Sears’s work remains approachable, offering readers a striking blend of honesty, humor, anguish, joy, and surprise. Drawing influence from contemporary poets like Mark Jarman, Erica Dawson, and Tiana Clark, Sears cuts a path of her own.

Out of Order was the 2021 winner of the Donald Justice Poetry Prize.

Contributor Bio
Alexis Sears lives in Northern California, where she teaches sixth-grade English. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in The Cortland Review, Hopkins Review, Cimarron Review, Birmingham Poetry Review, and elsewhere.
The Gardens of Our Childhoods
John Belk

Summary

Poems considering self, masculinity, and culture through the spectacle of professional wrestling.

In this stunning debut, John Belk looks at the world of professional wrestling to excavate the real within the artificial and explore the projections we create, run from, and delight in. In The Gardens of Our Childhoods, the distance between spectacle and reality blurs.

Belk uses the spectacle of wrestling to stare deeply into American culture and masculinity, parsing the intersecting threads of patriarchy and gender, and unpacking identity formation and performance. As Belk pries into toxic masculinities, he leaves space also for tenderness, queerness, and resistance to normative structures, opening the potential for love and admiration. Populated by classic and contemporary wrestlers like André the Giant, Hulk Hogan, “Stone Cold” Steve Austin, Ricky Steamboat, Bruno Sammartino, Marcus “Buff” Bagwell, and more, this book is ultimately about the constant deconstruction and reconstruction of our identities that smudge fiction and reality. Like wrestlers in their operatic and winding storylines, we learn how to project and inhabit identities while growing into and fighting against the scripts we write for ourselves and those that are imposed on us.

The Gardens of Our Childhoods is the winner of Autumn House Press’s Rising Writer Prize in Poetry.

Contributor Bio

Dear Queer Self – An Experiment in Memoir
An Experiment in Memoir
Jonathan Alexander

Summary
An unvarnished accounting of one man’s struggle toward sexual and emotional maturity.

In this unconventional memoir, Jonathan Alexander addresses wry and affecting missives to a conflicted younger self. Focusing on three years—1989, 1993, and 1996—Dear Queer Self follows the author through the homophobic heights of the AIDS epidemic, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the election of Bill Clinton, and the steady advancements in gay rights that followed. With humor and wit afforded by hindsight, Alexander relives his closeted college years, his experiments with his sexuality in graduate school, his first marriage to a woman, and his budding career as a college professor.

As he moves from tortured self-denial to hard-won self-acceptance, the author confronts the deeply uncomfortable ways he is implicated in his own story. More than just a coming-out narrative, Dear Queer Self is both an intimate psychological exploration and a cultural examination—a meshing of inner and outer realities and a personal reckoning with how we sometimes torture the truth to make a life. It is also a love letter, an homage to a decade of rapid change, and a playlist of the sounds, sights, and feelings of a difficult, but ultimately transformative, time.

Contributor Bio
Jonathan Alexander is a writer and podcaster living in Southern California. His previous creative nonfiction includes Creep: A Life, a Theory, an Apology; Bullied: The Story of an Abuse; and Stroke Book: The Diary of a Blindspot. He is Chancellor’s Professor of English at the University of California, Irvine.
Headless John the Baptist Hitchhiking – Poems

Poems

C. T. Salazar

Summary

The coming-of-age chronicle of a queer Latinx Southerner.

In C. T. Salazar’s striking debut poetry collection, the speaker is situated in the tradition of Southern literature but reimagines its terrain with an eye on the South’s historic and ongoing violence. His restless relationship with religion (“a child told me there was a god / and because he was smiling, I believed him”) eventually includes a reclamation of the language of belief in the name of desire. “I felt myself become gospel in your hands,” the speaker tells his beloved. And, as the title poem asserts, a headless body “leaves more room for salvation.”

Though Salazar’s South is not a tender place, the book is a petition for tenderness, revealing in both place and people the possibilities for mercy, vulnerability, and wonder. The lyric I, as it creates an archive of experience, is not distanced from the poems’ subjects or settings, but deeply enmeshed in a tangled world. In poems with lush diction, ranging from a sonnet crown to those that explore the full field of the page, Headless John the Baptist Hitchhiking seeks—and finds—where the divine resides: “Praise our hollow-bell bodies still ringing.”

Contributor Bio

C. T. Salazar is a Latinx poet and librarian from Mississippi. He is the 2020 recipient of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award in poetry. He is the author of three chapbooks, and his poems have been published in the Rumpus, West Branch, Cincinnati Review, Beloit Poetry Journal, 32 Poems, Denver Quarterly Review, and elsewhere.
Out Beyond the Land
Kimberly Burwick

Summary
Poems on knowledge and nature.

*Out Beyond the Land* refracts the subtle moments in nature where what is seen and unseen twists and loops back, gently nudging the speaker to question how knowledge is formed and memorialized. Using the Latin’s “A priori” and “A posteriori” as a starting point, these lyrics work to form a kind of double helix in which the strands of empirical and intuitive knowledge twist and become one. In the silence that follows, the speaker comes to terms with both her attachment to nature’s permanence and nature’s solid independence from our attachment.

Contributor Bio
Kimberly Burwick is the author of six books of poetry. She teaches at Colby-Sawyer College.
Anthropocene Lullaby
K. A. Hays

Summary
Lyric and prose poems on the anthropocene.

The poems of Anthropocene Lullaby move from the micro to the macro, from dragonflies to galaxies, from the intersecting forces of climate change, capitalism, and digital technologies to intersecting anxieties of selfhood and motherhood. These lyric and prose poems track change—underway and inevitable, personal and impersonal, generative and apocalyptic.

Contributor Bio
K. A. Hays is the author of three Windthrow, Early Creatures, Native Gods, and Dear Apocalypse. She teaches creative writing at Bucknell University.
Bassinet
Dan Rosenberg

Summary
Poems on the roles of husband and father.

Dan Rosenberg’s third collection of poetry moves from loss into parenthood, exploring the roles of husband and father: their limits, their possibilities, and how they intersect with the wider world. Grounded in the familial, these poems wrestle with the political and the ecological, with heritage and hope, reimagining the breadth of home and what it means for one man to raise another to love it.

Contributor Bio
Dan Rosenberg is associate professor of English at Wells College in Aurora, New York. He is the author of cadabra and The Crushing Organ, which won the American Poetry Journal Book Prize.
What Passes Here for Mountains
Matt Morton

Summary
Poems on the everyday confusions of life.

Matt Morton’s *What Passes Here for Mountains* presents a mind caught in the grips of spiritual crisis. These poems take the reader on a journey across locales ranging from the West Texas desert to the bustling streets of Rome, from the social realm of festivity and ritual to the privacy of the imagination. Along the way, the search for meaning and stability within a world in constant flux is enlivened by a surrealist vitality. Cézanne and Shakespeare’s Caliban commingle with indie rock musicians and Humpty Dumpty. A mystical encounter with an Edward Hopper painting meets the mundanity of waking again to one’s morning routine. Poems of wry self-deprecation are juxtaposed with quiet meditations on memory, grief, and the relationship between the self and the cosmos.

Contributor Bio
Matt Morton teaches literature and creative writing at the University of North Texas. He is the author of *Improvisation Without Accompaniment*. 

This Long Winter
Joyce Sutphen

Summary
A luminous collection of modern metaphysical poems.

This Long Winter contains poems that are meditations on life in the rural world: reflections on hard work, aging, and the ravages of time—erasures that Sutphen attempts to ameliorate with her careful attention to language. These poems move us from delight in precise description to wisdom and solace in the things of this world. Noticing its details, the snowflakes, clementines, the lilies, the cardinal’s call, is the key for this momentary stay against time that comes at us in a rush. The many mirror images in these poems point to the complexity and hard, loving work of really living in the world. And now, in the deep mid-winter, deep in the enforced slowdown of this pandemic, we need these poems to help us know what to do with the past and how to live and how to love.

Contributor Bio
Joyce Sutphen is the author of nine books of poetry, including Straight Out of View, Naming the Stars, and Carrying Water to the Field. She is professor emerita at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. She served as Poet Laureate of Minnesota from 2011-21.
Internal West *(New edition)*
Priscilla Becker

Summary
Poems that offer a science of the human.

The poems in Internal West practice a careful empiricism, offering a science of the human, a way to understand the world through watching and listening. Becker’s poems are as much in the Eastern European tradition of Daniel Simko as the American tradition of George Oppen. As the poet herself has stated, her main themes are the complete truth of what her life has been; of feeling alone even in supposed relationships.

Contributor Bio
Priscilla Becker lives in western Massachusetts. She is the author of *Stories That Listen.*
**Fanatic Heart** *(New edition)*
Deborah Pope

**Summary**
*Poems that give voice to a life deeply felt and fully realized.*

Deborah Pope’s poems give voice to a life deeply felt and fully realized, whose very personal visions yield universal claims. At the heart of this poetry’s fanaticism is the search for the ground of intimacy and the configurations of identity. It is a measure of Pope’s skill that each recognition seems powerfully right, not sought but given.

**Contributor Bio**
*Deborah Pope* is the author of three poetry collections.
The House with Round Windows – A Memoir
A Memoir
Richard Snodgrass

Summary
A personal, poetic counterpoint to the work of W.D. Snodgrass.

The poems of W. D. Snodgrass, based on events from his troubled family life—particularly the death of a beloved sister—directly influenced Robert Lowell, Anne Sexton, Sylvia Plath, and changed mid-twentieth century American poetry. Now his younger brother, Richard Snodgrass, who experienced those family events as well, masterfully weaves a counterpoint of personal stories, family history, and his own photographs into his work that reminds the reader that there are many sides to any story, that every unhappy family is unhappy in its way, and—perhaps most terrible of all—that everyone has their reasons.

Contributor Bio
A Half–Life
David S. Cho

Summary
A poetry collection centered on the Korean American experience.

The term "half-life" is used to describe radioactive decay, pharmaceutical drugs, rocks, the atoms of our human bodies, and even technological products. Using this idea as a starting point, A Half-Life provides a rare glimpse into the Korean American experience. The poems utilize the literal metaphor of the highway as the intersecting point of America, Asia, and the globe, to reflect on the emotional and physical journeys many Asian Americans take. From Chicago to Seattle, from the biographical to the fictional, from current times to the Korean and Vietnam wars, A Half-Life covers the joy and pain, the probable and improbable, the individual and communal—the cultural histories we all share.

Contributor Bio
David S. Cho is the proud child of Korean immigrants. He is director of the Office of Multicultural Development at Wheaton College. He is the author of a chapbook, Song of Our Songs, a book of poems, Night Sessions, and a book on twentieth-century Korean American novels, Lost in Transnation.
Tanto Tanto
Marina Carreira

Summary
A critical look at female queerness through the lens of first-generation culture.

In Tanto Tanto, a queer daughter of immigrants highlights the struggles she faces in romantic relationships amidst a culture of oppressive, culturally sanctioned heteronormativity. Exploring the consequences of queer love in both contemporary American and Luso-American societies, Tanto Tanto unsettles ideas about the privileged queer body, romantic love, queer motherhood, femininity, gender identity, sex, and more. This collection makes visible and troubling what is often overlooked, misunderstood, and romanticized in “American” homosexuality.

Contributor Bio
Marina Carreira (she/her/hers) is a queer Luso-American writer and multimedia artist from Newark, New Jersey. She is the author of Save the Bathwater and I Sing to That Bird Knowing It Won't Sing Back.
**Mausoleum of Flowers**
Daniel Summerhill

**Summary**

A poetry collection that celebrates Black culture, creativity, and memory.

From Kendrick to Kanye, to a Sunday in Oakland with Frank Ocean’s falsetto in the foreground, *Mausoleum of Flowers* is still life set against the backdrop of demise. Daniel Summerhill’s sophomore collection grabs fate by the throat and confronts it. What does it mean to continue living when your friends are dying beside you? This collection melds an exploration of spirituality and rebellion with Black tradition. Summerhill’s poems invite the reader near in order to self-excavate and explore tones of loss, love, and light.

**Contributor Bio**

Daniel B. Summerhill is a poet, performance artist, and scholar from Oakland, California. His collection *Divine, Divine, Divine* was a semifinalist for the Charles B. Wheeler Poetry Prize and for the Saturnalia Books Poetry Prize. He is assistant professor of poetry, social action, and composition studies at California State University, Monterey Bay.
In the River of Songs
Susan Jackson

Summary
A poetic meditation on life, loss, and legacy.

“So what lasts?” asks the speaker in the poem “El Anatsui.” This is the central question of Susan Jackson’s new collection In the River of Songs. Jackson is a poet dedicated to exploring the mysteries of what it means to be fully human in a world where love, loss, pain, and joy are irrevocably nested together. These poems seem to answer that whatever does last is not easily defined; maybe only the intangible qualities of heart, perseverance, generosity of spirit, and moments when the poet is suddenly anchored in appreciation for “the ever-flowing fullness of the world.” Readers will be touched by the intimate beauty of the poems in this new volume.

Contributor Bio
Susan Jackson is the author of Through a Gate of Trees and the chapbook All the Light in Between. Her writing has been published in the Tiferet Journal, Lips, the Paterson Literary Review, and Nimrod International Journal. Jackson currently lives in Teton County, Wyoming.
Boy Meets Girl
Christie Hodgen

Summary
Told in two alternating timelines, this novel follows a friendship over twenty-five years.

Boy Meets Girl is the story of a twenty-five-year friendship between Sammy Browne (young, idealistic, and broke) and Ben Eisenberg (older, jaded, and almost unimaginably rich)—two characters drawn together, and ultimately torn apart, by their differences. This novel tells the story of their relationship over the decades—from youthful flirtation to unrequited love, to long-term friendship that flourishes in middle age, to estrangement and then reunion. The novel unfolds in alternating chapters, toggling back and forth between Ben and Sammy as young people and in middle age, showing everything the characters hoped to become and how things turned out for them. Boy Meets Girl unfolds against the political and social backdrop of the last three decades, with Bill Clinton’s election, the events of September 11, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and even the Trump era providing context and contrast for the personal stories of the main characters.

Contributor Bio
Christie Hodgen is the author of three books of fiction: Elegies for the Brokenhearted, A Jeweler’s Eye for Flaw, and Hello, I Must Be Going. She is professor of English at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the editor of New Letters magazine.
**Summary**

A bilingual collection of poems that offers a surreal perspective of urban experience.

This bilingual edition of Nicole Brossard’s lyrical poetry is a sequence of lush, taut cityscapes. Known for her elliptical and materially grounded poetics, Brossard creates an intimate series of poems drawn loosely from urban experience. The poems comprise an evocative distillation of postmodern urban life with a sharp sense of cultural and gendered histories of violence and beauty and struggles for survival and intimacy. The poems capture the emotional and ecological surroundings of each city and its people. The cities in Brossard’s poems feel surreal and in them dwell survivors of “misfortunes,” living in urban landscapes with their “gleaming debris” and “bridges, ghats, / rivers in a time of peace and torture.” These poems gesture toward a transmuted social context and toward a quest “to meet the horizon the day after the horizon.”

**Contributor Bio**

**Nicole Brossard** has published over thirty books, including *Ardeur, Lointaines, Piano blanc, Lumière, and fragment d’envers*. In 2019, she was awarded the Lifetime Recognition Award from The Griffin Trust for Excellence in Poetry.

**Sylvain Gallais** is emeritus professor of economics at Université François Rabelais (Tours, France) and of French in the School of International Letters and Culture at Arizona State University. He is coauthor of *France Encounters Globalization*.

**Cynthia Hogue** is a translator, poet, and the inaugural Marshall Chair in Poetry Emerita Professor of English at Arizona State University. She is the author of several books, most recently *In June the Labyrinth*.
Impastoral
Brandan Griffin

Summary
Poems that blur the boundaries of language and species, inviting us to imagine a new world.

The expansive reworking of language in Impastoral flies through the possible voices of outsides and insides—slug, probe, horse carriage, sewer, potted plant, lab rat, vampire, bot fly, giant cow. Language, in Brandan Griffin’s poetry, is neither human nor nonhuman, and it undoes that very idea of these distinctions, so beings—slugprobe, pottedhorsesewer, telepathybarcode, mammaltexts—morph and change in between boundaries.

Each of these poems is an organism, a collection of living connections, looped interiorities strung together in worlds tunneling through worlds. The poems’ composition becomes a decomposition of budding, breeding, and fluctuating. Reading this collection is an experience of becoming deformed and merged into the experiences of other beings; you are sea vent, microprocessor, cell gel, bug, a greenly translucent leaf typed half a sound at a time. Griffin invites us to imagine all possible beings and to hatch into a fresh world.

Impastoral won the Omnidawn Open Book contest, selected by Brian Teare.

Contributor Bio
Brandan Griffin was born in Massachusetts and now lives in Sunnyside, New York. He is the author of the chapbook Four Concretures, and his poems have been published in Tagvverk, Chicago Review, and Word for/Word. Impastoral is his first book.
The Place One Is
Martha Ronk

Summary
A collection from celebrated poet Martha Ronk considering the relationship between person, body, and place.

The Place One Is explores the intersection of person and place, the ways in which changes in the tangible world alter one’s vision, bodily posture, vocabulary, and concern for—to take one example—the dwindling water supply in California. The body’s position, its geometry, and the topography of the surrounding land become less and less recognizable as body and world blend together. Gravel giving way underfoot mirrors the way that words dissolve into mumbles, and the skeleton of a rusty car on the sand appears like one’s own skeleton. Ronk shows that disintegration here is disintegration there. These poems also wonder at interdependence, considering how lines intersect and continue to connect us to the sea—and to islands, lagoons, greenery, sky, and space.

In the first part of the collection, the poems focus on a rural landscape, and in the second part, they consider the overly bright urban world of Los Angeles.

Contributor Bio
Martha Ronk is the author of twelve books of poetry and one book of short stories, Glass Grapes. Her poetry books include Silences, Ocular Proof, Transfer of Qualities (longlisted for the National Book Award), Vertigo, Partially Kept, and in a landscape of having to repeat. Her work has been included in the anthologies Lyric Postmodernisms, American Hybrid, Not for Mothers Only, and most recently in North American Women Poets in the 21st Century. She is the emeritus Irma and Jay Price Professor of English at Occidental College in Los Angeles.
Naming the Wind
Steven Rood

Summary
Poems that navigate the complexities of human relationships, personal ethics, and religious tradition.

Wind moves through this collection, opening the poems to the dying beauty of the natural world, to the weathers inside the psyche and without, and to the connections between a family and between the speaker his mentor, the great poet Jack Gilbert. The collection navigates the intimacies of human relationships with others, the challenges of working as a lawyer trying to maintain integrity as others fall prey to corporate greed, and the complexity of holding a Jewish identity while being awake to tradition’s hold on the mind and its cost. Steven Rood offers a powerful account of how to be a human in dynamic relationships while also holding respect for the non-human beings that comprise most of the life on our planet.

Rood employs structures and forms that directly relate to the content of the poems themselves. Spontaneous breaks and starts reflect the writer’s turns of mind, offering readers insight into the meaning and measure of the work.

Contributor Bio
Steven Rood was born in Los Angeles and is a practicing trial lawyer in Berkeley, CA. His manuscript was a 2019 National Poetry Series Finalist, and his poems appear in Periodicities, Sporklet, Quarterly West, Marin Poetry Center Anthology, Fugue, Lyric, Hayden’s Ferry Review, Tar River Poetry, New Letters, Marlboro Review, Atlanta Review, Southern Poetry Review, Notre Dame Review, and elsewhere.
Anon
Steven Seidenberg

Summary
Lyrical, aphoristic poems that move between forms and consider tropes of narrative.

The narrator of Anon opens the sluice gates of embittered confession and philosophical reproach to release a flood of extravagant lyricism. These poems at first submerge readers in the ecstatic rhythms of its music, then they turn to address the tropes of narrative, inviting readers to join in pursuit of major themes of the human condition.

Steven Seidenberg employs a characteristically aphoristic style to manage multiple lines of inquiry at once. The resultant fragments navigate between testament and treatise, storyline and system, and in a manner that echoes the speculative vehemence of Samuel Beckett, Clarice Lispector, and Maurice Blanchot.

Contributor Bio
Steven Seidenberg is a writer and artist based in San Francisco. He is the author of plain sight, Situ, Null Set, Itch, numerous chapbooks of poetry and aphorism, and of Pipevalve: Berlin, a collection of his photographs.
Both, Apollo
Mary Wilson

Summary
A poetry collection that employs intuition, humor, and celebration while seeking to break out of restrictive social structures.

Mary Wilson’s Both, Apollo speaks from inside the bodies and binaries that so often act as constraints. It sometimes tries to negotiate its way out. It laments, celebrates, reasons, jokes, and occasionally begs. It runs into a wall and hugs it, offers it pizza, and speeds through grammars and cities until dizziness catapults it from the grid. It tries to queer the echoes of its language in the hope that a rhyme might break the logic of “either/or” and give rise to “both/and.”

Both, Apollo is a love poem to whatever has the grace to appear, quietly finding hope. Moments of humor and tenderness accompany the speaker with each act of crossing and circling back. The poems in Both, Apollo are constantly in flux, and Wilson’s lyricism acts as a teaching tool for using both the real and the imagination to guide us in moment-by-moment navigation of our world.

Both, Apollo won the Omnidawn Chapbook contest, selected by Victoria Chang.

Contributor Bio
Mary G. Wilson is currently completing a PhD in English at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of the chapbook Not Yet. Her poetry has appeared in The Scores, Coconut, Anomalous, Typo, Paperbag, Elderly, and elsewhere.
Mary in the Qur’an – Friend of God, Virgin, Mother
Friend of God, Virgin, Mother
Muna Tatari, Klaus Von Stosch, Peter Lewis

Summary
A sensitive consideration of Mary, mother of Jesus, in the Qur’an.

An entire chapter (surah) is dedicated to her, and she is the only woman mentioned by name in the Qur’an—indeed, her name appears more frequently than that of either Muhammad or Jesus. From the earliest times to the present day, Mary, the mother of Jesus, continues to be held in high regard by Christians and Muslims alike, yet she has also been the cause of much tension between these two religions.

In this groundbreaking study, Muna Tatari and Klaus von Stosch painstakingly reconstruct the picture of Mary that is presented in the Qur’an and show how veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Roman Catholic Church intersects and interacts with the testimony of the Qur’an. This sensitive and scholarly treatise offers a significant contribution to contemporary interfaith dialogue.

Contributor Bio
Muna Tatari is professor of Islamic systematic theology at the University of Paderborn and currently member of the German ethics council.
Klaus von Stosch is Schlegel-Professor for Systematic Theology at Bonn university and head of the International Centre for Comparative Theology and Social Issues.
Peter Lewis is a freelance translator and author. His recent translations include Asfa-Wossen Asserate's King of Kings; Johannes Fried's Charlemagne, Dierk Walter's Colonial Violence; and Gunnar Decker’s Hesse.
Revealing the Unseen – New Perspectives on Qajar Art

**New Perspectives on Qajar Art**
Melanie Gibson, Gwenaëlle Fellinger, Ali Boozari, Filiz Çakir Phillip, Layla S. Diba

**Summary**

**Collected articles on Iranian art from the Qajar dynasty.**

The thirteen articles in this volume were originally given as presentations at the symposium of the same name organized in June 2018 by the Musée du Louvre and the Musée du Louvre-Lens in conjunction with the exhibition *The Empire of Roses: Masterpieces of 19th Century Persian Art*. The exhibition explored the art of Iran in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, while the nation was under the rule of the Qajar dynasty. The symposium set out to present research on previously unknown and unpublished objects from this rich period of art history.

This volume, published with the Louvre Museum in France, is divided into four sections. The first, “Transitions and Transmissions,” is dedicated to the arts of painting, illumination, and lithography. The focus of the second section, entitled “The Image Revealed,” also considers works on paper, looking at new themes and techniques. “The Material World” examines the use of materials such as textiles, carpets, and armor. The articles in the final section discuss the history of two groups of artifacts acquired by their respective museums.

**Contributor Bio**

**Melanie Gibson** is series editor of the Gingko Art Series and was formerly head of art history at New College of the Humanities, London.

**Charlotte Maury** was trained in art history at the Ecole du Louvre and Paris IV-Sorbonne, and studied Persian and Turkish at the Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales. Since 2007 she has been in charge of the collections of Turkish and Ottoman art, and of the arts of the book from Iran and India, in the department of Islamic art at the Louvre Museum. She has collaborated on several exhibitions organized by the department. She is currently conducting research on albums and manuscript pages in the Louvre collection in collaboration with the C2RMF laboratory.

**Tim Stanley** is senior curator for the Middle Eastern collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) in London. He joined the Museum in 2002 and his first project was the travelling exhibition *Palace and Mosque: Islamic Art from the Victoria and Albert Museum* (2004-6). His most recent has been the exhibition *Epic Iran* (2021). He has been a lead curator on major gallery redevelopments, and he established the Jameel Prize, a triennial international award for contemporary art and design inspired by Islamic tradition that is now in its sixth cycle (2021). Tim has a strong research interest in the arts of the book and in decorative arts, especially Iranian lacquer.

**Iván Szántó** is chair of the Department of Iranian Studies at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Budapest. His primary research interests concentrate on the arts of Islamic Iran, especially the Safavid and Qajar periods, as well as their connections with Central and Eastern Europe. He authored and edited several books on the subject, including *Safavid Art and Hungary: The Esterházy Appliqué in Context*.

**Daria Vasilyeva** is senior curator at the State Museum Hermitage, Saint-Petersburg. Since 2005 she has worked in the Oriental Department of the State Hermitage Museum and currently holds the position of curator of Iranian textile collection and head of Byzantium and the Middle East Section in the Oriental Department. She is the author of about twenty articles and essays.

**Friederike Voigt** is principal curator of the Middle Eastern and South Asian collections at National Museums Scotland. She holds a master's degree in Iranian studies, art
**Treasures of Herat – Two Manuscripts of the Khamsah of Nizami in the British Library**

Two Manuscripts of the Khamsah of Nizami in the British Library

Barbara Brend, Ursula Sims–williams

**Summary**

An illustrated reference book for students and scholars of Persian art, poetry, and literature.

With this book, Barbara Brend provides thorough consideration of two celebrated Persian manuscripts housed in the British Library. These two copies of the *Khamsah* (Quintet) a set of five narrative poems by twelfth-century poet Nizami, a master of allegorical poetry in Persian literature, were produced in Herat in the fifteenth century, one of the greatest periods of Persian painting. Although well known, the manuscripts have never before been written about in relation to each other. Brend tells the story of each poem and the painting that illustrates it, and she formally analyzes the images, placing them in their historical and artistic context.

The images from both highly prized manuscripts are beautifully reproduced in color, and the ownership history of one of the manuscripts—recorded in the form of seal impressions and inscriptions— is also included. Ursula Sims-Williams provides a translation and commentary of these important marks of ownership which identify the Mughal rulers Akbar, Jahangir, Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb, among many others.

**Contributor Bio**

**Barbara Brend** is a specialist in the field of Persian and Mughal painting. Her most recent books include *Perspectives on Persian Painting: Illustrations to Amir Khusrau’s Khamsah* and *Muhammad Juki’s Shahnamah of Firdausi*.

**Ursula Sims-William** is lead curator of the Persian collections of the British Library.
Romeo and Juliet
William Shakespeare, Hansol Jung

Summary
Shakespeare’s famous play finds new life with a translation into contemporary American English.

“For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.” In this new version of Romeo and Juliet, written in accessible modern English, Hansol Jung breathes new life into Shakespeare’s famous tragedy. By closely examining the familiar language and focusing on the subtleties of the text, Jung illuminates a surprising and more nuanced world than many of us have come to expect from the well-known tale of star-crossed lovers.

This translation of Romeo and Juliet 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Hansol Jung is a playwright and director from South Korea. Her plays include Wild Goose Dreams, Cardboard Piano, Among the Dead, No More Sad Things, and Wolf Play.
The Winter’s Tale
William Shakespeare, Tracy Young

Summary
Tracy Young offers a new version of Shakespeare’s difficult tale of jealousy and redemption.

The Winter’s Tale is one of Shakespeare’s most challenging explorations of redemption and rebirth. Driven by extreme jealousy, Leontes, the King of Sicily, accuses his wife Hermione of infidelity and orders his newborn daughter to be abandoned. Sixteen years later, Leontes must reckon with the consequences of his rash decisions. Tracy Young’s version of The Winter’s Tale transforms the theatergoing experience from Shakespeare’s time to ours. This translation updates Shakespeare’s language, wordplay, and wit to engage audiences the way they would have been engaged in the early modern theater.

This translation of The Winter’s Tale 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Tracy Young is a theater director and playwright. Young has developed several original plays and musicals, including Hysteria, Euphoria, A Fairy Tale, Dreamplay, and Medea/Macbeth/Cinderella (co-adapted with Bill Rauch).
Much Ado About Nothing
William Shakespeare, Ranjit Bolt

Summary
Ranjit Bolt updates Much Ado About Nothing with a merry new translation.

In Much Ado About Nothing, a series of miscommunications and misunderstandings spiral out of control, leaving two sets of lovers to untangle their words and their hearts. Ranjit Bolt, an accomplished translator, takes on Shakespeare's well-loved comedy to update much of the obscure language while maintaining the humor, characterization, and wit that audiences know and love. For modern readers, Beatrice, Benedick, Hero, and Claudio are just as enchanting as always—and perhaps funnier than ever before.

This translation of Much Ado About Nothing 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Ranjit Bolt is one of Britain's leading translators for the stage. His work includes translations of Les Femmes Savantes (The Sisterhood), Tartuffe, The Liar, Lysistrata, Cyrano de Bergerac, and The Waltz of the Toreadors.
Richard II
William Shakespeare, Naomi Iizuka

Summary
Shakespeare’s history play reimagined by Naomi Iizuka.

Following the events of the final two years of his life, Richard II interrogates royal power and the forces that threaten it. After banishing his cousin Henry Bolingbroke, Richard begins to lose grip of his throne and strives to find meaning in the churn and chaos of the events unfolding around him. In her new translation, Naomi Iizuka ventures into the mystery of the work, scraping away the layers of received wisdom and cracking the play open for contemporary audiences.

This translation of Richard II 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Naomi Iizuka’s plays include 36 Views, Polaroid Stories, Anon(y)mous, Good Kids, Language of Angels, Aloha, Say the Pretty Girls, Concerning Strange Devices from the Distant West, At the Vanishing Point, and Sleep. She is head of graduate playwriting at the University of California San Diego.
Summary
The two-part tale of King Henry IV, rewritten with new language for the twenty-first century.

Shakespeare’s two Henry IV plays follow the exploits of King Henry IV after usurping the crown from his cousin Richard II. Featuring some of Shakespeare’s most recognizable characters such as Prince Hal and the roguish Sir John Falstaff, Henry IV, Part 1 delves into complicated questions of loyalty and kingship on and off the battlefield. Henry IV, Part 2 follows Prince Hal as he grapples with his eventual ascent to the throne and his increasingly strained relationship with Falstaff. As the king falls sick and Hal’s ascent appears imminent, Hal’s decisions hold significant implications for all those around him. Modernizing the language of the two plays, Yvette Nolan’s translation carefully works at the seeds sown by Shakespeare—bringing to new life the characters and dramatic arcs of the original.

These translations of Henry IV 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 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Yvette Nolan (Algonquin) is a playwright, director, dramaturg, actor, and educator from Saskatchewan, Canada. Nolan is an artistic associate at Signal Theatre.
Henry IV Part 2
William Shakespeare, Yvette Nolan

Summary
The two-part tale of King Henry IV, rewritten with new language for the twenty-first century.

Shakespeare’s two Henry IV plays follow the exploits of King Henry IV after usurping the crown from his cousin Richard II. Featuring some of Shakespeare’s most recognizable characters such as Prince Hal and the roguish Sir John Falstaff, Henry IV, Part 1 delves into complicated questions of loyalty and kingship on and off the battlefield. Henry IV, Part 2 follows Prince Hal as he grapples with his eventual ascent to the throne and his increasingly strained relationship with Falstaff. As the king falls sick and Hal’s ascent appears imminent, Hal’s decisions hold significant implications for all those around him. Modernizing the language of the two plays, Yvette Nolan’s translation carefully works at the seeds sown by Shakespeare—bringing to new life the characters and dramatic arcs of the original.

These translations of Henry IV 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 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Yvette Nolan (Algonquin) is a playwright, director, dramaturg, actor, and educator from Saskatchewan, Canada. Nolan is an artistic associate at Signal Theatre.
The Comedy of Errors
William Shakespeare, Christina Anderson

Summary
Shakespeare’s archetypal slapstick comedy, now with updated jokes and wordplay.

One of Shakespeare’s earliest plays, The Comedy of Errors is a farcical tale of separated twins and mistaken identities. This slapstick play is a staple of the genre, including madcap bawdiness, love at first sight, reunions, and happily-ever-afters. Christina Anderson’s translation dives deep into the joy of the original text, reinterpreting the metaphor, antiquated slang, and double and triple entendre for a contemporary audience.

This translation of The Comedy of Errors 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Christina Anderson’s plays include The Ripple, The Wave That Carried Me Home; How to Catch Creation; pen/man/ship; The Ashes Under Gait City; Man in Love; Blacktop Sky; Hollow Roots; and Drip. She is an assistant professor of playwriting at SUNY Purchase.
Summary

Amy Freed rewrites *The Taming of the Shrew*, one of the more problematic plays in the Shakespeare canon.

While beloved for its sharp dialogue and witty banter, *The Taming of the Shrew* offers a problematic storyline that many have deemed misogynistic. The play contains insensitive gags and uneasy politics, making it difficult for modern audiences to connect with the text. Amy Freed’s new translation reactivates the original story, blowing away the dust and cobwebs. As Freed’s text reminds us, at its heart *The Taming of the Shrew* is a story about courage and authenticity.

This translation of *The Taming of the Shrew* 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio

Amy Freed is the author of *Shrew!, The Monster Builder, Restoration Comedy, The Beard of Avon, Freedomland, Safe in Hell, The Psychic Life of Savages, You, Nero,* and other plays. She currently serves as artist-in-residence at Stanford University in the Theater and Performance Studies Department.
Henry VIII
William Shakespeare, Caridad Svich

Summary
Caridad Svich offers a new take on the history play, which tells the story of Henry VIII’s marriage to Anne Boleyn.

Shakespeare’s Henry VIII is a story of a brazen race to power and the desire for an heir. Advised by Cardinal Wolsey, Henry VIII is caught between church and state as he meets Anne Boleyn and seeks to annul his marriage to Queen Katherine. This episodic and plot-driven play examines the machinations of royal power. Shakespeare’s Henry VIII, in this new translation by Caridad Svich, is a swift-moving, complex tale of intrigue.

This translation of Henry VIII 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Caridad Svich is a playwright and translator. She is editor at Contemporary Theatre Review and has authored and edited several books on theater.
Edward III
William Shakespeare, Octavio Solis

Summary
Edward III comes to life in a new version by playwright Octavio Solis.

Written after England’s victory over the Spanish Armada in 1588, Edward III follows the exploits of King Edward III and his son Edward, the Black Prince of Wales. England dominates on the battlefield as the play explores questions of kinghood and chivalry through the actions of King Edward and his son. Octavio Solis’s translation of the play provides all of the complexity and richness of the original while renewing the allusions and metaphors lost through time.

This translation of Edward III 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Octavio Solis is the author of the plays Mother Road, Quixote Nuevo, Lydia, Santos & Santos, and El Paso Blue, and he is also the author of the book Retablos: Stories from A Life Lived Along the Border.
**Titus Andronicus**  
William Shakespeare, Amy Freed

**Summary**

Shakespeare’s tragic story of revenge is reimagined for the twenty-first century.

One of Shakespeare’s goriest plays, *Titus Andronicus* traces the fall of the Andronicus family in ancient Rome. Clinging to the ways of the past, Titus desperately seeks to remain loyal to the throne as his world crumbles around him. Amy Freed’s translation of *Titus Andronicus* is careful and meticulous, making small but mighty changes in moments that enhance the drama of each scene. Freed’s version gives this extraordinary play an even faster track on which to run.

This translation of *Titus Andronicus* 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 reenvisions 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.

**Contributor Bio**

Amy Freed is the author of *Shrew!, The Monster Builder, Restoration Comedy, The Beard of Avon, Freedomland, Safe in Hell, The Psychic Life of Savages, You, Nero,* and other plays. She currently serves as artist-in-residence at Stanford University in the Theater and Performance Studies Department.
Troilus and Cressida
William Shakespeare, Lillian Groag

Summary
Lillian Groag presents a new version of Troilus and Cressida that will resonate with contemporary audiences.

One of the most obscure plays in Shakespeare’s canon, Troilus and Cressida may also be the Bard’s darkest comedy. Exploring some of the events of Homer’s Iliad, the play juxtaposes the carnage of the Trojan War with a love story between its two titular characters. Lillian Groag’s translation brings this ancient world to modern audiences. Replacing the archaisms with new and accessible phrasing, Shakespeare’s lines regain their meaning and humor in the twenty-first century. This translation illuminates Troilus and Cressida as one of Shakespeare’s funniest, saddest, and most bitterly modern plays.

This translation of Troilus and Cressida 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Lillian Groag works in the theater as an actress, playwright, and director.
Pericles
William Shakespeare, Ellen McLaughlin

Summary
The heroic story of Pericles adapted for new audiences by Ellen McLaughlin.

Shakespeare’s romance Pericles follows Pericles, the Prince of Tyre, on a series of adventures across the Mediterranean Sea. Navigating one heroic challenge after another, Pericles strives to be reunited with his wife and child. Ellen McLaughlin’s translation of Pericles illuminates Shakespeare’s text, untangling syntax and bringing forth the poetry of the verse. An encounter between the contemporary and the iconic, this translation brings the play to life as audiences would have experienced it in Shakespeare’s time.

This translation of Pericles 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 reenvisions 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.

Contributor Bio
Ellen McLaughlin is an award-winning playwright and actor. Her plays include Days and Nights Within, A Narrow Bed, Infinity’s House, Iphigenia and Other Daughters, Tongue of a Bird, and The Trojan Women. She teaches playwrighting at Barnard College.
Romance and Race – Coloring the Past
Coloring the Past
Margo Hendricks

Summary
This study brings race and the literary tradition of romance into dialogue.

Romance and Race: Coloring the Past explores the literary and cultural genealogy of colorism, white passing, and white presenting in the romance genre. The scope of the study ranges from Heliodorus’ *Aithiopika* to the short novels of Aphra Behn, to the modern romance novel *Forbidden* by Beverly Jenkins. This analysis engages with the troublesome racecraft of “passing” and the instability of racial identity and its formation from the premodern to the present. The study also looks at the significance of white settler colonialism to early modern romance narratives. A bridge between studies of early modern romance and scholarship on twenty-first-century romance novels, this book is well-suited for those interested in the romance genre.

Contributor Bio
Margo Hendricks is professor emerita at University of California, Santa Cruz. She is coeditor, with Patricia Parker, of *Women, Race and Writing in the Early Modern Period*, and she publishes romance novels under the pen name Elysabeth Grace.
Weather Forecaster to Research Scientist – My Career in Meteorology
My Career in Meteorology
Robert M. Atlas, Dave Jones

Summary
This memoir follows the sixty-year meteorology career of Robert M. Atlas.

As a young child, Robert M. Atlas would often look up at the sky, observe the clouds, and ask his parents questions about the weather. That early interest sparked a career in meteorology that took place during a period of rapid development in the field. *Weather Forecaster to Research Scientist* follows his decades-long career and his innovative research, which led to improvements in the understanding and prediction of extreme weather.

Atlas’s journey begins with his start as an apprentice forecaster for the US Weather Bureau during a time when satellite meteorology and operational numerical weather prediction were just in their infancy. *Weather Forecaster to Research Scientist* also traces his experiences as an operational forecaster in the US Air Force, discusses his pioneering work on ocean surface winds using satellites, and describes his leadership of scientific organizations within NASA and NOAA as well as his experiences teaching at several universities. An engaging account of a distinguished career, this book will appeal to students, educators, weather forecasters, scientists, and weather enthusiasts alike.

Contributor Bio
Robert M. Atlas is the former chief meteorologist at NASA's Goddard Laboratory for Atmospheres and the past director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory. He is a recipient of the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement and the American Meteorological Society's Banner I. Miller Award.
Magazines and the American Experience – Highlights from the Collection of Steven Lomazow, M.D.
Highlights from the Collection of Steven Lomazow, M.D.
Steven Lomazow, Heather Haveman, Leonard Banco, Suze Bienaimee

Summary
A gorgeously illustrated tour of several centuries of American magazine history.

The history of the American magazine is intricately entwined with the history of the nation itself. In the colonial eighteenth century, magazines were crucial outlets for revolutionary thought, with the first statement of American independence appearing in Thomas Paine’s Pennsylvania Magazine in June 1776. In the eighteenth century, magazines were some of the first staging grounds for still-contentious debates on Federalism and states’ rights. In the years that followed, the landscape of publications spread in every direction to explore aspects of American life from sports to politics, religion to entertainment, and beyond.

Magazines and the American Experience is an expansive and chronological tour of the American magazine from 1733 to the present. Illustrated with more than four hundred color images, the book examines an enormous selection of specialty magazines devoted to a range of interests running from labor to leisure to literature. The contributors—Leonard Banca and Suze Bienaimee, both experts in the field of periodical history—devote particular focus to magazines written for and by Black Americans throughout US history, including David Ruggles’s Mirror of History (1838), [Frederick] Douglass’ Monthly (1859), the combative Messenger (1917), the Negro Digest (1942), and Essence (1970). With its mix of detailed descriptions, historical context, and lush illustrations, this handsome guide to American magazines should entice casual readers and serious collectors alike.

Contributor Bio
Steven Lomazow, is adjunct professor of history at Kean University and was the primary periodical consultant for the Newseum in Washington, DC.
**Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects**

*From the Collection of Glen S. Miranker*

Glen S. Miranker, Leslie S. Klinger, Cathy Miranker

**Summary**

A dazzling collection of rare art and documents illuminate the life of Sherlock Holmes beyond the page.

As one of the most beloved characters in the English language, Sherlock Holmes sometimes seems to have a life of his own, one that leaps beyond the pages of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s mystery stories. *Sherlock Holmes in 221 Objects* aims its magnifying glass toward a host of overlooked extra-literary objects that tell the story of the famed detective’s publication history outside of Doyle’s original canon.

Drawing on their extensive collection of Holmes-related bibliographic material, Cathy and Glen S. Miranker brings to light exhibits ranging from original manuscripts, handwritten letters, business correspondence, vintage book art, pirated editions, and more, all presented in thematic clusters that highlight their significance to the case at hand. Throughout, the Mirankers invite readers to share in the collector’s enthusiasm for the kinds of rarities and oddities that help decipher the appeal of Sherlock Holmes in ways that transcend what can be found on the page.

**Contributor Bio**

**Glen Miranker** is one of the foremost collectors of Sherlockian books and has served as a bibliophilic consultant and lecturer for numerous institutions, including the Toronto Reference Library, the Harry Ransom Center, and the Newberry Library.
One Hundred Books Famous in Typography
Jerry Kelly, Sebastian Carter

Summary
The story of a foundational aspect of publishing, from Gutenberg’s press to today’s digital type.

It’s common knowledge that the name Gutenberg and the words “moveable type” go together. What’s far less known is that Garamond, Baskerville, and Bodoni aren’t just font options in a word processing dropdown menu, but the names of some of the real punchcutters and type designers who raised the essential work of typography to the level of art.

One Hundred Books Famous in Typography, the latest entry in the Grolier Club’s prestigious Grolier Hundred series, is the story of art and technology working in harmony with each other, all the way from Johannes Gutenberg’s ingenious development of a system for reproducing texts through the introduction of newer technologies like hot-metal line casting, phototype, and digital type. Featuring scholarly yet accessible context for the works discussed and their typographical significance, and illustrated with more than two hundred images, Jerry Kelly’s book is the most comprehensive exploration yet of this essential facet of bookmaking and publishing.

Contributor Bio
Jerry Kelly is a book and typography designer, a calligrapher, and the author of numerous books, including Hermann Zapf and the World He Designed.
Taming the Tongue in the Heyday of English Grammar (1711–1851)
Bryan A. Garner

Summary
An exploration of a surprisingly combative period in the history of English grammar.

Heated arguments can break out over many things: slander, insults to a person’s honor—and, during one period in English history, grammar. In his new book detailing the controversies and fraught histories that accompanied efforts to regularize English grammar, Bryan A. Garner shows that the grammarians of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were a surprisingly contentious and opinionated lot.

Taming the Tongue in the Heyday of English Grammar (1711–1851) makes the primers of the period come alive in ways that their concerned and idiosyncratic authors might not have envisioned. The entries in Taming the Tongue—which has nearly five hundred color illustrations—are packed with scrupulously recorded information on the content and publication details of the primers, as well as tantalizing tales from the authors’ lives. Combining scholarly rigor with lively anecdotes, Garner sheds light on the controversies and unexpectedly fiery histories of English grammatical disputes.

Contributor Bio
Bryan A. Garner is president of LawProse, Inc., and distinguished research professor of law at Southern Methodist University. He is the author of the “Grammar and Usage” chapter of The Chicago Manual of Style and editor-in-chief of Black’s Law Dictionary, among many other publications.
"The Great George" – Cruikshank and London's Graphic Humorists (1800–1850)

Cruikshank and London's Graphic Humorists (1800–1850)

Josephine Lea Iselin

Summary
A compact biography of one of nineteenth-century England’s most renowned illustrators.

George Cruikshank (1792–1878) was a key transitional figure in the changing world of nineteenth-century London’s graphic humor. He carried his eighteenth-century-trained wit from the field of political satire during the Regency years into the Victorian era of journals and books. His witty drawings of boisterous London streets in 1820–1836 made him a household name, and in 1836, his masterful etchings were key to the positive reception of Charles Dickens’s first novel.

Illustrated throughout by his one-of-a-kind drawings, "The Great George” traces Cruikshank’s career from his ascent, by 1820, as the preeminent political satirist to the end of his career. During the 1840s and 50s, with the rising popularity of Dickens, the arrival of Punch, and his adoption of the temperance movement as his work’s focus, Cruikshank was eventually eclipsed by new generations of artists. Using as her launchpad the argument that drawing with humor takes both great draftsmanship and a highly perceptive sense of humanity, Josephine Lea Iselin not only details the trajectory of Cruikshank’s art but also provides valuable context for his work, placing his drawings alongside pieces from his artistic predecessors and principal contemporaries.

Contributor Bio

Josephine Lea Iselin is a retired attorney living in New York City and the author of Vive les Satiristes!: French Caricature during the Reign of Louis Philippe (1830-1848).
Photographs at the Edge
Vittorio Sella and Wilfred Thesiger
Roger Härtl, David Breashears, Alexander Maitland, Levison Wood

Summary
An illustrated look at two early-twentieth-century explorers whose work took them to deserts and mountain peaks, coinciding with the rise of modern photography along the way.

Vittorio Sella (1859–1943) was the foremost mountaineering photographer of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, producing widely celebrated images of K2 and other famed peaks. Sir Wilfred Thesiger (1910–2003) was a writer, photographer, and explorer, whose greatest journey took him across the Rub’ al Khali, a vast desert encompassing much of the Arabian Peninsula. In his new book, Roger Härtl considers these two far-flung figures side by side, telling the stories of two influential explorers through their bibliographic and photographic work, and creating a tapestry where exploration, writing, and image-making all conjoin. As Härtl shows in this richly illustrated volume, the triumphs of Sella and Thesiger coincided with the end of a golden age of geographical exploration and with the rise of photography as we know it today.

Contributor Bio
Roger Härtl is the Hansen-MacDonald Endowed Professor of Neurological Surgery and director of spinal surgery at the Weill Cornell Brain and Spine Center, as well as the neurosurgeon for the New York Giants.
**Hybrid Ecologies**

Susanne Witzgall, Marietta Kesting, Maria Muhle, Jenny Nachtigall

**Summary**

* A new approach to the notion of ecology emphasizing its relevance for art and design.

The notion of ecology not only figures centrally in current debates around climate change, but also traverses contemporary discourses in the arts, the humanities, and the social and techno sciences. In this present form, ecology refers to the multilayered and multidimensional nexus of living processes and technological and media practices—that is, to the complex relations of human and nonhuman agents. *Hybrid Ecologies* understands ecology as an ambivalent notion, whose very broadness simultaneously opens up new fields of action and raises provocative questions, not least concerning its genealogy. This interdisciplinary volume explores the political and social effects of rethinking community in ecological terms, with a particular emphasis on what the contemporary notion of ecology might mean for artistic and design practices. The result of the fifth annual program of the cx centre for interdisciplinary studies, which was conceived in cooperation with the Chair of Philosophy Aesthetic Theory at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, *Hybrid Ecologies* is a timely and thought-provoking study of one of the most important themes of our time.

**Contributor Bio**

**Susanne Witzgall** is the academic head of the cx centre for interdisciplinary studies at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich.
**Marietta Kesting** is junior professor of media theory at the cx centre for interdisciplinary studies at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich.
**Maria Muhle** is professor for philosophy and aesthetic theory at the Academy of Fine Arts Munich and founder of the August Verlag Berlin.
**Jenny Nachtigall** is professor of art history and theory in interim at the Städelschule in Frankfurt.
Faith in the World – Post–Secular Readings of Hannah Arendt

Post-Secular Readings of Hannah Arendt
Ludger Hagedorn, Rafael Zawisza

Summary

Explores the relationship between Hannah Arendt’s thought and theology.

This volume is a manifold approach to a less evident and much-neglected undercurrent in the work of Hannah Arendt, namely her ambiguous relation to the Judeo-Christian religious heritage. It contains discussions about strictly theological motives—like salvation or original sin—but it also explores topics such as forgiveness, love, natality, and the world within the religious aura.

Contributor Bio

Ludger Hagedorn is a permanent fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna.

Rafael Zawisza was a visiting scholar at the University of Chicago from 2017 to 2018 and lives in Berlin.
The Lesser Histories
Jan Zábrana, Justin Quinn

Summary
The first collection of poetry in English by an acclaimed twentieth-century Czech writer.

From the eighth floor of a tower block in Central Europe, Jan Zábrana surveyed the twentieth century. He had been exiled from his own life by Communism. His parents were imprisoned, their health was broken, and he was not allowed to study languages in college. Refusing both to rebel outright or to cave in, he thought of himself as a dead man walking. "To all those who keep asking me to do things for them, I sometimes feel like saying: 'But I'm dead. I died long ago. Why do you keep treating me as if I were one of the living?'"

Yet during some of Europe's most difficult years, he wrote The Lesser Histories, a collection of sixty-four sonnets that range through themes of age, sex, and political repression—a radiant testament to his times. The lines are emptied both of personal pathos and political stridency. Often Zábrana's own voice segues into those of poets he had translated over the years, leaving only a bare shimmer of subjectivity—humorous, oblique, pained—with which to view his own works and days. The poems document a splendid and bitter isolation, and are immersed in the humor, hatreds, and loves of the everyday. Published in Czech in the ill-fated year of 1968, they subsequently fell into neglect. After the fall of Communism in 1989, Zábrana's collected poems and selected diaries were published in Czech, and he was acclaimed as a major twentieth-century writer. Now, with this collection, he can begin to reach English-language readers for the first time.

Contributor Bio
Jan Zábrana (1931-1984) was a Czech writer and translator.
Justin Quinn is a lecturer in the Department of English at the University of West Bohemia and a poet, critic, and translator.
Tales from the Prague Ghetto
Siegfried Kapper, Jordan Finkin, Jindrich Toman

Summary

Trained in philosophy and medicine, the writer, translator, scholar, and political and cultural activist Siegfried Kapper (1821–1879) devoted significant effort to the advancement of Jewish culture in Bohemia, Jewish emancipation, and to the commitment of Jews to contemporary Czech society. The three stories in this collection, which first appeared in the press in the 1840s and were posthumously published as a collection at the end of the century, offer a Romantic and folkloric vision of Jewish culture in Prague.

The first story, “Genenda,” displays Kapper’s operatic eye for detail and drama with its account of a dutiful rabbi’s daughter being swept away by a dashing young man, a Christian nobleman disguised as a Jew. “The Curious Guest” is an intricate tale of a quest for wisdom and power. The final story, “Glowing Coals,” is a supernatural tale of romantic desire and revenge, displaying Kapper’s skill at deploying the tropes of folklore for dramatic literary effect. The collection not only provides a colorful snapshot of nineteenth-century Czech-Jewish culture but also resonates with universal human themes that transcend a single national experience.

Contributor Bio
Siegfried Kapper (1821-1879) was the nom de plume of Isaac Salomon Kapper, a Prague-born writer, journalist, politician, and physician. He wrote in both German and Czech, and is respected for his poetry and fairy tales.

Jordan Finkin is the rare book and manuscript librarian at Hebrew Union College.
Václav Havel's Meanings – His Key Words and Their Legacy
His Key Words and Their Legacy
David Danaher, Kieran Williams, Jiří Přibáň

Summary
A close read of the rich collections of texts left behind by Václav Havel, one of the most important Czech thinkers and leaders of the twentieth century.

No one in Czech politics or culture could match the international stature of Václav Havel at the time of his death in 2011. In the years since his passing, his legacy has only grown, as developments in the Czech Republic and elsewhere around the world continue to show the importance of his work and writing against a range of political and social ills, from autocratic brutality to messianic populism.

This book looks squarely at the heart of Havel’s legacy: the rich corpus of texts he left behind. It analyzes the meanings of key concepts in Havel’s core vocabulary: truth, power, civil society, home, appeal, indifference, hotspot, theatre, prison, and responsibility. Where do these concepts appear in Havel’s oeuvre? What part do they play in his larger intellectual project? How might we understand Havel’s focus on these concepts as a centerpiece of his contribution to contemporary thought? How does Havel’s particular perspective on the meaning of these concepts speak to us in the here and now? The ten contributors use a variety of methodological tools to examine the meaning of these concepts, drawing on a diversity of disciplines: political science and political philosophy, historical and cultural analysis, discourse/textual analysis, and linguistic-corpus analysis.

Contributor Bio
David Danaher is professor of Slavic languages and literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Kieran Williams is assistant professor of political science at Drake University.
Jiří Přibáň is professor of law at Cardiff University.
Versification and Authorship Attribution
Petr Plecháč

Summary
A clever investigation into two unsolved mysteries of poetic authorship.

The technique known as contemporary stylometry uses different methods, including machine learning, to discover a poem’s author based on features like the frequencies of words and character n-grams. However, there is one potential textual fingerprint stylometry tends to ignore: versification, or the very making of language into verse. Using poetic texts in three different languages (Czech, German, and Spanish), Petr Plecháč asks whether versification features like rhythm patterns and types of rhyme can help determine authorship. He then tests his findings on two unsolved literary mysteries. In the first, Plecháč distinguishes the parts of the Elizabethan verse play The Two Noble Kinsmen written by William Shakespeare from those written by his coauthor, John Fletcher. In the second, he seeks to solve a case of suspected forgery: how authentic was a group of poems first published as the work of the nineteenth-century Russian author Gavriil Stepanovich Batenkov? This book of poetic investigation should appeal to literary sleuths the world over.

Contributor Bio
Petr Plecháč is head of the Versification Research Group at the Czech Academy of Science's Institute of Czech Literature, and a member of the Mining the Comic Verse project at the University of Basel.
The Avant–Postman – Experiment in Anglophone and Francophone Fiction in the Wake of James Joyce

Experiment in Anglophone and Francophone Fiction in the Wake of James Joyce

David Vichnar

Summary

The Avant–Postman explores a broad range of innovative postwar writing from France, Britain, and the United States. Taking James Joyce’s Ulysses and Finnegans Wake as a joint starting point, David Vichnar draws genealogical lines from there through the work of more than fifty writers up to very recent years, including William Burroughs, B. S. Johnson, Ian Sinclair, Kathy Acker, Alan Moore, David Foster Wallace, and many others. Centering the exploration around five strategies employed by Joyce—narrative parallax, stylistic metempsychosis, concrete writing, forgery, and neologizing the logos—the book reveals the striking continuities and developments from Joyce’s day to our own.

Contributor Bio

David Vichnar is assistant professor of critical and cultural theory in the Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures at Charles University.
Things in Poems – From the Shield of Achilles to Hyperobjects

From the Shield of Achilles to Hyperobjects
Josef Hrdlicka, Mariana Machová, Václav Z J Pinkava

Summary

An exploration of the place of material objects in modern poetry.

In this volume, fifteen scholars and poets, from Austria, Britain, Czechia, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, and Russia, explore the topic of things and objects in poetry written in a number of different languages and in different eras. The book begins with ancient poetry, then moves on to demonstrate the significance of objects in the Chinese poetic tradition. From there, the focus shifts to things and objects in the poetry of the twentieth and the twenty-first century, examining the work of Czech, Polish, and Russian poets alongside other key figures such as Rilke, Francis Ponge, William Carlos Williams, and Paul Muldoon. Along the way, the reader gets an introduction to key terms and phrases that have been associated with things in the course of poetic history, such as ekphrasis, objective lyricism, and hyperobjects.

Contributor Bio

Josef Hrdlička is associate professor of Czech and comparative literature at Charles University, Prague.
Mariana Machová is associate professor of American literature at Charles University and associate professor of English at the University of Southern Bohemia.
Václav Z J Pinkava is a Czech-British poet and translator.
The Torah/Law Is a Journey – Using Cognitive and Culturally Oriented Linguistics to Interpret and Translate Metaphors in the Hebrew Bible

Using Cognitive and Culturally Oriented Linguistics to Interpret and Translate Metaphors in the Hebrew Bible
Ivana Procházková

Summary

An analysis of metaphor in the legal texts of the Old Testament using the tools of cognitive and cultural linguistics.

The Old Testament is rich in metaphor. Metaphorical expressions appear not only in places where you might expect them, like the poetic verses, but also in the legal texts. They appear in the preambles to collections of laws, in their final summaries, in general considerations on compliance with and violation of the law, in texts concerning the meaning of the law, and those dealing with topics now reserved for legal theory and legal philosophy. These metaphorical expressions reveal how the authors of the relevant Torah/Law texts understood their function in society and what the society of the time preferred in the law.

Anchored in cognitive and cultural linguistics, The Torah/Law Is a Journey investigates Hebrew metaphorical expressions concerning the key Old Testament concept of Torah/Law. Ivana Procházková identifies Hebrew conceptual metaphors and explicates the metaphorical expressions. She also uses cognitive linguistic analysis to look at modern translations of selected metaphorical expressions into Czech and English. Procházková closes with an analysis of the metaphors used in the Council of Europe publication Compass: Manual for Human Rights Education with Young People to conceptualize human rights.

Contributor Bio

Ivana Procházková is the superintendent of the United Methodist Church in the Czech Republic.
Migration and Identity in Nordic Literature
Martin Humpál, Helena Březinová

Summary
An examination of representations of human migration in three centuries of Northern European literature.

Migration is a frequent topic of many debates nowadays, whether it concerns refugees from war-torn areas or the economic pros and cons of the mobility of multinational corporations and their employees. Yet such migration has always been a part of the human experience, and its dimensions—with its shifting nature, manifestations, and consequences—were often greater than we can imagine today.

In this book, ten scholars from Czechia, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, and Sweden focus on how migration has manifested itself in literature and culture through the nineteenth, twentieth, and early twenty-first centuries in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Iceland. Examining the theme of migration as it relates to questions of identity, both national and individual, the authors argue that migration almost always leads to a disturbance of identity and creates a potential for conflicts between individuals and larger groups. The book digs deep into such cases of disturbance, disruption, and hybridization of identity as they are represented in three centuries of literary works from the European North.

Contributor Bio
Martin Humpál is professor of Scandinavian literature at Charles University. Helena Březinová is assistant professor of Nordic studies at Charles University.
The Sound of Byzantium – The Byzantine Musical Instruments

The Byzantine Musical Instruments
Antonios Botonakis, Nikos Maliaras, Christiaan Troelsgaard, Merve Özkılıç

Summary

Essays, imagery, and an illustrated dictionary for the instruments of the Byzantine era.

More than one hundred color plates accompany essays on representations of musical instruments in Byzantine iconography and literature and account for their uses in state ceremonies of the Middle and Late Byzantine periods. The contributors explore the musical instruments in Byzantine sources and evaluate their importance for specific themes in Byzantine traditions. Innovative and insightful, this comprehensive volume also contains a dictionary of musical instruments, accompanied by original drawings specially prepared for this publication.

Contributor Bio

Antonios Botonakis is a musicologist, a postdoctoral researcher at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies (GABAM) at Koç University in Istanbul, and a faculty member at Hellenic Mediterranean University in Greece.

Christian Troelsgaard is associate professor of Greek and Latin philology at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark.

Antonios Botonakis is a musicologist, a postdoctoral researcher at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies (GABAM) at Koç University in Istanbul, and a faculty member at Hellenic Mediterranean University in Greece.

Merve Özkılıç is an archaeologist and an editor and project coordinator at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies (GABAM) at Koç University in Istanbul.
The Palimpsest of the House – Re-assessing Roman, Late Antique, Byzantine, and Early Islamic Living Patterns

Re-assessing Roman, Late Antique, Byzantine, and Early Islamic Living Patterns
Inge Uytterhoeven, Alessandra Ricci

Summary
An interdisciplinary reassessment of a vital and understudied field.

Material remains of houses and textual evidence for private living are crucial to our understanding of the architectural and decorative characteristics of the ancient house and the way private space was used. As buildings in which both private and public activities could take place, ancient dwellings provide a window onto the social, economic, political, and religious aspects of societies. However, despite its invaluable significance for our knowledge of ancient times, housing still largely remains an underestimated field of research.

This edited volume includes papers presented at the 8th International ANAMED Annual Symposium, held at Istanbul’s Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations in 2013. The contributions focus on the developments, continuities, and changes in private housing across the Mediterranean during Roman, Late Antique, and Early Islamic times. The volume sheds light on the interaction between houses of various regions and time periods, exploring the architectural features, layout and interior, and builders and users of private houses.

Contributor Bio
Inge Uytterhoeven is associate professor in the Department of Archaeology and History of Art and associate dean of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities at Koç University in Istanbul.
Alessandra Ricci is associate professor in the Department of Archaeology and History of Art at Koç University in Istanbul.
Heritage, World Heritage, and the Future – Perspectives on Scale, Conservation, and Dialogue
Perspectives on Scale, Conservation, and Dialogue
B. Nilgün Öz, Christina Luke

Summary
An exploration of heritage practice in Turkey at the intersection of academia, policy, and practice.

The papers published in this volume were among those presented at the 14th International ANAMED Annual Symposium (IAAS), held at Istanbul’s Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations in 2019. Bringing together archaeologists and heritage professionals from diverse backgrounds engaged in the conservation of archaeological and natural sites, the symposium focused on topics of heritage conservation and development in Turkey, with a particular focus on World Heritage Sites.

The papers in this volume explore the conservation and future of archaeological and natural heritage, including but not limited to the World Heritage Convention and its application in Turkey, site conservation and financing of conservation work, community engagement during archaeological research, and public perceptions of archaeology. Providing reflection on and critical assessment of their own work, the authors discuss both achievements and problems to create a clearer picture of what works and what does not work in certain conditions.

Contributor Bio
B. Nilgün Öz is a conservation architect with experience in heritage conservation in Turkey and the United Kingdom. She is an expert member of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM), and the Chamber of Architects of Turkey. Christina Luke is associate professor of archaeology and the history of art at Koç University, Istanbul. She is the editor of the Journal of Field Archaeology and the author of A Pearl in Peril: Heritage and Diplomacy in Turkey.
Conserving Active Matter
Peter N. Miller, Soon Kai Poh

Summary
Considers the future of conservation and its connection to the human sciences.

This volume brings together the findings from a five-year research project that seeks to reimagine the relationship between conservation knowledge and the humanistic study of the material world. The project, “Cultures of Conservation,” was supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and included events, seminars, and an artist-in-residence.

The effort to conserve things amid change is part of the human struggle with the nature of matter. For as long as people have made things and kept things, they have also cared for and repaired them. Today, conservators use a variety of tools and categories developed over the last one hundred and fifty years to do this work, but in the coming decades, new kinds of materials and a new scale of change will pose unprecedented challenges. Looking ahead to this moment from the perspectives of history, philosophy, materials science, and anthropology, this volume explores new possibilities for both conservation and the humanities in the rethinking of active matter.

Contributor Bio
Soon Kai Poh is a Conservation as a Human Science Fellow at Bard Graduate Center.
Henning Christiansen, Bjørn Nørgaard–MANRESA HAUPTBANHOF – An Homage to Joseph Beuys (New edition)

An Homage to Joseph Beuys
Pilar Parcerisas, Friedhelm Mennekes, Peter Van Der Meijden, Christiansen Henning

Summary

A collection of materials and essays contextualizing a performance by Christiansen and Nørgaard in homage to Joseph Beuys.

Joseph Beuys performed one of his most radical pieces, the action Manressa, on December 15, 1966, at the Galerie Schmela in Düsseldorf. He was accompanied by the Danish artists Henning Christiansen and Bjørn Nørgaard, who, in 1994, created Manresa Hauptbahnhof (Manresa, Central Station), a new performance in homage to the original. The performance was carried out in Manresa, the city that both gave the name to the original action and was where Saint Ignatius Loyola had the revelations that led him to write his Spiritual Exercises, which Beuys considered essential reading.

This book brings together all the material related to the 1994 performance—including images, scripts, and preparatory drawings—as well as a selection of critical texts that situate the action within its European context. In one essay, Friedhelm Mennekes analyses the action by delving into its spiritual meaning, exploring the symbolism of the objects employed. In another, Pilar Parcerias uses the metaphor of the central station to discover the city of reference and redraw the map of Europe with unexpected connections between Manresa and Copenhagen. In the final essay, Peter van der Meijden contextualizes the two performances, which represented a meeting place for different artistic personalities working on the cutting edge in creating a new form of art.

Contributor Bio

Pilar Parcerisas is an independent curator and art critic.
Friedhelm Mennekes is a Jesuit priest, curator and professor of theology and religious sociology at the Sankt Georgen Graduate School of Philosophy and Theology in Frankfurt am Main and at the University of Mainz. Since 1987, he has overseen the Saint Peter Art Station, a center for music and contemporary art in Cologne, Germany.

Peter van der Meijden is a Dutch art historian, writer and curator, currently living in Denmark. He is an associate lecturer at the University of Copenhagen.
Henning Christiansen was a Danish composer who was part of the Fluxus movement. He collaborated with artists such as Nam June Paik, Bazon Borck and Wolf Vostell, and with Joseph Beuys in his actions in the 1960s and 1970s, such as Manresa (1966), Eurasienstab (1967-1968) Haupström (1967) and Celtic (1970), among others.
Journeys into the Invisible – Shamanic Imagination in the Far North

Shamanic Imagination in the Far North
Charles Stépanoff, Catherine V. Howard

Summary


In this book, Charles Stépanoff draws on ethnographic literature and his fieldwork in Siberia to reveal the immense contribution to human imagination made by shamans and the cognitive techniques they developed over the centuries.

Indigenous shamans are certain men and women who are able to travel in spirit in ways that appear mysterious to Westerners but which rely on the human capacity of imagination. They perceive themselves simultaneously in two types of space—one visible, the other virtual—putting them in contact and establishing links with nonhuman beings in their surroundings. Shamans share their experience of spirit travel with their patients, families, or the wider community, allowing them to experience this odyssey through the invisible together.

This work will appeal to anthropologists and to anyone with an interest in learning about the power of imagination from the masters of the invisible, the shamans of the Far North.

Contributor Bio

Charles Stépanoff is director of studies and professor in the Laboratoire d’Anthropologie Social at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. He has done ethnographic research in Siberia and France on human relations with the nonhuman, including animals, spirits, and plants.
Fernando Ortiz – Caribbean and Mediterranean Counterpoints
Caribbean and Mediterranean Counterpoints
Stephan Palmié

Summary
Cross-regional scholarly dialogue inspired by the work of the pioneering Cuban scholar.

Fernando Ortiz (1881–1969) coined the term “transculturation” in 1940. This was an early case of theory from the South: concepts developed from an explicitly peripheral epistemological vantage point and launched as a corrective to European and North American theoretical formulations. What Ortiz proposed was a contrapuntal vision of complexly entangled processes that we, today, would conceptualize as cultural emergence.

Inspired by Ortiz, this volume engineers an unprecedented conversation between Mediterraneanists and Caribbeanists. It harnesses Ortiz’s mid-twentieth-century theoretical formulations to early twenty-first-century issues pertinent to both regions, including migration, territorial sovereignty, and cultural diversity. The contributors explore this perspective (arguably formed during Ortiz’s youth in late nineteenth-century Menorca) in a dialogue between scholars of the contemporary Caribbean and Mediterranean to enable novel analytics for both regions and to more broadly to probe the promises and limits of Ortiz’s contribution for contemporary anthropological research and theorizing.

Contributor Bio
Stephan Palmié is the Norman and Edna Freehling Professor of Anthropology and of Social Sciences at the University of Chicago.
Two Lives of Saint Colette – With a Selection of Letters by, to, and about Colette

With a Selection of Letters by, to, and about Colette

Pierre De Vaux, Sister Perrine De Baume, Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski

Summary

Two accounts of the life of Saint Colette of Corbie.

Saint Colette of Corbie (1381–1447) was a French reformer of the Franciscan Order and the founder of seventeen convents. Though of humble origin, she attracted the support of powerful patrons and important Church officials. The two biographies translated here were authored by Pierre de Vaux, her confessor and mentor, and Perrine de Baume, a nun who for decades was Colette’s companion and confidant. Both accounts offer fascinating portraits of the saint as a pious ascetic assailed by demons and performing miracles, as well as in her role as skillful administrator and caring mother of her nuns. This is the first English translation of two biographies in Middle French of the most important female figures of the Middle Ages.

Contributor Bio

Pierre de Vaux was a Franciscan friar. He was the companion and confessor of Saint Colette of Corbie, as well as her biographer.

Sister Perrine de Baume was a Colettine Poor Clare. Her memoirs serve as a testimony to the life of Saint Colette of Corbie


Lovers' Debates for the Stage – A Bilingual Edition

A Bilingual Edition
Isabella Andreini, Pamela Allen Brown, Julie D. Campbell, Eric Nicholson

Summary

Witty and dynamic lovers’ dialogues for the stage.

The actress and author Isabella Andreini won international renown playing the bold, versatile, and intellectual inamorata of the commedia dell’arte. After her death, her husband Francesco Andreini continued publishing her works, among them the thirty-one amorosi contrasti—or lovers’ debates—presented in this volume. Available in English for the first time, Lovers’ Debates enables readers to envision the commedia dell’arte through the words of its most revered diva. Lovers flirt boldly, trade bawdy insults, exhibit their learning, and drive each other mad in stage dialogues that showcase Isabella’s skill in composition and drama. Sparkling with wit and bursting with dynamic energy, these brilliant lovers’ dialogues for the stage hold strong appeal not only for specialists in early modern literature and women’s studies, but for enthusiasts, scholars, and practitioners of classic and contemporary theatre.

Contributor Bio

Isabella Andreini (1562-1604) was a renowned prima donna of the European stage. Also a poet, playwright, and author of philosophical letters, she was one of the most published Italian women writers in the seventeenth century.

Pamela Allen Brown is professor of English at the University of Connecticut. She is the author of The Diva’s Gift to the Shakespearean Stage.

Julie D. Campbell is professor of English and premodern global studies at Eastern Illinois University. She is the author of Literary Circles and Gender in Early Modern Europe.

Eric Nicholson is a scholar, actor, and director of early modern European drama at Syracuse University in Florence.

Pamela Allen Brown is professor of English at the University of Connecticut. She is the author of The Diva’s Gift to the Shakespearean Stage.

Julie D. Campbell is professor of English and premodern global studies at Eastern Illinois University. She is the author of Literary Circles and Gender in Early Modern Europe.

Eric Nicholson is a scholar, actor, and director of early modern European drama at Syracuse University in Florence.
Selected Letters, 1523–1546 – A Bilingual Edition

A Bilingual Edition
Vittoria Colonna, Veronica Copello, Abigail Brundin

Summary

Forty revealing personal letters written by a key figure from the Italian Renaissance.

The most celebrated woman writer of the Italian Renaissance, Vittoria Colonna was known for her elegant poetry and use of the sonnet form to explore pressing religious questions. The selection of Colonna’s letters presented here for the first time in a collected edition was written to and from writers, artists, popes, cardinals, employees, and family members. Together they place Colonna at the center of intersecting epistolary networks as a political actor, theological thinker, literary practitioner, and caring friend. Revealing a historical woman speaking and acting with force in the world, these letters constitute a vital tool for anyone seeking to understand Colonna’s literary works. Newly translated, this work reveals new aspects and faces of the most celebrated woman writer of the Italian Renaissance.

Contributor Bio

Vittoria Colonna was a skilled writer and important cultural figure from the Italian Renaissance.
Veronica Copello is research associate at the University of Insubria in Italy.
Abigail Brundin is professor of Italian at the University of Cambridge.
**One Body with Two Souls Entwined: An Epic Tale of Orphan Girl: The Olesnicki Episode**

Orphan Girl: The Olesnicki Episode
Anna Stanislawska, Barry Keane

**Summary**

A page-turner featuring one of literature’s earliest female protagonists.

Written in 1685, *Transaction or the Description of the Entire Life of an Orphan by Way of Plaintful Threnodies*, often referred to as *Orphan Girl*, is a valuable, long-lost, seventeenth-century poetic text that documents women’s writing in the early modern period. In this autobiographical account, Anna Stanislawska speaks confessionally and unsparingly about her life, from her infancy to her widowhood and withdrawal from the world. Stanislawska was an incomparable memoirist, revealing the depths of her private life in a manner not to be matched until modern times. *One Body with Two Souls Entwined* brings together this spirited poetic account with an in-depth introductory and literary commentary by Barry Keane. Together the book offers a remarkable piece of scholarly, translational, and dramaturgical work and puts it in context amid the backdrop of Polish history.

**Contributor Bio**

**Anna Stanislawska** (1651-1701) is the author of an extended autobiographical poetic work entitled *Transaction or the Description of the Entire Life of an Orphan by Way of Plaintful Threnodies*.

**Barry Keane** is associate professor in translation and comparative studies in the Institute of English Studies at the University of Warsaw. He is the author of *Irish Drama in Poland*.

**Barry Keane** is associate professor in translation and comparative studies in the Institute of English Studies at the University of Warsaw. He is the author of *Irish Drama in Poland*. 
The Book of the Body Politic
Christine De Pizan, Angus J. Kennedy

Summary
The first political treatise written by a woman.

Christine de Pizan’s *The Book of the Body Politic* is the first political treatise written by a woman. It not only advises the prince, but nobles, knights, and common people as well. It promotes the ideals of interdependence and social responsibility. Rooted in the mindset of medieval Christendom, *The Book of the Body Politic* heralds the humanism of the Renaissance, highlighting classical culture and Roman civic virtues. This new edition and translation offers a faithful rendering of Christine de Pizan’s writing, as well as a thorough contextualization of her career as a political writer at the end of the Middle Ages in France. *The Book of the Body Politic* resounds to this day, urging for the need for probity in public life and the importance of responsibilities and rights.

Contributor Bio
Christine de Pizan (c. 1364-c. 1430) was an Italian-born poet and author who grew up in France. Angus J. Kennedy is emeritus Stevenson professor of French at the University of Glasgow. Angus J. Kennedy is emeritus Stevenson professor of French at the University of Glasgow.
Selected Letters, 1514–1543
Maria Salviati De’ Medici, Natalie R. Tomas

Summary
The voluminous correspondence of Maria Salviati de’ Medici.

In recent years, there has been an upsurge of interest in Maria Salviati de’ Medici, specifically, in her role in Medici governance and her relationships with other members of the Medici court. Maria Salviati’s surviving correspondence documents a life spent close to the centers of Medici power in Florence and Rome, giving witness to its failures, resurrection, and eventual triumph. Presented here for the first time in English, this book is a representative sample of Maria’s surviving letters that document her remarkable life through a tumultuous period of Italian Renaissance history. While she earned the exasperation of some, she gained the respect of many more. Maria ended her life as an influential dowager, powerful intercessor for local Tuscans of all strata, and wise elder in Duke Cosimo I’s court. The first critical, analytical, biographical work on Maria Salviati de’ Medici’s life and letter-writing in English.

Contributor Bio
Maria Salviati de' Medici (1499-1543) was a Medici daughter, wife, and mother. Natalie R. Tomas is an adjunct senior research fellow and an associate of the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Monash University, Australia. She is the author of The Medici Women.

Natalie R. Tomas is an adjunct senior research fellow and an associate of the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Monash University, Australia. She is the author of The Medici Women.
A True Account of My Life and Selected Meditations
Anne Lady Halkett, Suzanne Trill

Summary
The autobiographical narrative of Anne, Lady Halkett.

Born in the early 1620s, Anne, Lady Halkett (née Murray) grew up on the fringes of the English court during a period of increasing political tension. From 1644 to 1699, Halkett recorded her personal and political experiences in both England and Scotland in a series of manuscript meditations and an autobiographical narrative called *A True Account of My Life*. Royalism, romance, and contemporary religious debates are central to Halkett’s vivid portrayal of her life as a single woman, wife, mother, and widow. Collectively, the materials edited here offer the opportunity to explore how Halkett’s meditational practice informed her life writing in the only version of her writings to date available in a fully modernized edition. The forty-four meditations in this volume redefine the importance of Halkett’s contribution to seventeenth-century life writing.

Contributor Bio
Anne, Lady Halkett (1621/2-1699) was a writer whose autobiographical narrative *A True Account of My Life* reveals her active involvement in the politics of religion. Suzanne Trill is a senior lecturer in English literature at the University of Edinburgh.
Travels into Spain
baronne d'Aulnoy Le Jumel de Barneville, Marie-Catherine, Gabrielle Verdier

Summary
A masterpiece of ethnographic observation on seventeenth-century Spain.

While mysteries remain in her biography, Madame d’Aulnoy’s tremendous literary talent is finally being rediscovered. Marie-Catherine Le Jumel de Barneville, baronne d’Aulnoy (1652–1705) was the first Frenchwoman to write, publicize, and publish the account of her travels into Spain as an independent woman. Considered the authority on Spain for nearly two centuries until historiographers labeled them as disreputable, Travels into Spain can now be appreciated for its ironic gaze on realities concealed from male travelers and Madame d’Aulnoy’s unabashedly female and often playful voice. Her writing casts a unique light on gender relations, the condition of women, cultural biases, national rivalries, and religious superstitions at a critical time in early modern cultural and literary history. The first modern translation of Travels into Spain, this book situates Madame d’Aulnoy’s account in its historical context. Travels into Spain is a masterpiece of ethnographic observation, expressing a woman’s view on gender relations, marriage, religion, fashion, food, bullfights, and the Inquisition.

Contributor Bio
Madame d’Aulnoy was a seventeenth-century French writer. She published fifteen books before her death in 1705, including historical novels, memoirs, and collections of fairy tales.
Gabrielle M. Verdier is professor emerita of French at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.
Gabrielle M. Verdier is professor emerita of French at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.
Far from Home in Early Modern France – Three Women’s Stories

Summary
An engaging account of women’s travels in the early modern period.

This book showcases three Frenchwomen who ventured far from home at a time when such traveling was rare. In 1639, Marie de l’Incarnation embarked for New France where she founded the first Ursuline monastery in present-day Canada. In 1750, Madame du Boccage set out at the age of forty on her first “grand tour.” She visited England, the Netherlands, and Italy where she experienced firsthand the intellectual liberty offered there to educated women. As the Reign of Terror gripped France, the Marquise de la Tour du Pin fled to America with her husband and their two young children, where they ran a farm from 1794 to 1796. The writings these women left behind detailing their respective journeys abroad represent significant contributions to early modern travel literature. This book makes available to anglophone readers three texts that are rich in both historical and literary terms.

Contributor Bio
Marie Guyart de l’Incarnation was an Ursuline nun and missionary.
Anne-Marie Fiquet Du Boccage was a Frenchwoman who set out for a series of "grand tours" in Europe in 1750 who kept a detailed record of her educational journeys to England, Holland, and Italy.
Henriette-Lucie Dillon de La Tour du Pin fled revolutionary France for the United States. Her copious Journal of a Fifty-Year-Old Woman is one of few written testimonies of escape from the Reign of Terror written by a woman author.
Colette H. Winn is Professor of French at Washington University in St. Louis. She specializes in editing early modern writings by women.
Lauren King is completing a PhD in French literature at Washington University. Her doctoral dissertation examines conceptualizations of the Other in seventeenth-century French literature.

Michele Savonarola, Gabriella Zuccolin, Martin Marafioti

Summary

The first treatise of its kind to be written in a European vernacular.

Around 1460, Michele Savonarola produced the extraordinary Mother's Manual for the Women of Ferrara, a gynecological, obstetrical, and pediatric treatise composed in the vernacular so that it could be read not only by the learned but also by pregnant and nursing mothers and the midwives and wet nurses who presided over childbirth. Savonarola's work is not merely a trivial set of instructions, but the work of a learned scholar who drew on, among others, the ancient Greek physicians Hippocrates and Galen, and Avicenna's Canon of Medicine. The first of its kind, Savonarola's Mother's Manual helps readers understand both the development of late-medieval and early-modern obstetrics and gynecology, as well as the experiences of women who turn to advice books for help with reproductive issues. This book also provides a key to understanding why and how a new genre of book—the midwifery manual or advice book for pregnant women—arose in sixteenth-century Italy and eventually became a popular genre all over Europe from the early modern period to the present day.

Contributor Bio

Michele Savonarola (1385-1466) was a Renaissance physician, philosopher, court physician, and renowned professor in Padua and Ferrara. A trusted counselor of princes, Savonarola authored more than thirty works on medical, moral, political, historical, and religious issues.

Gabriella Zuccolin is a lecturer in medieval philosophy at the University of Pavia in Italy.

Martin Marafioti is professor of Italian at Pace University. He is the author of Storytelling as Plague Prevention in Medieval and Early Modern Italy.
Returning from Silence
Jenny’s Story
Michèle Sarde, Rupert Swyer

Summary
A novel that tells the story of a Jewish family in World War II and reaches deep into Jewish history.

Born in Brittany on the threshold of World War II, novelist Michèle Sarde had long been silent about her origins. After her mother, Jenny, finally shared their family history, Sarde decided to reconstruct Jenny’s journey, including her exile from Salonica, move to Paris in 1921, and assimilation in France. The Nazi occupation then forced her and her family to hide and conceal their Jewish identity, and in this retelling, Sarde shows how Jenny fights with everything she has to survive the Holocaust and protect her daughter.

_Returning from Silence_ is a powerful saga that reaches deep into Jewish history, opening with the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492 and their settlement in a more tolerant Ottoman Empire. Sephardi culture and language flourished in Salonica for four centuries, but with the fall of the Ottoman Empire in the 1920s, and the sense of troubling times to come, Jenny’s family felt impelled to leave their much-loved city and rebuild their lives in France. Their years in France led to change that none could have fully expected, and then, the Holocaust. The trauma lasts well into the post-war period, silencing both mother and daughter in unanticipated ways.

Through this family history, Sarde sensitively raises questions about identity, migration, and assimilation while weaving fiction together with history, research, and testimony to bring the characters’ stories to life.

Contributor Bio
Michèle Sarde is a novelist, biographer, essayist, and professor emerita at Georgetown University. She has been awarded by the Government of France the prestigious Chevalier dans l’Ordre National du Mérite and Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Arts et Lettres. Rupert Swyer is an independent translator and journalist. He lives in Paris.
But by the Grace of God
Hope Lynne Price-Lindsay

Summary
A novel following a decorated African American general as he reflects on his life after a near-fatal heart attack.

In But by the Grace of God, Hope Lynne Price-Lindsay tells the story of decorated African American four-star general Frederick (Fred) Anderson. When Fred suffers a near-fatal heart attack on the golf course and is rushed to Walter Reed Hospital, he is fortunate to land in the hands of his old college roommate and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brother Nathanial Wilkes, chief of cardiology. To ensure his old friend receives optimal care, Nathanial personally oversees Fred’s recovery and appoints his gifted young protégé, cardiology resident Christian Moore, to check in on Fred daily when making his rounds. Christian notices the absence of visitors, and what begins as a series of cordial bedside check-ins soon blossoms into a friendship that ultimately goes far beyond what Fred ever imagined. Numerous coincidences and the eerie resemblance between Fred and Christian force Fred to dive deep into his complicated past to exhume a dark secret that his ambition forced him to bury decades ago. Now alone and near death, mourning his past and the family he let slip through his fingers, Fred sees Christian as his last opportunity for redemption.

In this book, Hope Lynne Price-Lindsay takes readers on an extraordinary journey of intricate twists and turns: the curse of assimilation, secrets, lies, and betrayals that ultimately lead to a desperate last cry for redemption.

Contributor Bio
Hope Lynn Price-Lindsay is a poet, playwright, author, public school teacher, and artistic director of the Bison Repertory Theater Company in the Washington, DC area. Born and raised in St. Louis, she published her first poem in Essence Magazine at the age of twelve. She has written plays that have been produced in theaters across the country, and she has performed on the stage and in film and television. She is the recipient of the Larry Neal Fellowship for Poetry and is the author of These Hands and Luke Warm.
Trailblazers, Black Women Who Helped Make America Great
American Firsts/American Icons, Volume 4
Gabrielle David, Carolina Fung Feng, Chandra D.L. Waring, Lyah Beth Leflore

Summary
The fourth volume in the Trailblazers series highlights Black women’s contributions in film and television, the sciences, and journalism.

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.

This fourth volume of Trailblazers explores the complicated relationship that Hollywood has had with Black women actors; significant Black women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); and pioneering Black women journalists. David includes actors such as Hattie McDaniel, Fredi Washington, and Nina Mae McKinney who blazed the trail for women like Pam Grier, Halle Berry, and Viola Davis. “Hidden figures” in STEM are brought to light, such as biologist Jewel Plummer Cobb, mathematician Dorothy Vaughan, roboticist Ayanna Howard, and computer scientist Timnit Gebru. In addition, profiles of publishing pioneers like Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mary Ann Shadd Cary, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, and Nancy Hicks Maynard show how they paved the way for Carole Simpson, Yamiche Alcindor, Nikole Hannah-Jones, and Jemele Hill.

Contributor Bio
Gabrielle David is a multidisciplinary artist, musician, photographer, digital designer, poet, and writer. David is the publisher of 2Leaf Press and serves as chair of the board of 2Leaf Press Inc. David is co-editor of What Does It Mean to be White in America? and Hey Yo! Yo Soy! 40 Years of Nuyorican Street Poetry, editor of Branches of the Tree of Life, and author of two poetry chapbooks.

Carolina Fung Feng, a translator and copyeditor specializing in Spanish translations, has worked on a number of 2Leaf Press titles, and is cotranslator of Hey Yo! Yo Soy! 40 Years of Nuyorican Street Poetry.

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, cowritten with Eddie and Gerald Levert.
Tropic Then
Poems & Stories
Ray DiZazzo

Summary
Poems, stories, and photographs that travel through extreme natural and urban landscapes.

Ray DiZazzo is a poet obsessed with imagery, and the poems, photographs, and stories in *Tropic Then* attest to that obsession. Beginning with a visceral and intensely visual journey through the jungles and rainforests of Brazil, this collection captures what was once the beauty and spiritual aura surrounding the wildness of an untouched tropical forest.

The book is written in four sections. The first section, “Tropic Then,” refers to a time before the clearcutting and burning of the Amazonian jungles. “Polar,” the second section, focuses on cold themes as a counterpoint to the jungle heat. Section three, “The Dark,” consists of grim, shadowy poems, and section four, ”Looking up in Los Angeles,” explores life in the jungle of city spaces. Though diverse in their style and content, these poems, stories, and images all work together to deliver stunning imagery. *Tropic Then* is not an activist, confessional, or heavily introspective work. Rather, it is a real-life poetic journey through our world filled with wonderful “ah-ha” moments that will delight its readers.

Contributor Bio
Ray DiZazzo is the author of twelve books of prose, including *The Clarity Factor*, and five poetry collections, most recently *The Revlon Slough: New and Selected Poems*. His work has appeared in numerous publications, including the *Coachella Review, Berkeley Poetry Review, Westways, Beyond Baroque, East River Review, Painted Bride Quarterly, Invisible City, California Quarterly*, and others. He is the recipient of the Percival Roberts Book Award and the Rhysling Award.
why an author writes to a guy holding a fish
Poems
Laila Halaby

Summary
A story in verse chronicling the misadventures of a recently divorced Lebanese woman dating in America.

Laila Halaby’s second collection of poetry, why an author writes to a guy holding a fish is a story in verse. This honest, sensual, and often funny series of narrative poems chronicles the author’s decision to leave her two-decades-long relationship with her Palestinian husband. Halaby suddenly finds herself in the world of American dating where she searches for idealized love and genuine connection. Always treated as an “other” and having never dated a white man or an American before, Halaby writes about misadventures and heartbreak amid misread cues and lost nuances. Halaby reassesses her role as a woman, a mother, and a writer, and she learns how to dispense with labels and imagined expectations. In the process, she becomes reacquainted with her womanhood and power.

Contributor Bio
Laila Halaby was born in Beirut, Lebanon, to a Jordanian father and an American mother. She speaks four languages and was a Fulbright recipient. Her first novel, West of the Jordan, won the PEN Beyond Margins Award. She lives in Tucson, Arizona.
Legal Interpreting
Teaching, Research, and Practice
Jeremy L. Brunson
Country of Glass
Poems
Sarah Katz

Summary
Country of Glass is the debut poetry collection from Sarah Katz, who offers an exploration of the concept of precariousness as it applies to bodies, families, countries, and whole societies. Katz employs themes of illness, disability, war, and survival within the contexts of family history and global historical events. The collection moves through questions about identity, storytelling, displacement, and trauma, constructing an overall narrative about what it means to love while trying to survive. The poems in this book—which take the form of free verse, prose poems, sestinas, and erasures—attempt to address human fragility and what resilience looks like in a world where so much is uncertain.

Contributor Bio
Sarah Katz’s poems have appeared in District Lit, the So to Speak blog, Rogue Agent, MiPOesias, The Shallow Ends, and Bear Review, among others. She earned an MFA in poetry from American University and her poetry manuscript, Country of Glass, was named a finalist by former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky for Tupelo Press’s 2016 Dorset Prize. She has contributed essays and articles to a variety of publications, including The Atlantic, The Guardian, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Rumpus, Slate, and others. Sarah lives with her husband, Jonathan, in Fairfax, Virginia, and is Poetry Editor of The Deaf Poets Society, an online journal that features work by writers and artists with disabilities.
The End of Liberalism
Chilton Williamson

Summary
In the fourth title in the Dissident American Thought Today Series, Chilton Williamson takes on liberalism and reveals the 'faith' of the present Democratic Party as its own cultivated version of absurdity. This 'advanced liberalism' is not the liberalism of Mill, and it certainly no longer is the thinking man's party. If it were once true that conservatism is unimaginative and reactionary, the contrary is the picture of our times. Liberalism now asserts that human nature can and must be perfected, but without reference to nature. The age of the expert has been thrust upon the United States with the urgency of technique to be applied to coerce the vision of a perfect society and perfect human beings.

Williamson observes that this liberalism to nevertheless be collapsing, given the obvious opposition to the idea that it is essential to modernity. Liberalism is ironically a kind of unyielding control, "a relativist persuasion that discourages and resists fixed beliefs and certainties and the idea of truth itself." Williamson offers commentary on the present state of liberal ideas and their crimes against better judgment, and vindicates conservatism from being labeled reactionary. Liberalism is exposed as a faith we cannot accept, for it contains nothing to be believed and what it says about the order of things is pure fiction.

Contributor Bio
Chilton Williamson, Jr. is author of After Tocqueville: The Promise and Failure of Democracy, and former literary editor for The National Review and editor for Chronicles. Williamson is also author of several acclaimed Western novels, including Mexico Way (2008). He is currently the president of The Rockford Institute.
Where the Muses Still Haunt – The Second Reading

Hall Drury Anne

Summary

"Re-reading is one of life's joys," Anne Drury Hall reminds us. Not simply from the sweetness of remembering or because of the way a book can be like an old friend, but because returning to a great book is inseparable from the endeavor to succeed at being human. The "pull of something old and steady and reliable, the pull to rise to a higher plane" is an important aspect of this experience, where the reader truly "notices" and "connects" with the world and himself. This is why books are the cornerstones of education and the source of the power of concentration.

After leaving school and becoming lost in adulthood, can one return to these books and revive the quest to be great? For this is why we call such books "great". Yet as Hall says, "few people use the phrase 'great books' any more except ironically, because there is an odd view in the current intellectual fog that there is no such thing as 'greatness'". She is compelled, then, to reexamine the so-called great books and make the case for their eternal importance. It is a task that requires not only swimming against the disenchanted march of the post-modern reader into adulthood, but also asserting the unthinkable--namely, that great books were written by great men who achieved this status through their own labor and endurance.

Hall reintroduces the reader to Plato, Homer, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton and Melville and hopes this will expose the fraud of most of contemporary literature, and encourage taste and stamina for the works that promise to exhilarate. And Hall argues well that the thrill of these books draws from one shared feature: "The heart of these books is the drama of choice." If Roger Scruton is famous for showing us that ideas have consequences, Hall provides the reader the vision of himself as standing on the brink and the urgency of taking life seriously again. For many this means taking books seriously again.

This book is an important companion to the works treated therein, for teachers and students alike. Both need encouragement in the laboring of instruction or reading the impressive classics. Particularly apt is Hall's treatment of the difficulty of teaching Shakespeare. For the not-so-recent university graduate, perhaps this book will bring him once again to wander where the Muses still haunt. Indeed, even the well-read will enjoy Hall's keen interpretation of the glory of these stories. This is a book written by a true teacher.

Contributor Bio

Anne Drury Hall (Ph.D., Stanford University) was a lecturer in the Department of English at the University of Pennsylvania for nearly two decades, and former editor of Studies in Philology (UNC). She is the recipient of several teachings awards throughout her career and has published widely in the fields of literary history and philology. She is also the author of Ceremony and Civility in English Renaissance Prose (Penn State University Press, 1991).
In Fielding`s Wake
Jeremy Black

Summary
In the second volume of The Weight of Words Series, Jeremy Black continues his efforts to present and preserve Britain's literary genius. Its intelligence and enduring influence is in large part reliant on the underlining conservatism that has motivated authors such as Agatha Christie (Black's earlier subject) and Henry Fielding alike.

Fielding's epic comic novel, *Tom Jones*, is unforgettable for many reasons, but the author must be credited with an aptitude for documenting contemporary cultural history and his contribution to a new species of writing. Black's treatment of Fielding draws to the fore a man who was of his time but not confined to it. "Philosophy in practice encompassed his stance as a man of action as well as a reflective writer of genius." Fielding is shown to provide across the breadth of his work extensive and invaluable commentary on issues as diverse as law and order, marriage, women, and the interplay of urban and rural life. Black, an historian, is here a student of storytelling and recovers Fielding's rich descriptions of the human heart and call to defy the vices with which circumstances might taunt it.

Black has done a service along many fronts at once: the science of the novel and genre, the history of a people and the figure of a memorable writer.

Contributor Bio
Jeremy Black is emeritus professor of history (University of Exeter) and prolific writer in the areas of eighteenth-century British, European and American political, diplomatic and military history. He has recently turned his attention to the biography and historical commentary of prominent British literary figures. His recent titles include *The Importance of Being Poirot* (2021) and the forthcoming *The Game Is Afoot: The Enduring World of Sherlock Holmes*. He is also a senior fellow at the Center for the Study of America and the West at the Foreign Policy Research Institute (Philadelphia).
Smollett`s Britain
Jeremy Black

Summary
Acclaimed British historian examines the layers of craft and insight in Tobias Smollett, and discusses the particular nature of his genius and influence on British culture. Once again, Black acquaints the reader with the full range of a prolific writer’s works and offers a backstage tour of the meaning and context of Britain’s most beloved stories and story-tellers.

Contributor Bio
Jeremy Black is emeritus professor of history (University of Exeter) and prolific writer in the areas of eighteenth-century British, European and American political, diplomatic and military history. He has recently turned his attention to the biography and historical commentary of prominent British literary figures. His recent titles include The Importance of Being Poirot (2021) and the forthcoming The Game Is Afoot: The Enduring World of Sherlock Holmes. He is also a senior fellow at the Center for the Study of America and the West at the Foreign Policy Research Institute (Philadelphia).
Toward Another Kingdom – Two Dramas of the Darker Years

Two Dramas of the Darker Years
Gabriel Marcel, Maria Traub

Summary
Maria Traub’s translation of Gabriel Marcel's post-war plays is a window into the French philosopher's answer to his own signature questions regarding human existence. And as in the earlier collection of plays, The Invisible Threshold, the realism, passion and sincerity that frame conscience and moral duty in Marcel are most profoundly visible in the day-to-day of family life. Ideas never before presented theatrically emerge in Marcel's characters who struggle to understand their times and how best to live in them. Post-war life was as much a spiritual reckoning as it was a new society, and Marcel's treatment of introspection is a valuable key to his own work.

Marcel's dramas require characters to respond authentically and from their true selves. He thereby offers the vision of how individual compromises may build up to break the world and condemn, or, conversely, contribute to the discovery and meaning of relation and redemption. Traub's new translation will interest the player as much as the scholar, and Marcel's aptitude for theatrical writing is proven once again. His intellectual sensitivity creates characters that beckon performance, which is an added dimension to the presentation of the human condition.

Contributor Bio
Maria Traub holds a doctorate in Modern Language (Middlebury College, Vermont) with a specialization in French and Italian literature. She is currently Associate Professor of French and Italian at Neumann University (Aston, PA). She has published numerous scholarly papers, and is a noted translator. Traub's translation of the correspondence between the Court of Versailles and figures of the American Revolution was recently used in Tim McGrath's Give Me a Fast Ship: The Continental Navy and America’s Revolution at Sea (Caliber, 2014). An earlier translation by Traub of Gabriel Marcel's plays was published by St. Augustine's Press (The Invisible Threshold, 2019).
Shakespeare's Politic Comedy
Will Morrisey

Summary
Will Morrisey again considers the political dimensions of literary classics, as previously seen in Melville's Ship of State (2019). His attention to Shakespeare's comedies is a reader's and playgoer's delight.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE: The Politic Character of Shakespeare's Comedy
PART ONE: THREE REGIMES: OLIGARCHY, ARISTOCRACY, MONARCHY
Chapter One: Shakespearean Comedy: Two Points on the Compass
Chapter Two: Gentlemen and Gentlemanliness
Chapter Three: Royal Dreaming

PART TWO: THE RULE OF LAW
Chapter Four: Comic Errors, Legal Slapstick
Chapter Five: What Will You?

PART THREE: THE COMEDY OF MORALS
Chapter Six: Taming Our Shrewishness
Chapter Seven: What Does Shakespeare Mean When He Says, "As You Like It"?

PART FOUR: THE COMEDY OF POLITICS
Chapter Eight: Is All Well That Ends Well?
Chapter Nine: The Geopolitics of Love
Chapter Ten: The Wisest Beholder

SHAKESPEARE'S POLITIC MERRIMENT

Contributor Bio
Will Morrisey held the William and Patricia LaMothe Chair in the United States Constitution at Hillsdale College until his retirement in 2015. A native of Rumson, New Jersey, he served as Executive Director of the Monmouth County Historical Commission before his appointment at Hillsdale College in 2000. His M. A. and Ph.D in political science are from the New School for Social Research. He is the author of eight books, including Self-Government, The American Theme: Presidents of the Founding and Civil War; The Dilemma of Progressivism: How Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson Reshaped the American Regime; and, most recently, Churchill and De Gaulle: The Geopolitics of Liberty and Herman Melville's Ship of State. Dr. Morrisey has been an editor of Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy since 1979. His reviews and articles have appeared in The New York Times, Social Science and Modern Society, Law and Liberty, The New Criterion, and many other publications.
After Pandemic, After Modernity – The Relational Revolution
The Relational Revolution
Giulio Maspero

Summary
The global pandemic has levied a heavy toll on humanity, but in its wake appears a great opportunity. Amidst what he calls a crisis of modernity, Giulio Maspero points to a phenomenon that can be seen in plain sight. "The absence of personal relationships highlighted by the health crisis exposes the consequences of the modern matrix, which, having lost its Christian element, now risks transforming itself into a digital matrix, substantially configuring itself as a technognosis."

Without Trinitarian framework ancient and new idols emerge, as the Covid-19 tragedies have shown. Yet post-pandemic must be a moment of clarity and realism, as we can see how necessary it is that humanity place itself in relation to something beyond. The post-modern journey, however, must be in the spirit of Christian humanism or else any so-called progress will no longer be unable to speak authentically of our humanity. That is to say, the relational dimension of human life will be erased right along with the other ills that plague our earth.

Contributor Bio
Giulio Maspero is a full professor at the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical University of Holy Cross (Rome). He is a member of the Association Internationale des Études Patristiques (AieP) and a full member of the Pontifical Academy of Theology (PAtH). He has published mainly on Gregory of Nyssa, trinitarian theology and the relationship between philosophy and theology. in particular, he has published Trinity and Man (Brill, Leuven 2007) and has directed, together with I.F. Mateo-Seco, The Brill Dictionary of Gregory of Nyssa (Brill, Leuven, 2009) and, together with R. Wozniak, Re-thinking Trinitarian Theology (t&t Clark, London 2012). His most recent monographs are Uno perché trino (cantagalli, Siena 2011), Essere e relazione (città nuova, roma 2013) and Dio trino perché vivo (Morcelliana, Brescia 2018), the latter devoted to the pneumatology of the greek Fathers. He also edited with Pierpaolo Donati and Antonio Malo the volume Social Science, Philosophy and Theology in Dialogue (Routledge, London 2019). His theological treatise, The Mystery of Communion: Encountering the Trinity was published by St. Augustine's Press in 2020. Additionally, Maspero holds a PhD in theoretical Physics and is noted for his work in quantum chaos.
**Stimulus Pastorum – A Charge to Pastors**
A Charge to Pastors
O.P. of the Martyrs, Bartholomew, Donald S. Prudlo

**Summary**
The work of St. Bartholomew of Braga, O.P. (1514-1590) appears here in English for the first time despite its long and enduring influence in ecclesiastical circles. His meditations on the office of pastor have provided critical insight bishops since their initial circulation and have helped form the most famous among them, including Bartholomew's proteges Charles Borromeo. Pope Paul VI ordered a copy of Bartholomew's work to be distributed among the Catholic bishops at the Second Vatican Council. Donald Prudlo's translation situates St. Bartholomew of the Martyrs in his historical context as a lynchpin of Catholic Reform and affirms him as a figurehead of pastoral administration even in our own times.

**Contributor Bio**
Donald S. Prudlo is Warren Professor of Catholic Studies at the University of Tulsa and the author of a number of books, including *Thomas Aquinas: A Historical, Theological, and Environmental Portrait*, *Certain Sainthood*, and *The Martyred Inquisitor*. 
The Declaration of America – Our Principles in Thought and Action

Our Principles in Thought and Action

Richard Ferrier

Summary

Richard Ferrier expounds on the basic truth learned from Alan Keyes during work on his political campaign in 1996. "He taught us to see what President Lincoln saw 160 years ago: an American should always take his principles and form his sentiments from those expressed in the Declaration of Independence." Whereas it might seem America is the product of political divorce, the Declaration instead endows our nation with the qualities of a marriage. We are a deliberate union, Ferrier says, and we must strive to live well politically by doing right by the pledge contained in the Declaration.

Here Ferrier transforms decades of teaching American history and its founding into a reflection on its most important document. Our troubled times call for a return to America's fundamental principles. This book shows their sources, their truth, and their lasting power. It is a labor of love, and of hope.

Anyone seeking opportunity in the United States should read this book and be reminded of the privilege and obligation of the American way of life, all contained in the Declaration of Independence.

Contributor Bio

Richard Ferrier (Ph.D., Indiana University) is for over forty years has been a tutor at Thomas Aquinas College, California. He is the author of Declaration Statesmanship: A Course in American Government.
The Essential Supernatural – A Dialogical Study in Kierkegaard and Blondel

A Dialogical Study in Kierkegaard and Blondel

Maurice Ashley Agbaw-Ebai

Summary

Søren Kirkegaard and Maurice Blondel are positioned together in a dialogue regarding the vision of the supernatural. Maurice Ashley Agbaw-Ebai draws from this a sharper image of the preeminent place religious experience possesses in human life and thought. Kirkegaard’s lament of Christian lack of fervor and Blondel’s concern that religion and philosophy no longer interact are both examined and Agbaw-Ebai concludes that they both indicate the same outcome: a "dominant leveling of society" that robs religion of its particularity. This devastates the individual because he is no longer challenged to seek a relationship with God and expose himself to the supernatural. The boundlessness of man must be acknowledged or else his actions will never be understood, and religious experience and philosophy must coexist with mutual reference or self-knowledge will never amount to the discovery of supernatural destiny. And this, asserts Agbaw-Ebai, is the shared urgency of both Kirkegaard and Blondel.

Like these philosophers who have preceded him, Agbaw-Ebai exhorts us to never allow the sense of our relation to the supernatural as a settled matter. The philosophy of religion we have inherited does not protect us from having to confront our own subjectivity with autonomy: to be God without God and against God, or to be God with and through God.

Contributor Bio

Maurice Ashley Agbaw-Ebai is a priest in the Diocese of Mamfe, Cameroon. He currently teaches courses in Systematic Theology and Philosophy of Religion at Boston College, Newton MA, and St John’s Seminary, Brighton MA. He is author of Light of Reason, Light of Faith: Joseph Ratzinger and the German Enlightenment.

James Patrick

Summary

In the third installment of *The Making of the Christian Mind*, James Patrick's Church history and 'adventure' series, we meet more towering figures of Christianity, among them Augustine and Benedict. The former, who abandoned rhetoric to become learned by Saint Ambrose, and the latter, whose Rule built a thousand monastic communities across Europe, were not isolated characters but beneficiaries of wisdom drawn entirely from the pursuit of holiness. What emerges is a culture of living and learning that flourishes on the foundations of prayer. This is the adventure of the Great Helper, who working throughout the passage of time post-Christ has come to guide not just the dreams and spirit of man, but his work and daily life.

Patrick's work is both fine scholarship and epic story-telling, a key component to both the education and fascination of the Christian mind, which in turn has shaped the world more deeply than any other influence in human history. "The Christian intellect will guide the heart to the place where the knee can bend and the eye see; the making of the Christian mind will continue from age to age, locating eternal truth in a human history that will endure as God wills so that many may be saved, pointing beyond itself to the reality that thoughts and words represent, making all things new."

Contributor Bio

Dr. James Patrick is chancellor emeritus of the college of Saint Thomas More (Fort Worth) and served as Provost as well for over a decade. His teaching career spans nearly forty years. Patrick wrote his dissertation at trinity college (Toronto) and is a noted scholar of R. G. Collingwood, J. R. R. Tolkien, and C. S.. Lewis.
Holiness through Work – Commemorating the Encyclical Laborem Exercens

Martin Schlag

Summary
To mark the 40th anniversary of John Paul II’s encyclical on human work, published in 1981, a group of globally-recognized scholars presents the critical aspects of this document and its purpose. These original essays revisit John Paul II’s approach to work in post-modern society and reconnect the dignity of the working person to a pursuit of holiness. These authors convey that only when it is truly Christian can humanism accomplish the lofty ideals it indicates. This book is a timely contribution to the field of scholarship that focuses on Catholic Social Thought and is ideally suited for graduate studies and the reader interested in more serious questions in Christian theology.

Giulio Maspero, "The Bible and the Fathers of the Church on Work"
Patricia Ranft, "Work Theology in the High Middle Ages"
Angela Franks, "John Paul II's Metaphysics of Labor"
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Gonzalo Flores-Castro Lingán, "The Real Work: Making the Encyclical Laborem Exercens Operational"
Geoffrey C. Friesen, "Laborem Exercens and the Subjective Dimension of Work in Economics and Finance"

Contributor Bio
Martin Schlag (J.D., University of Vienna; S.T.D., Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, Rome) is the Alan W. Moss Endowed Chair for Catholic Social Thought of the John A. Ryan Institute for Catholic Studies and the Opus College of Business at the University of St. Thomas. He is a widely published author and lecturer and former director of the Program for Church Management at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross.
The Second Coming of Christ – Ancient Doctrine and Present Times
Ancient Doctrine and Present Times
Françoise Breynaert, Nirmal Dass

Summary
Compelling theological questions converge with contemporary concerns in Françoise Breynaert's exposition of the doctrine surrounding Christ's second coming. Why must Christ come again? What will become of this earth as the dominion of man is more and more power concentrated in the hands of the few? Ideologies associated with the pursuit of power promise salvation--of the world, the planet, of humanity itself--through politics, technology, and science. But Breynaert draws answers to both questions instead from Scripture and with this book prepares us for what lies ahead. She points to the spiritual journey that is humanity's true destiny, along which man will encounter the temptation to accept the claims of power and its promises of fulfillment in this life, and the traps laid for the man who does not wish to be challenged for the victory of his soul. Breynaert's account of the second coming and the false promises of today's world also remind us of the assurances given in Scripture for mercy and triumph, an optimism that offers much needed strength of spirit.

The great mystery of Christ's second coming is part of the core of Christian faith. And at long last, here is a book that explains what this truly means. And in doing so, we come to know the revealed meaning of history, which has nourished the hope of Christians through the ages.

Contributor Bio
Françoise Breynaert is an agricultural engineer and theologian (Ph.D., Pontifical Institute Marianum, Rome), and has taught at the Franciscan Seminary in Jerusalem. She is the author of several books on the Christian faith and has appeared on television and radio broadcasts worldwide.
Is St. Thomas's Aristotelian Philosophy of Nature Obsolete?
C. Robert Koons

Summary
"The Analytic Thomist," Rob Koons, delivered the 2021 Aquinas Lecture at the University of Dallas. Here he engages the possibility of a bridge between philosophy and metaphysics proper. Koons boldly lays out his position: without Aristotelian metaphysics, there is no Aristotelian philosophy of nature, and there is no philosophy of nature in Aristotle without acknowledging his natural science. His lecture thus challenges Thomists and their respective approaches to hylomorphism and their all too frequent quickness to discard it. (Koons lays down the gauntlet. if one denies hylomorphism there can be no transubstantiation!)

A bonus addition to this volume in the Dallas lecture series is Koon's "Aristotle, god and the Quantum."

Contributor Bio
Robert C. Koons is a professor of philosophy at the university of texas at Austin, where he has taught for 33 years. with degrees from Oxford and U.C.L.A., his most recent interest is in the Aristotelian interpretation of quantum theory, defending and articulating Thomism in contemporary terms, and arguments for classical theism. His publications include Realism Regained (Oxford University Press, 2000), and The Atlas of Reality: A Comprehensive Guide to Metaphysics, with Timothy H. Pickavance. (Wiley-Blackwell, 2017).
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